Visionary Mind (#1) ./. The Original Thesis Titans (#4)

Summary: All the reviews came out in favour of <u>The Original Thesis Titans</u>.

<u>Synergy criterion</u> (point for Original Thesis Titans)

Visionary Mind:
<u>Comment:</u> Same as the other groups. I found nothing special.
Mark 2.5/5

The Original Thesis Titans:
<u>Comment:</u> Overall, it seemed good. But did not have any sections forecasting the group synergy, or activity involving the whole class, as it was mentioned in the initial question. Wrote activities without mentioning the participating groups (only the original thesis titans or the entire class).
Mark 3.5/5

<u>Activity criterion</u> (point for Original Thesis Titans)

1 Visionary Mind - Activity
1.1 Description
Day-long event including the Data Science faculty and students. Features include student presentations, guest speakers, and panel discussions.
1.2 Evaluation
<u>Concreteness of Activities:</u> The proposal clearly outlines several activities, including student presentations, guest speakers, and panel discussions. The format and structure of these activities are well-defined.
<u>Feasibility:</u> Organizing a symposium is a sizable task, but it is a common and realistic format for academic settings. The involvement of faculty and industry experts suggests a high level of organization and potential resources. Involvement Beyond the Group: The event aims to involve the entire Data Science faculty and student body, offering broad appeal. The nature of the event (discussions, presentations) inherently encourages wider student participation and engagement.

2 The Original Thesis Titans (no. 4) - Activity
2.1 Description
A structured work-break cycle specifically designed for thesis writing. Includes themed sessions, peer engagement, guest speakers/workshops, and provision of healthy snacks.

2.2 Evaluation

<u>Concreteness of Activities:</u> The proposal details a specific method (Pomodoro Technique) tailored for thesis writing, with well-defined work and break sessions. Themed sessions and workshops add creative elements.

<u>Feasibility:</u> Implementing the Pomodoro Technique is practical and requires minimal resources. The addition of themes, workshops, and snacks is feasible but requires consistent organization and potentially more resources. Involvement Beyond the Group: While the plan is designed for thesis students, its appeal might be limited to those actively engaged in thesis writing. However, the inclusion of social and creative elements during breaks could attract a wider audience.

3 Comparison and Recommendation

Visionary Mind offers a traditional academic symposium format with a clear potential to engage a broad audience, including those not directly involved in data science research. The Original Thesis Titans" (no. 4) provides a more focused approach, targeting students engaged in thesis writing. It includes creative elements to make the process more engaging and socially interactive.

3.1 Recommendation

If the goal is to involve as many students as possible and create a platform for academic growth and networking, Visionary Minds proposal seems more inclusive and broadly appealing. However, if the focus is on providing direct support to students in their thesis phase with an innovative approach, The Original Thesis Titans (no. 4) plan is more targeted and creatively structured. Therefore, we deem The Original Thesis Titans (no. 4) activity as the strongest proposal.

<u>Outcome criterion</u> (point for Original Thesis Titans)

Our group believes 'The Original Thesis Titans' proposal is the best. We think having regular Pomodoro sessions will help more with our master's thesis as it is an activity where we make actual progress with our work. It's also easier to organize, as it just needs a space once a week, unlike the proposal of 'Visionary Mind' that would require a whole day of activies to be planned and organized.

Genetic Prophesiers (#5) ./. The Forecasters (#8)

Summary: Only one of the requested reviews came in; it was in favour of <u>The Forecasters</u>.

<u>Outcome criterion</u> (point for The Forecasters)

In the proposal given by group 5, the third section discusses the outcome and impact of the proposed student-organized activities, with a focus on the benefits of using Discord as a platform for collaboration. The group believes that Discord can maximize student engagement, facilitate better collaboration, and create a more enriching experience for everyone involved. While there are numerous benefits to using Discord, the group only mentions a few and explained them in detail.

Whereas, in the proposal given by group 8, the third section outlines a plan for hosting a hackathon that would appeal mainly to the Department of Data Science students but would also try to engage students outside of this faculty to join as well. The hackathon would center around finding solutions for real issues the community faces, and the organizing committee could reach out to the municipality of Ås to identify these issues. Overall, the proposed activity promises to provide a learning platform where everyone shares and gains knowledge, and the community can benefit from the solutions developed during the hackathon.

The comparison and selection

It was really hard to compare the third section of these two groups as they were based on two different kinds of activities. Moreover, the sections were also presented differently where the group 5 presented slightly better with the help of segregated points whereas, the group 8 presented everything in big paragraphs.

However, it seems like group 8 are explaining all the details whereas, group 5 are missing some details. In other words, the explanation of group 8 is slightly more convincing.

After quite a long discussion, our group decided to select the proposal of group 8. If we were asked to give marks out of 10, then we would have given 7 points to group 5 and 7.5 points to group 8.