ENTWA Project Ideas

*Report: Helping MSc Students find suitable topics of study*

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# Introduction

A brief description of the aims and objectives of the coursework.

* I done the MSc Project Idea search project
* Aim
  + It needed to allow anyone to submit an idea for MSc students to apply to do.
* Objective
  + Create a user sign up system & an idea submission system that link together.

# Design

Briefly describe the key components. Include at least one diagram showing the flow of information between the components that make up the artefact. Highlight and justify your design choices.

* Show how the database works
  + Two tables, idea & people.
  + The database is simple with a handful of foreign keys to avoid a complex application.
* Describe the design of the model:
  + Controller (Business Logic & loading output in a view to put it into) > Facade (Beans) / Entity > (Mapping – Not implemented) > Data Source (Derby)  
    set up.
* Using internationalisation via bundle
  + Friggin cool.

# Implementation and testing

Describe your experiences implementing the artefact. Here you should briefly discuss your choice of development tools, highlight areas of development that were particularly tricky, and explain how you overcame problems. You should also outline how you tested the components that make up your artefact.

* Using MVC & JSF
  + Auto generated the initial application structure from the database using tools within netbeans, on the assumption it followed best practise.
    - Link to tutorial
  + JSF 2.0 unable to take advantage of HTML5.
    - Found work around, but implemtation is tricky
* Netbeans requiring restart constantly?
* Working with Derby – Hard!
  + Originally connected to MySQL database, which was more flexible.
  + Figured out you can generate database from the entities, made it easier.
    - Though, you’re querying the entity not the database
* I didn’t take advantage of unit testing within Java EE instead I loaded up a page and ran it with expected input.
* Persistence is still proving tricky. A user needs to add the connection into the connection pool for it to work.

# Summary

Summarise what you have undertaken in the coursework. In particular highlight the good and bad design and technology decisions that you made. Conclude by briefly discussing an alternative approach that could have potentially been taken with the benefit of hindsight.

* Should have used derby from the start or used an external MySQL server.
* JSF was ok, but after researching the industry other frameworks are more agile.

# References