Project Ideas: Requirements Specification

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# Introduction

## Aim

To develop a system for students to be able to search for MSc project ideas suggested by staff members or organisations. A student will be able to select an idea and staff members will be able to add, edit and remove unassigned ideas. The proposed system aims to improve the existing ‘SUMS’ system (<http://www.sums.port.ac.uk/spi/>).

## Key Personnel

Responsible Owner: Jim Briggs

Design authority: UP678526

Developer: UP678526

## Future Proofing

The proposed system only stores MSc project ideas, it is possible in the future this could be extended to undergraduate (BSc) and other project ideas.

## Rationale for development

1. The current MSc project ideas database is not implemented following the MVC design pattern, implementing the system in an MVC style will make the system more scalable.
2. The current system provides limited searching functionality.
3. The current system omits the functionality to remove/withdraw ideas from the database. As a result, overtime the database could become filled with redundant data.

## Interactions and dependencies

1. The new system should be able to store any data that is stored in SUMS.
2. There is a need to store specific information regarding external organisations, as stated in the information statement for clients (<http://www.sums.port.ac.uk/pdb/projects/ideas/2006/letter.htm>).

## Timetable

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Date | Deliverable(s) |
| 29/01/2016 | * First draft of requirements specification |
| 12/02/2016 | * First draft of user interaction design |
| 04/03/2016 | * Alpha version of application (M1 mandatory requirements) |
| 18/03/2016 | * Demonstrable web application (M2 mandatory requirements) * Completed documentation * Source code listings and JavaDoc |
| 22/03/2016 | * Peer review |

# Data requirements

1. The system must be capable of holding information on:
   1. Students M1
   2. Staff M1
   3. Organisations M1
   4. Ideas M1
   5. Tags M2
2. The system must maintain relationships between the above; specifically:
   1. A staff member will belong to an organisation M1
   2. Ideas are owned by a staff member M1
   3. An idea can be selected by a student M2
   4. Tags can be assigned to an idea M2

# Collecting data

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Entity | Data collection method |
| Student | Need to register with the system using a form. |
| Staff | Need to register with the system using a form. |
| Organisation | A staff member can assign themselves to an existing organisation or create a new organisation. |
| Idea | An ideas form will be available for staff members to add and edit their idea. |
| Tag | A staff member can assign tags to an idea or create a new tag. |

# Data output

1. Student
   1. Can view their own system data (e.g. username) M1
   2. Can view a list of ideas M1
   3. Can view a filtered list of ideas (tags) M2
   4. Can view their selected idea M2
2. Staff
   1. Can view their own system data M1
   2. Can view a list of ideas M1
   3. Can view the list of their ideas M1

# Version control

The project will utilise Git with the GitHub repository for source code version control. Any changes to this document will be recorded in section 7.

# Document History

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Version | Date | Change |
| v1.0 | 24th January 2016 | Initial document |