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Sprint #5 Report

Intended Progress

Since we began this project, we have been working diligently on updating our platform. From fixing deprecated code to optimizing the news headlines generator, we have been making progress. We have worked to improve the visual formatting of the website and the structure. We have been in communication with Professor Lowenstein and GDI weekly for updates and planning for our next steps. We're continuously adding new headlines to countries as dictated by Professor Lowenstein, as well as updating fonts, boxes, colors, buttons, links and layouts on the 'About', 'Country' and 'Map' pages. Any and all visual changes are verified by the professor at our weekly meetings.

Progress Reflections

Amaka: This sprint was a continuation of making visual updates to how the website looks. I have been testing different colors for the 'Rankings' page, as well as potential backgrounds to add to the country info pages, according to Lowensteins requests. He has thus far been impressed and excited about the changes implemented. This sprint she was able to work on the 'About' page, adding photos and details about the students who have previously worked on this project. She also switched the pages title font to better match the website. Amaka has also started including minimal documentation throughout the code and will continue adding as the project continues. Whilst working on this project, she has been learning more about front end development and how the code given works within the platform to bring our website together. Amaka enjoys being a part of this team and the learning experience that this project has brought her.

Luke: Luke's main themes for this sprint was organization, communication and deployment. Organization in getting all of the moving parts of the project together to finish our time with the project off. Communication in assisting group members with issues that have arisen, directing group members into their next objective, and communicating with previous team leads in an attempt to solve a major deployment issue. Overall, this project has been eye-opening for Luke in learning how to problem solve as a team lead and a team member, and has been integral to development of learning how to adapt to new and unknown systems.

Hayden: Sprint 5 for Hayden focused on creating a guide for the next team about how the map is created and displayed in our application. Following a meeting with the team sponsor, it was also found that a new format for displaying popup information is desired. While Hayden struggled to find documentation or examples for changing the popup display, he was able to make minor changes that can be updated in the next sprint to finalize the popup styling change. He was able to complete a map guide and added it to the Project Wiki Guide folder in Github.

Problems Encountered

Amaka: Issues she encountered were contained within the code itself, it is formatted with no documentation with parts spread out with no particular order which has made things difficult. A lot of time is being spent being able to understand the code and all the files interact together within each page. She had some trouble being able to easily implement some font and photo changes due to there being no guidelines to how previous teams added those features. As for interview implementation, we have yet to receive them from our sponsor. As we move forward she will be working on adding some documentation for future teams to reference whilst deciphering the code.

Luke: Keeping with the themes that were laid out for Luke, each individual theme had its own issues come up. Quite a few times, when communicating with a group member to fix an issue, it would be discovered that there was no easy solution to fit what was needed for our envisioned goal. This prompted a pivot to find a new solution, which tied into the next theme of organization. Attempting to organize moving parts became exceptionally difficult

when the moving parts *kept on changing* which caused more issues with organization, ultimately things are coming together but not without difficulty.

Hayden: Issues encountered in this sprint occurred while changing the location of the popup for our country map. At first, Hayden reached out to professors in regards to changing the location of the popup. After they had responded, there was no simple way to change the location. Hayden tried including a new component which resulted in the app crashing on load then opted to change the css styling of the popup to place it in the desired location.
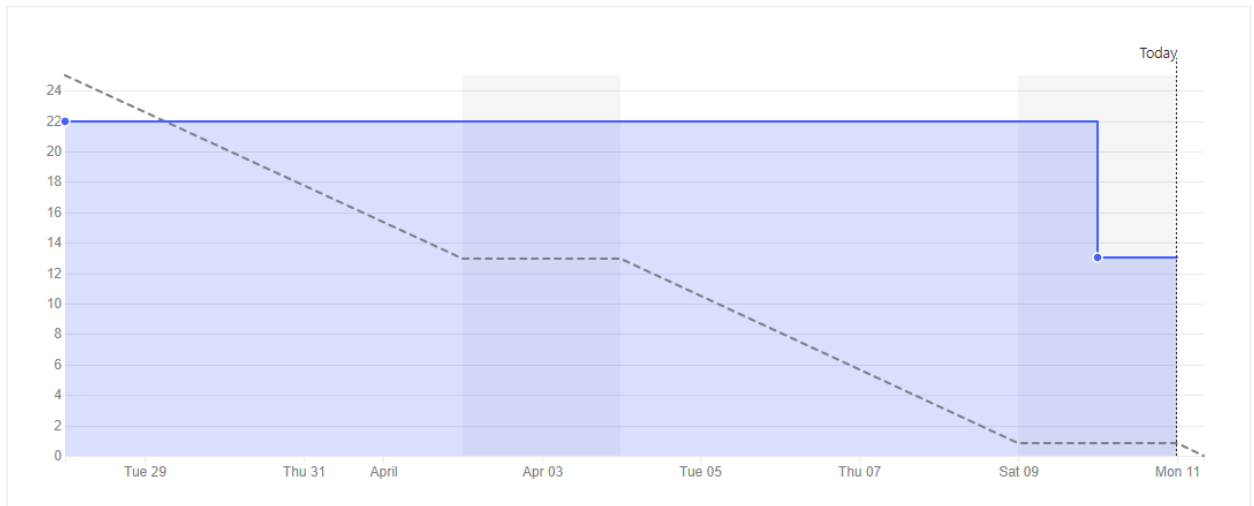
Projected Progress

