**Scaffolded Projects for the Social Good (SPSG)**

**SPSG Conversation Guide for Evaluating Potential Projects**

# Use of Conversation Guide:

*The following is intended to help instructors lead a discussion with a potential project partner, with the goal after the interview to be able to complete the Project Feasibility Evaluation Rubric. The text in blue italics within this document are instructor guidance and the black non-italicized font are prompts for the potential project partner.*

# Alignment with Course Goals:

I*nstructor reflection before meeting with potential project partner.*

* *How do you see this project aligning with the course goals and objectives?*
* *Can you identify specific aspects of the project that directly relate to learning experiences for the students?*

# Student Skill Relevance:

*Whether these questions yield information on technical skill needs will depend on the project partner. The other goal of these questions is to capture a sense of partner expectations of the students.*

* What specific skills do you envision students applying or acquiring through this project?
* Are there any skills that you consider critical for the project that might require additional learning time?

# Workload Manageability:

*These questions are intended to get a sense of how compatible the project partner’s timeline requirements are with the academic calendar and sometimes unpredictable nature of student projects. The expected use is intended to give the instructor a sense of if the expectations of quality of the final project are in line with the capabilities of the students and the academic goals of the class.*

* What are your needs/expectations for the project in terms of timeline and expected use of the end product?
* Do you foresee any challenges if the project is behind schedule, and if so, what would be the impact?

# Partner Engagement:

*How likely are the students going to be able to get timely responses to their questions?*

How involved do you anticipate being in the project, particularly in terms of providing guidance and clarifications to student teams? Will there be anyone else working with the student team, and if so how do you envision their involvement?

*This question is really intended to provide a sense of the project partner’s familiarity with the normal challenges of software projects. If they say it is completely stable that isn’t likely realistic, if they say it is in great flux that is a red flag.*

Are there aspects of the project that may undergo frequent changes, or do you expect a stable project scope?

# Learning Clarity & Guidance:

How well-defined are the project requirements from your perspective?

What do you see as the aspect(s) that are most likely to change?

What do you see as a potential challenge for the project that may not be fully within your control?

# Project Outcome Assessment:

What are the key outcomes or goals you hope to achieve with this project?

Can you describe the criteria that would indicate the success of the project?

# Resource Requirements:

Do you currently have an environment where the project should be developed or is expected to be deployed?

How would you characterize the maintenance requirements for the project once it is implemented?

# Privacy / Ethical Considerations:

What type of personal data do you anticipate needing to be kept by the system?

Are there any privacy or sensitive issues associated with the project that you've identified?

If there are, how do you plan to address or mitigate these concerns for the project?