MAPPING OF SOFTWARE ENGINEERING EDUCATION TO SOFTWARE INDUSTRY DEMANDS IN PAKISTAN



Kashif Khan

Enrolment No: 01-241162-010 *Principle Supervisor:* Dr. Sheikh Zahoor Sarwar *Co- Supervisor:* Dr. Tamim Ahmed Khan

A thesis submitted to the Department of Software Engineering, Faculty of Engineering Sciences, Bahria University Islamabad in the partial fulfilment for the requirements of a Master degree in Software Engineering

December 2018

Approval Sheet

THESIS COMPLETION CERTIFICATE		
Scholar's Name: <u>Kashif Khan</u> Registration No. <u>47407</u>		
Programme of Study: <u>MSSE</u>		
Thesis Title: <u>MAPPING OF SOFTWARE ENGINEERING EDUCATION TO SOFTWARE INDUSTRY</u> <u>DEMANDS IN PAKISTAN</u>		
It is to certify that the above student's thesis has been completed to my satisfaction and, to my belief, its standard is appropriate for submission for Evaluation. I have also conducted plagiarism test of this thesis using HEC prescribed software and found similarity index at 10% that is within the permissible limit set by the HEC for the MS/MPhil degree thesis. I have also found the thesis in a format recognized by the BU for the MS/MPhil thesis.		
Principal Supervisor's Signature:		
Date: Name: Dr. Sheikh Zahoor Sarwar		

Certificate of Originality

CERTIFICATE OF ORIGINALITY

This is to certify that the intellectual contents of the thesis <u>MAPPING OF SOFTWARE</u> <u>ENGINEERING EDUCATION TO SOFTWARE INDUSTRY DEMANDS IN PAKISTAN</u> is the product of my own research work except, as cited property and accurately in the acknowledgements and references, the material taken from such sources as research journals, books, internet, etc. Solely to support, elaborate, compare and extend the earlier work. Further, this work has not been submitted by me previously for any degree, nor it shall be submitted by me in the future for obtaining any degree from this University, or any other university or institution. The incorrectness of this information, if proved at any stage, shall authorities the University to cancel my degree.

Signature:	Date:	

Name of the Research Student: _____ KASHIF KHAN_

Abstract

Software engineering education helps to provide the necessary skills and knowledge to the students. However, due to rapid changes in technologies, industry demands are changing continuously and fresh software engineering graduates find it difficult to obtain jobs. Which create gap between software engineering education and software industry. The aim of this study is to know the recent demands of the software industry in Pakistan and map it to software engineering education to find gaps. This study was conducted using qualitative interviewing and Ethnographic Content Analysis of the software engineering curriculum. In which several gaps were identified such as there was nothing mentioned about latest web development frameworks and technologies, IOS application development, teamwork etc. further, it is also concluded that software industry complained about several topics, which were present in software engineering but fresh graduate are not fully equipped with them. This arises another problem that can be flaws in teaching methodology or other issues that need research to highlight. Several recommendations were given by software industry to overcome these gaps. In which internships or industrial experience, seminars, workshops, alignment of curriculum according to industry demands and industry visits were considered important recommendation of software industry. We analyzed the curriculum of three national and international universities. In international universities, we found industrial experience, seminars, workshops and extracurricular activities, which are recommended by the software industry in Pakistan to include in the software engineering curriculum. Based on the study result, we presented our recommendations. If the recommendations of the study are followed by universities in Pakistan, the gap can be reduced. This study will help universities to improve their curriculum and industry will find the student with sufficient skills that will reduce the burden of extra training.

Dedication

Dedicated to my parents and teachers who supported me in all walks of life.

Acknowledgments

I would like to thank my thesis Supervisor Dr. Sheikh Zahoor Sarwar. The door of his office was always open whenever I ran into a trouble spot or had a question about my research or writing. He consistently allowed this study to be my own work, but steered me in the right the direction whenever he thought I needed it.

.

Kashif Khan

Table of Contents

Abstracti
Dedicationii
List of Figurevii
List of Tables
Abbreviationsix
Introduction1
1.1. Introduction
1.2. Motivation for Study
1.3. Problem statement
1.4. Aims and Objectives
1.5. Research Questions:
1.6. Outlines of the study
1.7. Limitation of the study:
Chapter 2
Literature Review
2.1. Software Engineering Education:
2.2. HEC SE 2013 Curriculum
2.3. The HEC Curriculum for Bachelor of Software Engineering
2.4. Issues in Pakistan Education
2.5. Software Industry
2.6. Software Industry in Pakistan
2.7. Services Provided by Software Industries in Pakistan
2.7. Services Provided by Software Industries in Pakistan
2.8. Gap between Software Engineering Education and Industry
2.8. Gap between Software Engineering Education and Industry
2.8. Gap between Software Engineering Education and Industry
2.8. Gap between Software Engineering Education and Industry 11 Chapter 3 15 Research Methodology 15 3.1. Overview 15
2.8. Gap between Software Engineering Education and Industry11Chapter 315Research Methodology153.1. Overview153.2. Phase 1:15

