developer NOTE

For internal use only

Blueberry Pi

Everybyte Digital Products

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**Product ideas**

There were problems for professors to recruit teaching assistants (TA) and markers for the course they are teaching. They were using their network with students or sending bulk emails to students with only a few of them qualify for the position. Students also find recruiting emails that they are not qualified annoying, but some students find it useful. Moreover, students that want a TA position will need to have a network of professors or students. Thus, DALTAMS is created to provide professors and students a recruiting platform which distinguish from Dalhousie MyCareer, a school-wide general job search. DALTAMS is focused to professors recruiting TAs and students applying for a TA position. The mission of DALTAMS is to provide a user-friendly website, easy to use, without any annoying emails or networking, but still find a position or post a job seamlessly. Furthermore, DALTAMS can provide an ease to track TA hours of submission and evaluate TAs for professors, and allow TA provide hours of submission and view their feedback in a course easily.

**Resources**

Website layout: Architect UI Bootstrap Opensource with modification obtained from https://dashboardpack.com/theme-details/architectui-html-dashboard-free

JS reference to create a hide and show element on dropdown select obtained from https://www.tutorialrepublic.com/faq/show-hide-divs-based-on-dropdown-selection-in-jquery.php

Slider function used in evaluation form for professor obtained from https://seiyria.com/bootstrap-slider/

Hosting and database: 000webhost.com

**Choices**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Choice Made** | **Reason for Choice** |
| Added separate sections on the side bar for separate tasks e.g. tracking TAs, tracking hours submission, posting and tracking jobs are separate tasks so made separate links on the side bar. | Makes the user easier to find the information and learn the system. |
| Changed files naming scheme to pXXX for professor dashboard, jobsXXX for job dashboard and TAXXX for TA dashboard. | That would help the developers identify what dashboard each html file is part of. |
| Added a margin between "DalTAMS" and the "X Dashboard" in the header. | The texts were too close. |
| Added tags/filter button and upload doc button on the cards. | Provided user with two ways of doing the same thing. |
| Added a bar to separate the pages and the utilities in the side bar for job dashboard. | To let the users know that the two sections have different functionalities. |
| In the hour submission form, change an alert to a small confirm message under the input when the user put in correct hours. | To avoid unnecessary pop up that could potentially be annoying to the user. |
| Added a back button in TA.php in the submission form. | After the user has selected the course by mistake, they can go back and choose the course again. |
| Added a separate “Procced” button to bring up the hour sub form after selecting course. | PHP form requires the page to reload, preventing the modal from popping up. |
| Implement functionality for inserting data into the database in a separate php file. | Cannot have process two forms in the same php file using POST. |

**To-do list**

**Feature 1: TA Hour Submission process**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Done** | **In Progress** | **To Dos** |
| Database integration. | Office view to track the submitted forms. | Email sent to the Dean. |
| Form validation. |
| Hiding unnecessary elements in form. |
| Show different modals for TA and Marker. |
| TA UI and Professor UI |

**Feature 2: TA Feedback System**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Done** | **In Progress** | **To Dos** |
| The TA view which allows a TA to see their feedback on different courses. | None | Database Integration. |
| Professor view to evaluate each TA with a slider. |

**Feature 3: Job application process**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Done** | **In Progress** | **To Dos** |
| Two distinguishing views for the dashboard (Student and Professor). | None | Having the apply button integrated with the Database |
| Job listings and job categorize. |
| Individual job details. | Recommendation for TAs for specific courses. |
| Profile section to view current application status. |  | Way to look into who applied for a job the Professor posted. |
| UI for Tags and Uploading documents. |  | Uploading documents into the file storage in the system . |

**Feature 4: Code Organisation**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Done** | **In Progress** | **To Dos** |
| Pretty printing and indenting. | Code trimming. | None |
| Code Commenting. |

**Feature 5: File Organisation**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Done** | **In Progress** | **To Dos** |
| Naming files. | Getting rid of unnecessary files and folder. | Group the common files in a folder just like it is done by other professional web-developers. |

**Code issues**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Bug | Fixes/Workaround |
| 06/22 | The inner div was not wrapped around the outer div | Deleted the duplicate inner div. |
| 07/02 | Bug when writing the function that is used for Hour Submission validation. By comparing total hours to the sum of sub-hours the user provided, we will know whether the information is correct or not. I created a single variable on Js to calculate the sum of the sub-hours, but when I try to get the next sub-hour, the variable won't calculate the sum of these element but only take the later. | Created an array to store all the value of sub-hours the user provided |
| 07/27 | Having the type 'submit' for the input tag was required for getting values from the form using PHP in TA.php, which prevents the modal from popping-up. | Created a new button that takes in the values and refreshes the page, along with the one that inserts values into database. |
| 07/29 | There is an issue inserting values from TA.php into the database. The SQL error suggests that more than half of the command is getting ignored. Found out it occurs because one of the column names has a '#', which is used for comments in PHP. | Renamed the column in the database. |
| 08/4 | After hosting the website on 000webhost, the $\_SESSION variables were not working because 'an header was already sent'. It meant I couldn't have headers and $\_SESSION variables, which made inserting values into the database impossible. | In the .htaccess file, added a statement saying 'php\_flag output\_buffering on'. |
| 8/7 | The changes in scripts.TA.js will not affect the TA.php file in local machine, it always stays the same as the code previously pushed. | Changes in the code was reviewed by another teammate after it is pushed to Github. |

**Additional notes**

There are security issues around the restrictions for the users, one of them is the user can login as a TA role, but can access to the Professor dashboard by changing the link of the website. For example, a TA is on http://…/TA.php but can go to http://.../Prof.html by changing TA.php to Prof.html

Another issue to watch for is regarding the PHP function: The user can change the status of the TA hours approval by adding some script to the website link.