

Team Member Report

Advisely, An Education Support Application

Big Muscle Boys

Sam Elliott, Jens Hansen, Connor Langlois, Eli Legere, Eric Schessler, Spencer Ward

COS 420 UMaine Spring 2019

Professor: Sepideh Ghanavati

Sprint 1

Name: Sam Elliott

Role Played: Scrum Master

Duties: Attended meetings as scrum master, Created GitHub repo, set up KanBan board, created Firebase deployment platform, created the react app and deployed it to Firebase, wrote use case descriptions and updated Project Description document.

Role for Next Week: Developer

Goals for Next Week: Implement Firebase user authentication and create account system. Develop web application and provide rudimentary scheduling functionality. Set up database to store class information and create persistent data linked to accounts.

Issues Encountered: A big issue for me was getting used to the software development methodology that we are using. Managing people and making sure that tasks got split of and assigned to people was difficult at times. Learning react and deploying it to firebase was also challenging.

Issues resolved: The methodology is coming together, our second scrum and sprint planning went much smoother. Having the scaffolding of the kanban board, github, and google drive have helped make the process of assigning tasks and sharing information much smoother this time around. I got the react app on firebase and am in the process of learning react.

Percentage Contribution: 12%

Name: Jens Hansen

Role Played: Developer

Duties: Create use case diagrams, finish software requirement specification document, and update user stories.

Roles for next week: Product Owner

Goals for following week: Learn about Node.js and the express package. Least about React and Firebase. Structure the database and store data.

Issues Encountered: The primary issue encountered was that I've never worked on a project of this scale. Because of this issue, I found that the number of document requirements and the sheer amount of documentation was halting. My first few hours of work were spent reading up on what the various documents were meant to encapsulate and to say. Following this, the sprint speed up considerably and no significant issues were encountered.

Issues Resolved: As above, the only significant issue encountered was that lack of understanding of the scope of this project. Following several hours of research and thought, this was resolved as I was better able to tackle individual problems.

Percentage Contribution: 19.5%

Name: Connor Langlois

Role Played: Developer

Duties: Create and finish the Software Requirements Specification. Assist in creation of Product Backlog, Sprint Backlog, and Use Case Descriptions.

Roles For Following Week: Scrum Master

Goals For Following Week: Manage GitHub, manage the sprint process, manage KanBan

Issues Encountered: The main issues encountered during this sprint were the learning process of Scrum, the associated documents with the process, and setting up GitHub. Figuring out the architecture we want to use was an integral part of the process and outlines how we will go about developing our application and its backend.

Issues Resolved: After learning portions of GitHub, ZenHub, and Firebase, I can confidently say that I have resolved these issues. I feel confident enough to make changes and commits to Git and use Firebase as our backend.

Percentage Contribution: 19.5%

Name: Eli Legere

Role Played: Product Owner

Duties: I managed and updated the Product Backlog and ordered each item by sprint number. For objects I worked on, I contributed to and completed the Product Backlog. I contributed to the User Stories Document by editing and creating stories. I also significantly contributed the Software Requirements Specifications document. I also help with the organization of our sprints in order to ensure everyone had and was fulfilling a role.

Issues Encountered: The issues I encountered were mainly becoming familiar with the documents and then dealing with the sheer writing requirements of the SRS document.

Issues Resolved: N/A

Goals: I will be part of the development team. Our goals are to allow users to create an account, store data, create a schedule and save that data onto a database.

Percentage Contribution: 19.5%

Name: Spencer Ward

Role Played: Developer

Duties: Expanded and reorganized the User Story document, created and organized the Product Backlog, gave feedback on the Use Case Models, and assisted in writing Use Case Descriptions.

Role for Next Week: Developer

Goals for Next Week: Formalize code and file structure conventions, assist other team members in learning React, and start programming the schedule page.

Issues Encountered: I had problems coordinating with other team members to plan meetings and divide up work. I am also used to a less formal and more discussion-focused design process, so I had some trouble getting used to the new document style.

