

CS 598 / SENIOR DESIGN I
Product Reflection Paper
Fall 2021

Team Name: WuShockGo

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INTRODUCTION:

With school being back in person and events happening on campus, it is important to make sure the announcement of the events actually reaches out to students. Our goal is to create an app for Tabor College which will be a one stop for all of student needs such as event information to important contact information. This app will be for current students, faculty as well as alumni. It will contain information for the Jay Shop, Student Life, Student Success and Business Office. These pieces of information would help students be better connected to campus and be more informed of campus happenings. It would provide the information in one location, rather than having a student search throughout the website for information. The interview's goal was to describe our product to the interviewee and understand their opinion on the product. The interviewee would also be asked if they believe this product was something they would use, and if there were any changes they would personally make to better this product.

Tan Tran's Interview #1 - GEEKS Tutor:

For this interview, I interviewed one of my friends(students) that works at Geek tutoring at Wichita State. I briefly went over the description of the production. Providing her with all the information we have gathered so far. The person is a Computer Science major so they know a basic thing about our project. As she listened to the product requirements she was a bit shocked about how broad the requirements are. She described the purpose of the project as "good" meaning that she understood what the project is for and why it would benefit. As for the "broad" statement, the requirements were a lot and she mentioned that too much information in there will be useless for those who don't need it. For example, if a person lives at home and a person lives at the dorm then the information wouldn't really benefit them much. Too many requirements is just like getting "spam" . You are getting information that is irrelevant to you rendering this app pointless. She went on to mention that we should "target" a "specific" meaning if it's for students then we can narrow it down to students needs otherwise it will be hard for us to design this application.

I further show her the front-end flow chart so that she can imagine it more easily. She thoroughly looked through it and said it was "nice" and that it will take a lot of work implementing these requirements. I asked her, What does she think about this project idea? " The response is "nice" and that you can definitely see how it will be useful. With this app she mentions that there isn't much modification from the users or interaction; it is more "informational" but suggests that if there is any modification it should include notifications on updates or events approaching. The last question I asked was, will she be using this app if it were developed for her school with the same requirements? Her answer is "yes" that she is willing to use it from time to time for informational purposes. But if there was too much irrelevant information it would just defeat the purpose of the app and then she would not be using it.

Dan Khuu's Interview #2 - Ennovar Staff/WSU Student:

I interviewed my co-worker at work, who is a staff and a student at Wichita State University, he is working for Ennovar. He was having a hard time getting all the information from all the resources on the Wichita State University webpage. He said the search and finding the right information that he needs is taking very long and wasting a lot of time. So, that's why he missed so many events/news/activities from Wichita State University. When I told him about our project, WuShockGo (building an app for Tabor College to gathering all the information together to fit into one app), and tell him the introduction and he is really interested and said it is a good idea that having an app that can handle everything or linked them as one to be useful for students/staffs/guest at the Tabor College.

The first question I asked was "if the project is doable or buildable, no matter what school it is, would you want or like to have some experience with the app? If yes or no, please give me your idea." He answered yes and said that this project would help so many students/staff/guests connect the college community together. Because if everything should be all as one, so everyone can find and notice then everyone can attend and participate in those events/news/activities. He also said that this app is going to be very useful for users, whether they are students or staff or guests.

The second question I asked was "Do you think there is a limitation that we need to be getting over while building this project? And why or why not?" Since my friend or co-worker is taking Computer Science Senior Project II. That is the reason why I am asking him for the feedback. He said there is going to be a lot of work with API to link and call the information from the Tabor College main website and that is the hardest thing to handle in his opinion. What if the API from the main website could not communicate with the app API and during that time what are students and staff or guests going to do, is there any IT or software supporting the users, then he is giving me the feedback to narrow each detail down to easier to work with. For example, instead of one time building the frontend, why don't separate them into small pieces and work on first then after put/link all back together as the whole big piece.

Following the question above I come up with a side question, "do we have any unnecessary work? Why or why not?" He said in his opinion instead of making two login steps for log in or non-log in, for that just make one screen because after students log in, they still guide them to the screen as same as not log in. It is just some customizations different then the default, why do we make it extra steps for building to go around the big circle.

