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CNIT 581

Project #1 Evaluation Document

To assess the usability and effectiveness of my prototype design, I have invited a group of three reviewers to evaluate it. Two of these reviewers are my classmates who are also taking the web-based application design course. The first reviewer, Jia Lin Cheoh, is a PhD student at Purdue University. She has been working and conducting research within the related fields for multiple years. Another classmate who reviewed the project is Ben Fan. He is an undergraduate student at Purdue University, majoring in computer and information technology. He was a former student of the PL/SQL programming class where this learnersourcing workflow was developed during Fall 2023. At that time, the overall workflow was supported by both Brightspace and Qualtrics. His experience has made his suggestions more valuable. The third reviewer is Yuhan Wu. She is an alumnus of Purdue University, where she double majored in CNIT and CGT. Currently, Yuhan is a master's student in Information Systems at New York University. Her experience and expertise in UI and UX design could help me improve my overall prototype. To effectively evaluate my low-fidelity prototype, I have asked three reviewers to fulfill the Heuristic Evaluation Workbook designed by Nielsen Norman Group.

Upon reflecting on the comments left by three reviewers, the first main concern was that some of the phrases in the prototype needed to be clarified. Both Jia and Fan mentioned that the three buttons labeled "Be an Expert," "Be a Reviewer," and "Be an Explorer" might not be clear and friendly for first-time users. Adding a description of the function of each button could solve this problem. Additionally, Jia suggested adding explanations to terms such as "worked-out example" and "learnersourcing". I missed these parts during my initial design because I assumed that students already knew the meaning. However, I believe it would be necessary to add them to help first-time users understand and give them some background information. Yuhan and Ben noticed some issues related to confusing terms within the interface. To address this problem, information icons have been added next to each term that can be clicked on by users to learn more about it. Additionally, both Ben and Yuhan mentioned that there were unnecessary terms displayed on the sign-in and sign-up pages. To solve this, a separate link has been created for different types of users in the revised version.

All three reviewers provided suggestions related to user control and freedom. Ben recommended adding a "Cancel and Exit" button to give users the option to exit the creating or reviewing process. Yuhan suggested adding a menu that allows users to access the three main pages without having to go back to the homepage. To meet this requirement, a hamburger sign has been added to the top right corner of each page that contains the links to the three main pages. Jia suggested adding a breadcrumb under each table, which is necessary to manage a large number of worked-out examples. This suggestion has been incorporated into the revised design.

All three reviewers also provided minor change suggestions, which have also been implemented in the revised design.