Issues Resolved: Now that we are making some progress into the project, the formal document style is making a bit more sense. As a team, we are getting more used to coordinating work ahead of time, so hopefully we will have an easier time collaborating in the future.

Percentage Contribution: 10%

Name: Eric Schessler

Role Played: Developer

Duties: Worked on the creation of the Sprint and Project backlog, conceptualized and organized use case models, constructed use case diagram, work on use case descriptions

Role for Next Week: Developer

Goals for Next Week: Break ground on the schedule building, schedule option building, and schedule constraints features. Become familiar with react, and node.js

Issues Encountered: Lack of understanding of scrum, organizing and prioritizing document creation, and document creation time were all major hurdles this week. Scrum has taken some getting used to, and coupled with organizational demands of the project at the time of this report was a lot to piece together. Also the sheer writing overhead for this project was frustrating, to say the absolute least.

Issues Resolved: I think we have a far better understanding of scrum now, which I'm sure will continue to improve with time. Also now the vast majority of the early documentation is done, that has solved the present organizational issue.

Percentage Contribution: 19.5%

Sprint 2

Name: Sam Elliott

Role Played: Developer

Duties: Set up KanBan Board for this deliverable and sprint. Research firebase authentication, familiarize self with react, create sprint backlog.

Role for Next Week: Developer

Goals for Next Week: Finish all documentation for Deliverable 2. I am going to be focusing on the sequence diagram.

Issues Encountered: Sprints are so short that it we ran into an issue where by the time we had gotten around to working on a sprint it was almost over. With not having this project be a full time thing it almost seems like 2 week sprints may be better. We keep talking about people being on time to meetings but it continues to be an issue.

Issues Resolved:

Percentage Contribution: 20%

Strengths: Cooperative, hard working. Keeps the group organized.

Weaknesses:

Name: Jens Hansen

Role Played: Product Owner

Duties: Learning React JS and about the structuring of FireStore

Role for Next Week: Developer

Goals for Next Week: Finish the necessary artifacts for deliverable 2

Issues Encountered: There is a decided lack of promptness within the group.

Issues Resolved: This was brought to the team's attention, and will hopefully cease soon

Percentage Contribution: 16%

Strengths: Keeps group on task during meetings. Actively organizes meetings and promotes discussion. Hard working, willing to help all members with their assignments if needed.

Weaknesses: Finds it difficult to identify smaller problems which require fixing.

Name: Connor Langlois

Role Played: Scrum Master

Duties: Ensured Scrum Methodology being followed consistently and proficiently. Refamiliarize self with React.

Role for Next Week: Developer

Goals for Next Week: Starting and completing sequence diagram and domain model documents. Updating SRS document.

Issues Encountered: Lack of timeliness to arrive at meetings.

Issues Resolved: Labeled as a focus of the group.

Percentage Contribution: 16%

Strengths: Focused, hard working. Always working on or polishing some artifact

Weaknesses: Could fill in the role of scrum master a bit more

Name: Eli Legere

Role Played: Developer

Duties: My duties for the week were to be part of the planning process i.e. contribute to the whiteboard design of Domain Modeling and to become familiarized with React Js

Role for Next Week: Developer

Goals for Next Week: Complete Software Architecture document and the Sequence Diagram.
Continue to learn and practice React Js.

Issues Encountered: The group has encountered a learning curve with the new documents.
The group has trouble coordinating and communicating meeting times.

Issues Resolved: The group now understands the artifacts.

Percentage Contribution: 16%

Strengths: Willing to work on any task

Weaknesses: Doesn't perform tasks outside of group meeting

Name: Spencer Ward

Role Played: Developer

Duties: Selected styling and file structure conventions for the site. Wrote a barebones component to use as a model for the other components. Started learning JSDoc to set commenting standards.

Role for Next Week: Developer

Goals for Next Week: Complete the Domain Model document and help with the Architecture Design document.

Issues Encountered: We are quickly realizing that most of our programming will have to wait until we have much more documentation complete.

Issues Resolved: I set up some basic guidelines to follow when we do start coding, but these will need to be fleshed out considerably.

Percentage Contribution: 16%

Strengths: Cooperative, brings a helpful point of view and skill set from his background in app development.