Amaka: For this next sprint she hopes to continue making visual updates and start adding more documentation to the code. She is hoping to be able to include student and staff interviews within the website after the team receives the videos and detailed updates from GDI. Amaka will work on changes to the map's menu section with insight from Professor Lowenstein and her teammates as well as changes to the 'About' page and country information pages. We hope to have a documented and completed project by the end of April when our presentation is due.

Luke: For the final part of this project, Luke intends to direct his entire focus on deployment of the most up-to-date version of the civil discourse map. There are three directions he intends to try. Those being: update the current live version from the current repository, if that doesn't work he needs to get access to the original repository from two teams ago, and finally if that doesn't work he will need to deploy an entirely new website of the updated civil discourse map. After this is completed, Luke intends to clean up the project wiki by adding hyperlinks between the documents and adding information to said documents.

Hayden: For the next sprint, Hayden hopes to finalize the location of the map popup and present it to the sponsor for verification. The team sponsor has just provided us with the interviews to be implemented to the country page, and Hayden intends to work with Luke and Amaka to display those interviews. Hayden will create block and in-line comments to enhance readability throughout the source code for teams going forward.

Burndown Chart

The two remaining tasks for the sprint were:

The map change epic could not be fully completed without the issue "Changing location of popup information" being completed. Unfortunately, we ran into issues with the CSS and library conflicts when attempting to get this object to move. We will be looking into possible solutions, but since it is less important than deployment and installation of the interview videos, it is unlikely that we will see this issue realized.

Potential Issues for Sprint #6

Amaka:
- Code disorganization
- Formatting Issues

- Interview formatting and implementation

- Updating color schemes, menu items, about page and info page

Luke:
- Original repository access issues
- Deployment permission issues
- Website migration issues

Hayden:
- Popup Styling
- Interview implementation
- Code documentation

Team Reflections

Amaka: As this project has come along thus far, she has enjoyed the learning experience it has provided for her and working with her team. Though there have been complications with the setup and code formatting, the team is working together to solve these issues. We have made a lot of progress in changing the formatting, fonts, structure, visuals and updating deprecated code and adding photos and news articles. Our team sponsor approves of the direction we've taken the project in and we hope to continue adding more features. We plan to implement new ideas and update old ones as our time on this project continues through the rest of the semester.

Luke: As time has gone on, Luke has learned how to both interact and depend on his team more. Initially, Luke attempted to do everything alone which resulted in overtaxing of himself for no good reason and was actually much less efficient than working together to get issues resolved. Now near the end of the project, Luke understands better what it means to work as a team and solve issues together. When one teammate runs into a wall, they fall back onto another teammate for help with the issue. This results in getting the issue resolved much more swiftly. That aside, the team has been staying up to date with Professor Lowenstein consistently throughout the project. Professor Lowenstein seems very satisfied with our progress, and Luke is excited to deploy the newest version of the map.

Hayden: After the completion of sprint 5, Hayden has found it to be most useful to be transparent with his teammates and to ask for help if needed. He has learned to ask for help

from teammates and outside sources when he has been stuck on an issue for hours. His teammates are responsive and helpful, making for easier communication. The team is focused and has the same goal in mind to make the application fit the sponsors image, which establishes a positive environment for the team.

Conclusion

As this sprint comes to an end, the team has stayed focused on adding additional country headlines, updating the UI, and enhancing the readability of the project code. Moving forward, we hope to include interview videos on the country screen to add another feature to our application. The sponsor has been excited about the recent updates, and the team looks forward to deploying the most recent version of the Civil Discourse Map.