3.2.4. Data Collection Strategy
3.2.5. Ethical Considerations
3.2.6. Analysis of the Data
3.3. Phase 2:
3.3.1. Research Design
3.3.2. Data Collection
3.3.3. Analysis
Chapter 421
Presentation of Results
4.1. Overview of the Chapter
4.2. Location of Companies
4.3. Demographics of the Participants21
4.4. Services Provided by Software Industry in Pakistan
4.5. Industry Demands from Fresh Graduates25
4.5.1. Technical Skills and Knowledge Demanded25
4.5.2. Non-Technical Skills and Knowledge Demanded:
4.6. Issues in Fresh Graduates Skills and Knowledge
4.7. Mapping of Software Engineering Education to Software Industry Demands .34
4.8. Gaps Identified in Software Engineering Curriculum 2013
4.9. Gap Reduction between Software Industry and Software Engineering Education:
4.10. Training Providing by Software Industry
4.11. Average Time Taken by Graduates to Become Competent
4.12. Comparison of Software Engineering Curriculum 2013 and 2017
4.12.1. Software Engineering Curriculum 2013:
4.12.2. Software Engineering Curriculum 201741
4.13. Comparison of Three Pakistani Universities Curriculum:
4.14. Comparison of Three International Universities Curriculum
4.15. Comparison of International and Pakistani Universities Curriculum49
4.16. Discussion:
Chapter 5
Conclusion and Future Work
5.1. Overview of the Chapter

5.2. Recommendation for Gap Reduction Based on The Result of the study	54
5.2.1. Industry Academia Collaboration Improvement	54
5.2.2. Internships for Industrial Exposure	54
5.2.3. More Flexible Curriculum	55
5.2.4. Industry Experts Faculty for Lab Courses	55
5.2.5. Incubation Centres	55
5.2.6. Awareness Sessions for Software Industry	55
5.3. The Conclusion of the Study	55
5.3.1. Future work	57
References	59
APPENDIX 1	62
APPENDIX 2	63

List of Figure

Figure 3-1 Qualitative data analysis of basic process
Figure 3-2 Imported Interviews to Nvivo 12
Figure 3-3 Nodes Formation in NVivo 1219
Figure 4-1 Location of Software Companies
Figure 4-2 Gender and Designation of Participants
Figure 4-3 Project Map of Services Provided by Software Industry in Pakistan23
Figure 4-4 Group Query of Services Provided by Software Industry24
Figure 4-5 Frequency of Services Provided by Software Industry25
Figure 4-6 Project Map of Software Industry Demands
Figure 4-7 Coding Query of Software Industry Demands27
Figure 4-8 Frequency of Technical Skills Demanded by Software Companies
Figure 4-9 Group Query of Non-Technical Skills
Figure 4-10 Project Map Showing Non-technical Skills Demands by Software Industry
Figure 4-10 Project Map Showing Non-technical Skills Demands by Software Industry
30 Figure 4-11 Frequency of Industry Demands are Shown
30 Figure 4-11 Frequency of Industry Demands are Shown
30 Figure 4-11 Frequency of Industry Demands are Shown
30 Figure 4-11 Frequency of Industry Demands are Shown
30 Figure 4-11 Frequency of Industry Demands are Shown
30 Figure 4-11 Frequency of Industry Demands are Shown
30 Figure 4-11 Frequency of Industry Demands are Shown

List of Tables

Table 1.1 Structure of the study	4
Table 4.1 Mapping of Software Engineering Core Courses to Demands	34
Table 4.2 Mapping of Software Industry Demands to Software Engineering Education	ation
	34
Table 4.3 Non-technical Skills and Knowledge Mapping	35
Table 4.4 Domain Core Courses of SE 2013 and 2017	42
Table 4.5 Courses Added to New Curriculum	43
Table 4.6 Courses Dropped from SE2017 Curriculum	43
Table 4.7 Courses Common in Both Curriculum	44
Table 4.8 Comparison of Core Courses of Universities	46
Table 4.9 Comparison of Software Engineering Core Courses	49
Table 4.10 Comparison of Three National and International Universities	50

Abbreviations

ACM	Association of Computing Machinery
IEEE	Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
IT	Information Technology
ITES	Information Technology Enabled Services
HEC	Higher Education Commission
ICT	Information Communication Technologies
R&D	Research and Development
NCRC	National Curriculum Revision Committee
GDP	Gross domestic product
PSEB	Pakistan Software Export Board
СММІ	Capability Maturity Model Integration
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
APTICA	Asia Pacific Information and Communication Technology
	award
ERP	Enterprise resource planning
CRM	Customer relationship management
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
CAQDAS	Computer-assisted qualitative data analysis software
KPIT board	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Information Technology Board
UTM	University Technology Malaysia
NUST	National University of Science and Technology
SDLC	Software Development Life Cycle