RSEG 176

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Individual Contribution

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At the beginning of the project process I set up a meeting between myself, Kevin and Touhedul so that we could pick a project, divide it into parts and get started. We ended up agreeing that I would write the code to convert documents, Kevin would focus on the front end of the web app, and Touhedul would help with the back end. After I wrote the document conversion code, I sent that to Kevin and Touhedul. This code, written in Python, can take a PDF file and convert it into an RTF or DocX file, as well as removing the watermark that the used python library places in a docx by manipulating that file using the docx library. When I heard from Kevin that he was having trouble with the front end, I met with him and we started to try to work out what the issue was. We tried running the same React code on my computer, in case it was an issue on Kevin’s end, and it still did not work. I also tracked down guides to AWS architecture to see if I could help with putting together a file upload system. The goal of this is that a user can upload a PDF file to our app and receive a converted docx file in return.

Lessons learned: It’s not enough to simply divvy up parts of the project to different group members and expect everything to come together harmoniously. In the absence of overall leadership, if I’m going to be taking initiative with directing the group I need to be checking in more often – and especially when there are tools we are working with that none of us fully understand, it’s important to seek outside help earlier rather than later.