**CSCI 426 Progress Report #: 3**

**Group Name: Applied Language Team**

# Dates that this progress report covers:

09OCT-10NOV2020

# What did the team accomplish during this time period? (be specific)

The first thing the team completed in this reporting period was the systems modeling document. This document included three models that were created to represent the website and its systems. These models gave the team a better idea of how the complex systems will connect to create the ALR website, and they also revealed some flaws in the system. Identifying and fixing those issues now will save precious time during implementation.

The team then worked on low-fidelity prototypes, which are hand-drawn representations of the ALR website. These prototypes allowed the team to layout planned changes and visualized how they would fit into the existing website. This also brought to light several potential issues with audio trimming and statistics gathering, which could now be more properly addressed. Identifying these issues before implementation undoubtedly saved the team some frustration and time. Additionally, we had the opportunity to present some user scenarios to our peers. and they gave us great feedback on our planned changes.

The team also created an implementation plan. This document outlines the next steps in updating the ALR website and acts as a guide to get the team back on track after winter break. It also outlines pre-implementation tasks that we plan to work on before winter break. In this document are some rough dates on when we plan to accomplish these tasks and who is assigned to each task. The assignments are fluid, and team members may help out where needed.

The team also made minor TeamGantt updates, adding new milestones and removing obsolete ones. Each team member has remained consistent in logging hours each week.

# What did the team plan to accomplish but fail to, and why?

Previously the team had planned to assign each member to a specific role/job in the project. However, the team decided not to assign specific roles in order to enable members to get experience with all aspects of the project and technologies involved. This will also allow each member to obtain a better feel for what role they should take instead of being locked into a position before knowing what it entails.

# What particular challenges did the team face?

The team faced a somewhat unique challenge compared to most other groups in that our database already had an existing implementation for the product. This meant rather than approaching things from a fresh perspective, we needed to consider the existing design. To do this, we decided to make a rough model of the existing database before creating our revised implementation. After doing this, we discovered several apparent redundancies in the database design and were able to resolve these discrepancies.

The second major challenge we faced was during the UI prototyping phase. By its nature, the drawing of paper prototypes is challenging to do online and still have group participation on each page. This led to some inconsistencies in annotation and a more complicated process in judging each page's quality. To help overcome this, we did meet in person one of the weekends, though this was still a challenge.

# Of which accomplishments are the team most proud?

The team continues to be proud of each member showing up on time to meetings and being ready to work as long as needed to complete the deliverables. The team is also proud of always completing work ahead of time, which allows the team more time to fine-tune the deliverables before turning them in.

The second main accomplishment is that we were able to create all nine of our prototype pages since this project, by its nature, seems to have considerably more screens than many of the other projects.

# What will the team accomplish during the next reporting period?

The team will document all work done on the project from inception to the present. This documentation will include all deliverables, such as Team Charter, Project Charter, Requirements Specification, etc. as well as revisions to those documents.

The team also plans to complete some pre-implementation and early implementation tasks outlined in the implementation plan.

# Any other concerns the team would like to mention?

The team will not be expected or required to work on anything project-related over the winter break. This means that being able to pick up and renew work on the project in the Spring is a matter of some concern, especially given the extended winter break this year. We have developed a robust implementation plan for the coming Spring, so this concern will hopefully be mitigated.

Another matter of concern now that we have moved through prototyping is the specifics surrounding user audio trimming. We are not entirely certain on the viability of audio trimming as it stands in the existing design, which led to several questions being raised during the Audio Trim page's prototyping. Specifically, the length of the audio segments and the trims were not entirely clear, or if there will end up being any viable means to automate this process. As of this moment, we are operating under the assumption that audio trims will have to be done manually through an interface.