Weaknesses: Difficult to match meeting times with other group members as a result of scheduling

Name: Eric Schessler

Role Played: Developer

Duties: Continued learning JS and React, documentation

Role for Next Week: Developer

Goals for Next Week: Once the feedback is in from the previous deliverable, update the Use-Case document, work on other documents

Issues Encountered: Lack of feedback for documentation updating, and a poor knowledge of JS/React pressed against limited time for learning hamstrings my ability to contribute to coding.

Issues Resolved: Many of the documents for this deliverable weren't well understood through the majority of this sprint, but we managed to find some semblance of that understanding near the end

Percentage Contribution: 16%

Strengths: Willing to work on a project to completion, regardless of monotony

Weaknesses: Ability to meet/work hindered by time constraints

Sprint 3

Name: Samuel Elliott

Role Played: Developer

Duties: Familiarize myself with react. Maintained kanban board, updated some minor changes on documents sepideh had given comments on, created all digital copies of sequence diagrams, took part in running the focus group.

Role for Next Week: Product Owner

Goals for Next Week: Begin working on implementation, keep splitting up the documentation work and try and get ahead of it as we did last sprint.

Issues Encountered: Seems like coding needs to be put on hold until we create a lot of the artifacts due to them being directly related. If we are pre defining out architecture in a document we need to make sure to have that document when creating the product. Times that people are available do not always lineup.

Issues Resolved:

Percentage Contribution: 16.66%

Strengths: Continues to work hard, organize the group, and make useful contributions. Also works very hard to finalize submissions, tying up all remaining loose ends.

Weaknesses: Could fill in the role of product owner a bit more

Name: Jens Hansen

Role Played: Developer

Duties: Knowledge acquisition and documentation.

Role for Next Week: Developer

Goals for Next Week: Learn more about React JS. Assist with development.

Issues Encountered: A lack of purpose and focus of all members of the group

Issues Resolved: We resolved the above issue by having a thorough meeting discussing what tasks were remaining and dividing these tasks among all members.

Percentage Contribution: 16.66%

Strengths: Keeps team on task, helpful in resolving issues that show up. Focused during meetings and work sessions. Willing to help out where needed and still maintains good quality of work on own deliverables.

Weaknesses: Occasionally, explanations bogged down by excess detail

Name: Connor Langlois

Role Played: Developer

Duties: Refamiliarize with React, update SRS, create Domain Model

Role for Next Week: Developer

Goals for Next Week: Start development of the application and encounter any issues with design, redesigning aspects of the app as needed

Issues Encountered: A general lack of understanding of the Software Architecture Document

Issues Resolved: By learning more online and asking questions during class

Percentage Contribution: 16.67%

Strengths: Hardworking, diligent. Produces very high-quality work. Past experience allows for helpful suggestions from a technical point of view.

Weaknesses: Could play a more-involved role when tasked with being the Scrum Master.

Name: Eli Legere

Role Played: Developer

Duties: Made the Software Architecture Document. Contributed to the creation of the sequence diagrams. Participated in group discussion which helped outline and further our overall goal.

Role for Next Week: Scrum Master

Goals for Next Week: Lead discussions and help assign roles. Be an active member of the Big Muscle Boys.

Issues Encountered: I had difficulty understanding the Software Architecture Document. Organizing group meetings is still difficult because I have a busy schedule.

Issues Resolved: Utilized all resources to understanding of the necessary documents. Contributed to our goals outside of group meetings.

Percentage Contribution: 16%

Strengths: Willing to tackle documents which the team are not comfortable with. Researches documents well before creating them resulting in better quality documents.

Weaknesses: Unfortunately, due to a difficult and busy semester, I have not been able throw myself wholeheartedly at this project. Therefore, my work has not been exemplary.

Name: Eric Schessler

Role Played: Product Owner

Duties: Updating the use case document, continue JS/React familiarization

Role for Next Week: Developer

Goals for Next Week: Put more work into other documents, try to start help coding the application

Issues Encountered: Time demands for other obligations outside of lecture have increased, as have the amount of effort needed to put into them, which has limited my focus and effort for the documentation

Issues Resolved: My schedule has finally stabilized, so I can better plan out time for work on the deliverable, and the team's understanding of the application's general structure continues to solidify

Percentage Contribution: 16%?

