Ethics, Security, Legal, and Social Impact Report

Joe’SS Refresh

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**Ethics**

The ethics that need to be upheld most in this project are those surrounding user privacy. There is a significant amount of private information stored and handled in Joe’SS. Therefore all who work on this project are responsible for respecting the privacy of the users and honor the confidentiality of their information. Those responsibilities include professional obligations such as giving comprehensive and thorough evaluations of all the systems involved, performing work only in areas of competence, and designing systems that are robustly secure. Lastly those involved with the project need to understand the importance of Joe’SS to students. Joe’SS is essential to a student’s life on campus and, with the stress that students face on a weekly basis, it’s important that it functions as close to perfectly as possible. A students academic performance could be drastically affected by a malfunction in billing or graduation requirements.

**Security**

Our project aims to replace the current implementation of how Missouri S&T students access their personal, academic, and financial information. Because this is the primary access point of this information, it is important that it is secure. If the school were to adopt our project they most likely would use the same umsystem login system that they use for most other campus services. Significant changes would need to be made to how user data is stored in the application to ensure that student data is secure in the browser to comply with FERPA and other legal requirements. There is currently no form validation for pages such as the Personal page that allow you to edit or add personal information to your user account.

**Legal**

As stated above, those who take on this project need to be prepared to ensure that the project complies with Family Educational Rights of Privacy Act 1974 (FERPA) regulations. More information regarding FERPA and it’s relation to Missouri S&T can be found here: [Office of the Registrar](http://catalog.mst.edu/graduate/generalinformation/officeoftheregistrar/#text)

**Social Impact**

The social impact of the Joe’SS Refresh projects is an improved experience at Missouri S&T overall. The sole purpose of this project is to reduce frustrations when using Joe’SS. Students will be significantly less confused when trying to find their information due to navigation improvements. Users will be pleased to use a website that matches the aesthetics of the rest of the schools webpages. Lastly external tools that users love such as the schedule planner are still available.

Currently there hasn’t been a single user who was more pleased with the previous version of Joe’SS opposed to the Refresh, however the team should still be prepared to provide transition materials to faculty, and possibly students, who have used Joe’SS for years and may find the change confusing.