Progress Report 1

Date: 2020-10-05
Members: Edwin Aldrich, Logan Drescher, Bettina King-Smith

Overview

These past two weeks, we have created our project proposal, presented about our course registration system idea to the class, and have begun deliberating which programming languages and databases that we should use. In the next two weeks, we will be speaking to the Registrar's office to gather requirements and narrow down our technology options.

Accomplished

- **Logan has reached out to the Registrar's Office for input on our project.** We are hoping to get an idea of what the Registrar's Office believes is necessary for an improved course catalog system. This will hopefully allow us to create a system that Trinity will be able to implement.
- **Bettina has attempted to use Spring Boot as a potential back end.** She attempted to configure a Java / SpringBoot application so that it will communicate to a MySQL database, but has not had any luck yet. She has been attempting to follow online tutorials in order to accomplish this, but is stuck. She is relatively confident that the problem is somewhere in the configuration, but isn't sure where the problem is.
- **Logan has started studying JavaScript.** We have not yet decided what languages we want to use, so we are conducting some preliminary research in order to better understand our options.
- **Edwin has started to look into what Projector Manager we want to use, if at all.** He has looked into projector managers such as Gradle or Maven. After some deliberation and some research, it was deemed that Gradle was definitely not the ideal choice. Maven was built to work with Java so we are leaning toward using Maven; however, we aren't set in stone on the choice.
- **Edwin has also looked into what database tool we want to use.** He found a database management system called MariaDB might be a better choice than MySQL. MariaDB is a fork of MySQL and has features of encryption at all levels, speed, as well as it being open source.

Next Tasks

Our top priorities before the next meeting will include:

- **Gathering requirements from the Registrar's Office.** Hopefully, we will be able to set up a meeting with the staff members responsible for the current registration system. We will attempt to gather requirements about what the staff needs from a course registration system and also see if Trinity might be willing to adopt our system as a replacement for the current one. The direction of our project will likely change depending on feedback from the Registrar's Office.
- **Eliminate some programming language choices.** We will continue to do research on technology options. We will be in communication with each other to come to a conclusion on languages that will work well with each other. Hopefully, we will be able to decide on a particular set of languages for front end and back end, as well as a database, by the next progress check in. However, we also expect this process to take a large amount of deliberation (which we have accounted for in our timeline) so we do not expect to be completely settled on our choice in the next two weeks. This will also require considering security implications.
- **(Stretch) Start thinking about the framework of our application.** If we make a decision on our tech stack before the end of the next cycle, we will start thinking about how we will go about programming the different features of our application.