Abstract

Currently, there is no shared web-based platform available for collaboration between prospective graduate students and university faculties during admission process. Students have to upload their application documents separately to each university's web-based system. Faculty members may or may not have a web-based system to evaluate student's profiles and record their evaluation ratings for next steps in admission process. Given these issues, the goal of this project is to develop a web-based system which can provide a collaboration platform to streamline the workflow of admission process between students and faculties.

Gremester is the one-stop platform for graduate faculty members and potential graduate students to connect with each other. For potential graduate students, the platform provides the opportunity to build a profile with exam scores, undergraduate education details and important documents such as resume and statement of purpose, and ultimately find graduate schools with better chances of admission. Moreover, the platform provides discussion forum that allows communication between students themselves. Among the benefits offered to faculty are the opportunities to filter potential candidates with matching research interests and to connect with them during the formal application process. The team incorporates Agile methodology throughout 6 sprints over the semester and extensive adoption of Test-Driven Development and Behavior-Driven Development practices. Gremester is implemented using Ruby on Rails web-framework and hosted on Heroku server.