

Alumni Video Donations

Milestone 2

January 27, 2022

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CSCI 492 with Dr Nelson

General Progress Report

This quarter, the alumni money team made a lot of progress, despite many unexpected roadblocks. First, the flyers advertising recording sessions for students were designed, submitted, redesigned, and finally accepted to be put up in the CF building. Permission to use CF 163 as a recording space was also obtained. Videos of other students not within the group are still to come, but by the time they are recorded the splitter and weaver programs should allow for testing of mass-splitting and weaving to begin. The weaver and splitter have had great improvements since the start of the quarter, with the splitter now allowing for input arguments describing the current directory. The weaver now can stitch any number of videos, with transitions in between, and display text on top of video clips, as well as use csv files to influence the clips used to make the final video.

Team Accomplishments

- Acquired a permanent space for recording our videos (CF 163)
- Completed advertising flyer design
- Python video weaver now converts MOV video files to MP4 efficiently
- Finalized video recorder and camera equipment setup
- Acquired funding for our prize raffle from the CS department
- Scheduled our first class photograph
- Started video content screenplay and brainstormed many possible content ideas
- Acquired permissions to advertise our project on the Unofficial WWU CS Discord server
- Video weaver accepts an input CSV file and outputs one with a sample URL link
- Video weaver adds transitions between video snippets and images with text

Goals Met

- Finished flyer design
- Got faculty permission to put up flyers, and use space for recording videos
- Finished basic weaver file capable of stitching any number of videos together
- Finished barebones csv file implementation and text overlay

Goals Not Met

- Put up flyers
- Begin recording videos with students
- Take first batch of class photos
- Gain access to storage
- Finish video content screenplay
- Scheduled recording sessions

Updated Expectations

See Quarter Plan for more

Week 5 (Jan 31 - Feb 4)

- Continue advertising (discord + word of mouth)
- Content gathering: Recording sessions in 163/"wild", and class pictures
- Store snippets
- Test snippets through splitter

Week 6 (Feb 7 - 11)

- Create larger test CSV
- URL/Hashing
- Refine splitter
- Refine weaver
- Recording sessions in 163/"wild", and class pictures

Milestone 3 on February 11 (Friday) - Videos collected, tests created for splitter and weaver, have access to storage, have an alpha version of URL and hashing

Branch Description

- master - All project work is pushed to this branch (testing code, planning documents, sample videos, etc.)

Team Member Accomplishments

- **Simone Davison - (Hours worked: 22.5):**
 - Corresponded with staff and faculty for permissions for our project. Including filming locations, and photo permission.
 - Brainstormed recording sessions as well as the questionnaire participants will need to fill out.
 - Wrote our CSV reader program and have implemented creating a random video for each individual.
 - Worked and tested the video splitter to take command line arguments
 - Tested the video splitter on the video's Austin took with the Zoomvid camera.
 - Took sample videos and organized the repository.

- **Andrew Lanum - (Hours worked: ~9)**
 - Worked on the start of the content screenplay
 - Began work on weaver.py
 - Allowed any number of videos to be stitched
 - Allowed for a directory of videos to be selected and used
 - Added text-overlay functionality
 - Added transition effect functionality (fadein/fadeout) between clips
 - Researched content methods of alumni outreach from currently used programs at other universities

- **Austin Morin - (Hours worked: 19.5)**
 - Created an advertising flyer using Canva that will be used to advertise video recording sessions throughout the CS department and finalized the vetting of the flyer with Ridley Williams.
 - Acquired video camera, microphone, tripod, and DSLR camera from WWU Library Rentals every week, read their instruction manuals, and experimented with the equipment on both on campus with Simone Davison and at home.
 - Helped create a screenplay for our video content.
 - Conducted research on how to hash URL links using Python libraries and brainstormed high-level concepts on implementation.
 - Directed sample-runs of our videos by following the rough draft of our screenplay.
 - Took a series of test photographs from varying perspectives, focuses, and exposures and discussed how class photos will be conducted.