Qifei Yuan, Jiashu Zhang, Chenyu Zou

Professor Zhi Li

MIS 3545

March 16th, 2018

**Team YZZ Assignment 2 Reflection**

In this project, our team designed the database, input all data, and generated some reports by conducting queries in SQL. We regard the whole process as a way for us to practice our learning and even start to do some self-learning. Here is a summary of what we have experienced or learned in this project.

The project generally went well on identifying tables we needed for our database, thinking of fields within those tables, and deciding the relationships among tables. We tried to simplify our database and agreed on table designing quickly. Also, since we had practiced to create tables in Visual Studio in class, that part seemed not to be a hard task for us. But after that, we did struggle with coding a lot, mainly focusing on the following area:

* Identify data type for time/ date columns and how to input data in this data type
* When creating the relationships among tables in Visual Studio, start with the tables that contain only primary keys. For the next time, we think we could improve by keeping track of the priority of the different tables, meaning putting tables with only primary keys first, so that we can insert values into the tables accordingly.
* When creating relationships in Visual Studio, add constraints to the table that contains the foreign key
* For tables with compound keys, create another unique ID because we cannot add two primary keys in one table.

Fortunately, we solved those problems, either by asking the professor for help or searching solutions ourselves. Besides, we also learned by ourselves about how to use view designer to add the second foreign key in a particular table, which enable us to better manage our table in future.

For our team process, one of the challenges we faced was the issue of time. Since the past two weeks were exam weeks, each of the team members had relatively different time schedule, which caused some trouble when we were first trying to set up for meetings. Therefore, we decided that doing the work when all of us are present were not feasible. After communicating with each other, we decided that it would be the best that we divide the work among ourselves. So each one of us picked some parts of the assignment and divided the workload accordingly. Then, we would have two members meet each time to check our coding and make sure we were on the same page. Everything worked out well eventually. What we have learned from this assignment is that it is crucial for us to keep frequent contact with each other so everyone is made aware of what is going on with the project so no one is left out, and we definitely should keeping doing that.

For next time, we think it would be better that we let each other know our time schedules ahead of time so we can find a common time slot that works for all of us. That way, each member of the team will be aware of the overall direction of the assignment and will not be unclear of the tasks.