Reflection paper # 2

Internship Experience, Outcomes and Future Plan

by Iftekharul Islam

Prepared for

Russell E. Rains

**Springbox’s Internship Program**

Springbox is a purely interactive agency with both creative and technical skill sets on site. The company is also very focused on tracking and analyzing metrics to drive and improve every execution. I worked in Springbox as a summer intern from the period of June 4th till August 23rd 2013. Part of my job were to develop front-end code for both client and internal project, to work within WordPress or similar CMS, importing content, managing plugins and making adjustments to template style/code, to learn new technologies and bring them to the team, to use project management tools such as Source Tree, JIRA on a daily basis for storing project management skills, to attend weekly development meetings and participate in code reviews etc.

 **Program Outcome**

The internship helped me to step into the professional working environment here in USA. I believe I am a goal-oriented person and I believe I was able to achieve my goals successfully.

**Effect on Academic Life:** This is a 6 hours course that was very important for the overall grade. The academic goal for me was to get an A on this course. This course also required filling out timesheets and keep daily logs. I have filled out the logs daily and that helped me a lot to keep track of my day, watch my progress and plan for future. I could also refer those logs to my supervisor and he really appreciated that.

Working in my first American company gave me a proper work experience here. I believe when I will go back to class after the internship is over, I could participate more in classes about most of the topic, which are work-related.

**Effect on Personal Life:** I have more than 5 years work experience in different countries- mostly in Asia. The work environment here in United States is quite new to me. My first personal goal was to get familiar with the work environment and culture in USA. I wanted develop friendly relationship with as many people possible in the company. I believe I am able to achieve this goal successfully my making friends and professional contacts with over 50 employees in Springbox.

I learned about corporate culture and ways to get projects done in a systematic path.

**Effect on Professional Life:** I have learned so many new software and platforms for project management, code management, generic coding, styling pages and more. My aim was to get a job offer from the company which I enjoyed working for this summer and I an glad that I achieved that. The company offered me a job just after I finish graduation and also is willing to sponsor me.

**My Strength with My Education and Experience**

1. Business Development
2. Etiquette
3. Academic knowledge
4. Development tools
5. Project Management Tools
6. Corporate Culture
7. Integrity

**My Weakness – Areas to Improve**

1. English Speaking
2. Social behavior
3. Knowledge on corporate culture.
4. Latest tools

**My Accomplishments**

1. Professional connections
2. Real world job experience
3. Portfolio
4. A job offer with sponsorship

**What I would Do Differently**

I think I am satisfied with the ways I performed internship. But I had areas where I could put more attention to perform better. For example- if I knew a language PhoneGap before I could participate in the native app development project.

**Advise for Future Interns**

I would say, please start early looking for your internship and personal contacts are the best ways to get introduced. So build up as many personal contacts as you can. Showcaing your skills are very important and if you are goal oriented, following your dreams is the key.

**Personal Career Development Plan**

 Since I have received the job offer and they want me to start working part time soon, I think I will join the company in the position that they are offering- Senior Developer. My plan is to join as a project manager when I join the company after graduation. I believe they will feel more comfortable with me and my skills once I work there for a year or so and also I will have my official MBA to be a stronger candidate.