

Transcript

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Ask Me Anything: Industry-Linked Projects Swinburne University of Technology

DAVID: Hi, I am David. I did a Master's of Professional Engineering at Swinburne University and my industry project related was with Allume Energy.

JAE: Hi, my name is Jae and I'm a second-year mechanical engineering student here at Swinburne.

CONNOR: Hi, my name's Connor and I'm in my second year of a Bachelor of Civil Engineering at Swinburne. If your project was a meal, what would it be and why? Jae,

JAE: It wouldn't be just a meal. It was more like being served a full course dinner, if that makes sense. Like with the entrees, the main dishes, and the desserts and whatnot. It was a lot of new concepts at once. Yeah.

DAVID: Mine would be a steak, actually, because the steak takes a long time to cook. It depends how well you want to cook it, but at the end of the day when you try to eat, it's just the best thing you eat. You get the out of the grill and then the other ones are very juicy. It's like a project. It's hard at the beginning, but it's great, and then you get softer.

JAE: Yeah.

DAVID: Yeah.

CONNOR: I would say mine would be a pizza. It was a group project, so all putting on our own individual bits.

DAVID: Everything at once.

CONNOR: Yeah, all contributing, but at the end it's one great result for everyone to share.

JAE: That's nice.

DAVID: Nice. Yeah. That's really nice.

Who do you turn to for guidance and support during your project?

CONNOR: Well, we were pretty lucky. We had a few good classroom facilitators, especially being a first-year unit, we found the transition from, or for me, coming from high school, I found it really good. It was a smooth transition and the facilitators were really good with that. Also as a project, we looked to each other for help and support and we're able to give a lot of different perspectives on our project. That was really important for us.

DAVID: Also, the Allume team, they have been very, very supportive and they have guided me from transitioning to uni-project to a real-life project.

CONNOR: How has your project enhanced your portfolio?

JAE: Honestly, it's just given us so many opportunities. We just thought it was a first introductory unit in our first year, and we didn't actually think that it would bring us all the way to Queensland for our engineering showcase.

DAVID: You get exposed to all those industry insights and with all the tools and that has been using in the industry for many years. We have learned only at uni, but it's really nice for professional development, I would say.

How did it feel to be helping solve real world challenges with your project?

CONNOR: That was probably one of the most rewarding things for us, seeing how our design, our project was implemented into real world scenarios. We learned a lot of the importance of the community engagement and finding a design and a procedure that really catered towards them.

JAE: Well, I personally have always enjoyed learning the theory of how things work and this project really allowed us to put all that knowledge into actual use. It's like a bridge that links my passion for learning to actually helping the world become a better place.

What is your number one piece of advice for students starting an Industry Link project?

DAVID: I would say, the one piece of advice I'll say, just go and enjoy it. That's the only time you will try... You can make mistakes and then you learn a lot in that journey. That's my one piece of advice.

CONNOR: I would say be proactive with the people around you, especially the people that are offering a lot of advice who have experience, because incredibly helpful. If you can build on those connections, then it's really useful down the track.

JAE: Yeah. I agree with David. You just have to enjoy the process really. I tend to worry about my grades a lot, but honestly after all these, you just have to do your best and enjoy the process. You're going to learn a lot more that way.

DAVID: Will you recommend undertaking an Industrial Link project to the other students and why?

JAE: Oh, of course, yes. It reassured me that I'm going on the right path, because some students go through uni, they don't do projects like this. They don't know what engineering actually means. Engineering really is something that I would want to do for the rest of my life.

CONNOR: Yeah. I completely agree with Jae. For us, it was really beneficial getting to do it so early on and we were able to reaffirm this is what we'd love to do.

DAVID: Also, yes, and yes and yes. Triple yes, because take an opportunity and do your best in that project.

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