

A new way of my force: GEE experience

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GEE Team -10

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I am Debasish Kumar Das comes from a underdeveloped South Asian countries name-Bangladesh. As a poor and densely populated country, we are students in Bangladesh have no good opportunities to expand our knowledge. Here the education system is tailored towards cramming and passing examinations. But when I learnt about the GEE first at internet I have very much enthusiastic at that moment and from that time I have always met with Deb Gilbertson through e-mail. While I was introduced to the GEE, I was so excited about such an experience that had never been heard in Bangladesh.

When I was enrolled in university education, I have fixed up a goal in my mind that "I want to be a researcher in future". But I have been found that there is no opportunity about research for students at university level in Bangladesh. Teachers are coming here for teaching but they are not motivated to students as competitive mind or such types of work rather they become pessimistic us. Thus after getting GEE information, I was supposed that this information is must be disburse among our students and I was sent e-mails and mobile SMS to many friends about the GEE though I had little knowledge about it. And a complete information of GEE which I have printed out several copies and placed on every Faculty Notice board for students to apply. A number of our University students got interested but little did I also know that there where some challenges I would come across during the whole process.

After few days I was joined my team#10 with 6 other members. The assortment of our team was very good because our members come from USA, New Zealand, Colombia and Bangladesh. Since, there is no possible to face to face meet among the members thus, the GEE required all team members to be computer literate and have access to the internet. But it is on of the major problem in Bangladesh. There are no frequent opportunities in internet in Bangladesh and its cost is very high (US\$1 per hour). Besides here have continuous power failure. In fact as a poor student, it was very difficult for me. But I am the man if I aimed something I try to pay full concentration to do it. In spite of my financial problem and difficult time management (Bangladesh is -11 hours behind from New Zealand time) I was always communicate with my team members and shared my innovative ideas.

However, I have learnt a lot from my team members because we used to communicate almost daily. The diversity of my team members and innovativeness of each member made us come to a final theme on Education service to the African people. This topic was so interactive because most of the African people are illiterate. Through this illiteracy they can not break the vicious cycle of poverty and now they are facing the epidemic of HIV/AIDS. Therefore we have tried to build up a good proposal and I believed that our team was so creative and this helped us develop our proposal with less difficulties.

In fine, the GEE is a very interactive experience that promotes innovative solution to a global problem. Through this competition my vision is really enlarge which I can not think before. By the interactive knowledge sharing GEE give me a new way of force. Now I am thinking that in the next year I will try to disseminate the GEE ideas among all universities in Bangladesh. Lastly, many, many thanks to my all team members especially my team leader CAREN (New Zealand), she is very cordial and interactive. My gratitude to all the GEE organizers specially Deb Gilbertson who always give me the important information.