Sriram Srinivasan's Interview #3 - GEEKS tutee:

I interviewed my fellow GEEKS tutee who happens to be a close friend of mine . He is majoring in Applied Computing so I thought his fresh perspective can help me in zeroing down the project requirements. I showed him the project requirements from Tabor College and he was impressed with the notes overall. I did ask him questions such as the project requirements, the scope of the project, and how they can be modified a little bit.

A couple of questions I asked with that student are, "How do the project requirements look like?" He said that it looked great as it contains a lot of features. However, he said that the requirements looked complex at first, but he said that the project is doable. He also inquired with me the components of the app - front end and back end and how they are interconnected. He inquired a couple of things about communication with Tabor College and made sure that it is not just for academic purposes and for general issues.

The next few questions he asked are for students to personalize the notifications. He suggested that I include a drop-down menu into the front-end portion of the app. His rationale in doing so is that it can categorize students according to their majors, courses, and the subject areas that they are interested in. Typically, the students would have to select every single option and then search the web page for information pertaining to academics. This will drain the productivity of the students and make them waste time when a simple drop down menu would work.

He also inquired about the purpose of guest login, and I said that the guest login is supposed to work in tandem with the student/faculty login. I mentioned that the student/faculty login is meant to be used as FERPA-compliant and we don't want unauthorized users to have access to students' grades, faculty information, and financial aid information. We want to ensure that guests have a secure way to login to Tabor College that is consistent with the purpose of their visits. Basically, I meant that as people who aren't affiliated with Tabor College whatsoever, they don't need secured access to Tabor specific information.

Besides that, he also asked me why there is a separate administrator feature. I said to him that administrators are like department chairs. Thus, only information pertaining to that will need to be sent out department-wide notifications to students. In terms of timeline, he said that the project is doable and feasible within the time constraints, and he also advised me to take it slow and one step at a time.

Karishma Bhakta's and Fitri Rozi's Interview #4 - Senior Design I instructor:

Dr. Stallard is familiar with our project idea and has attended meetings with our sponsors from Tabor College before. Therefore, we decided to interview him and hear his feedback. The day before the interview, my team and I had a meeting with our sponsors to discuss the specifications of the mobile app. Since Dr. Stallard was not there, we filled him in on the latest update. The sponsors wanted to have a login system and three categories of people: guests, students, and administrators. The professor liked the idea, but he warned us about the complexity that comes with it. Adding this feature should not only be too difficult for the rest of the team members, but also the sponsors themselves. Once we are done with our senior project, the management and maintenance will get passed onto Tabor College. Thus, it is crucial that the sponsors can handle the complexity. We told Dr. Stallard that we will provide guidance for the login system in the form of walkthrough video, documentation, or/and manual.

The next topic that was brought up was notifications. Our sponsors loved the concept of having customization for different users. Each user can decide what notifications to subscribe to. Dr. Stallard recommended that we let Firebase handle the push notifications. The platform has an API that integrates well into modern mobile apps. Later on, the professor suggested that we ask the Tabor IT workers about their privacy rules. How long can the app remain inactive before signing out?, is the timeout the same for guests, students, or administrators?, and what type of email will be signed in are a few security rules that were proposed for us to ask.

Overall, Dr. Stallard believed that the project would turn out to be a blast. He applauded us for being the first group to partner with a fellow university. We will make sure that we provide the best service and product for our clients.

CONCLUSION:

After analyzing the responses of our interviewees, we concluded that all our interviewees supported our idea for the Tabor College App. They all also noted that if they had a chance to use this app, they definitely would. Another main thing they pointed out was the login system for three categories of people. This was something each interviewee pointed out saying that it was something that would take a lot of work to implement. There would be quite a bit of complexity, which would need to be confirmed with Tabor as to whether they would be able to handle this once the management and maintenance is transferred to them. Another piece of important feedback was that we shouldn't have two login steps, and should just have one so we are not putting more work in to receive the same result. Overall, each interviewee provided great feedback, which we plan on incorporating into our product to make it better for our users.