

Mr. Speice

Independent Study Mentorship 2A

22 October 2019

## Building a Network of Knowledge

### Assessment 6 - Interview

**Name of Professional:** Won Hwa Kim

**Title:** Professor

**Company:** UT Arlington

**Date of Interview:** 16 October 2019

#### **Works Cited:**

Won Hwa Kim, Informational Interview. 16 Oct. 2019

#### **Assessment:**

Using prior knowledge to expand upon current knowledge is one of the most effective ways of advancing research. In doing so, a network of knowledge is formulated. I recently had the opportunity to conduct an informational interview with Professor Won Kim from UT Arlington. Professor Kim has a unique position in the software development world of being a research professor rather than a direct software developer. As a result, the interview was set more to address research from a researcher's perspective over a software developer's perspective.

To initiate the interview, we addressed the role of a professor. The role of a professor differentiates greatly from that of a traditional software developer because it generally encompasses a wide variety of skills including teaching, assisting, and researching. Going forward into the world of software development, it is helpful to realize the differences in order to

best deduce and prepare for my desired career. Additionally, this served to be insightful into the world of computer science research at a university level rather than a corporate level because it is a whole other pathway that can be taken when delving into the world of computer science.

First-hand experience and insight such as this generally cannot be found a simple article or corporate interview and so was immensely beneficial. In essence, this was a whole new perspective into the world of computer science that could serve as a catalyst for future ventures in my career.

To address the technical side of computer vision, I inquired about topics from my prior interview. In contrast to the previous interviews where topics were discussed on a higher-level and were simply just introduced to me, this interview delved deep into the topics. This, in turn, allowed me to gain a better understanding of the topics at hand. By doing this, choosing certain concepts to apply to the original work are much easier to choose and ultimately contribute to a more refined final product. Additionally, by building this network of knowledge, integrating ideas from one concept to another is much easier and may actually allow for significantly more complex, but developed work. Collectively speaking, building a deep network of ideas was extremely beneficial to connect thoughts while also helping with the understanding of other ideas.

Despite the ease of the actual interview process, some challenges still occurred. One such challenge was the use of higher-level jargon because of the university-style of explaining concepts. This, in turn, required me to adapt to the flow of the interview and ask for clarification as necessary. However, as a result of coping with these higher-level jargon, my understanding of the concepts is much better. On the other hand, there were also improvements from past

interviews because of the more conversation like nature of this interview which is a beneficial interpersonal skill when conducting interviews.

As an aspiring software developer, I rarely considered the role professors have in the computer science community. However, this interview served as an insight into the academic world of computer science and the broad amount of knowledge available. As a result, the foundation of my research became a network of ideas. Interviews such as these significantly increase my progress in the ISM program and ensure a higher rate of success through the rest of the year.

### [Interview Notes](#)