Learning By Doing – 10 years of Evaluation

About the PG Program (MSIT)

• Learning by Doing
• Dedicated workspace and work station
• 1 to 10 Mentor-student ratio
• 24X7 lab and Internet connectivity
• Domain specializations
• Soft skills training program
• Sequential learning
• Fully residential program
• Learning centers in reputed universities
• Practicum in both first and second year of study
• Evolving curriculum helps students be ‘Industry ready’

Entry Characteristics of Students

Placement Performance

Pros:
• Increase in the confidence levels and interests of top 25% of the class

Cons:
• Video lectures not very engaging
• Less awareness about mentoring
• Academic administration was tough due to VDM
• Students background influenced their learning
• Exams were tough

2001-2003

- Self paced learning / Variable duration model.
- Video Lectures from CMU followed by tasks.
- Q&A with faculty.
- Lab exams and end exams with 90% for a pass grade

Pros:
- Video lectures not very engaging
- Less awareness about mentoring
- Academic administration was tough due to VDM
- Students background influenced their learning
- Exams were tough

Cons:
- Increase in the confidence levels and interests of top 25% of the class

2004-2006

- Improved mentoring strategies
  i. Socratic
  ii. Immediate individualized feedback
- Story centered curriculum with step by step guide
- Preparatory program
- Mentor training
- No end exams
  i. Weekly deadlines
  ii. Evaluation based on project deliverables
- Improved course website

Pros:
- Student-Mentor interaction improved
- Students understanding of the application contexts improved

Cons:
- Mentor qualification criteria was not mandated due to resource crunch
- Students self regulation and meta cognitive skills affected their learning

2007-2011

- Content restructured to support toy problems
- Self regulated learning improved by modular learning
- Learning by doing based end exams
- Reflection sessions
- Internships

Pros:
- Self regulated learning worked
- Exam performance improved
- Mentor training program, self contained content reduced the need for subject matter experts

Cons:
- Mentor qualification criteria was not mandated due to resource crunch
- Students self regulation and meta cognitive skills affected their learning

2012 & Beyond - Agenda

- FAQ database with mentor Interaction logs
- Activity Monitoring
- Tools for instantaneous feedback
- Scaling the program
- Dealing effectively with the slow learners (bottom 10%)
- Learning by doing for higher cognitive courses

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