Strengths: Diligent worker

Weaknesses: Though he works diligently when available, limited availability means that he only worked on one document throughout the sprint.

Name: Spencer Ward

Role Played: Scrum Master

Duties: Plan domain model classes, organize domain model layout, expand product pitch

Role for Next Week: Developer

Goals for Next Week: Finalize code documentation style, implement basic navigation system in React, write model CSS code

Issues Encountered: When we were making our domain model, we ran into a lot of subtle problems that took a lot of discussion to work out. For some reason, digital diagrams just don't click for me. I understand them perfectly fine, but I really hate making them.

Issues Resolved: Domain modelling makes a lot more sense now. As we took our domain from a basic list of classes to a full model, we were able to work through a lot of subtle design decisions that will make our programming work a lot easier down the line.

Percentage Contribution: 16.66%

Strengths: Understanding of react and app development is a huge asset, input is always clarifying when confronting a confusing issue

Weaknesses: Has a rigid schedule which makes meeting with him difficult. Seems unreliable in that he doesn't perform tasks promised promptly when not in group meetings.

Sprint 4

Name: Samuel Elliott

Role Played: Developer

Duties: Participate in group meetings and project planning. Map out the major functions of Advisely in pseudocode, continue to learn react.

Role for Next Week: Developer

Goals for Next Week: Complete Deliverable 3 documentation, create concrete set of function calls and continue to work on implementation

Issues Encountered: Issues with understanding the complete functionality of the database and what queries it can execute. Unsure of which functionality needs to be implemented in the front end pseudocode we are writing and which functionality can be made using the backend. Issues with getting everyone together at the same time.

Issues Resolved: Talked with members who were working on the database and figured that most filtering of classes can be done through the database calls.

Percentage Contribution: 20%

Strengths: Willing to work on whatever is necessary

Weaknesses: Not great at taking initiative

Name: Jens Hansen

Role Played: Developer

Duties: Write pseudocode for the individual functionalities of Advisely.

Role for Next Week: Product Owner

Goals for Next Week: Finish documentation

Issues Encountered: So much documentation

Issues Resolved: We wrote most of our documentation

Percentage Contribution: 20

Strengths: Takes initiative and gives the group direction

Weaknesses:

Name: Connor Langlois

Role Played: Developer

Duties: To learn Firebase, develop the database schema, and start the inclusion of courses into the database

Role for Next Week: Product Owner

Goals for Next Week: Wrap up development of database schema, start and complete the Configuration Plan, start and complete Design Pattern

Issues Encountered: Firestore is not as intuitive as it seems. There is a lack of documentation pertaining reference values and how to query with them. This prevents a succinct database that wouldn't need data duplication.

Issues Resolved: Research concluded that querying can be done, but requires more JavaScript on the frontend.

Percentage Contribution: 20%

Strengths: Ability to offer up suggestions regarding database's functionality due to research.

Weaknesses: Could collaborate more with the group.

Name: Eli Legere

Role Played: Developer

Duties: Participated in group discussions, and effectively helped outline our goals. Also performed research on the firebase database.

Role for Next Week: Developer

Goals for Next Week: Create the Detailed Design Document and continue learning React JS

Issues Encountered: Too busy to meet

Issues Resolved: Managed to meet for sometime

Percentage Contribution: 10%

Strengths: Extremely helpful in steering group discussion in a productive fashion.

Weaknesses: Too busy to meet because of other obligations.

Name: Eric Schessler

Role Played: Scrum Master

Duties: Visualized pseudocode and translate documentation into design, worked on documentation

Role for Next Week: Developer

Goals for Next Week: Put more time into a wider variety of documents, translate pseudo code into code

Issues Encountered: Misunderstanding between Configuration Management Document elements and class materials, difficult regaining our group-work footing coming out of Spring Break

Issues Resolved: Outside obligations beginning to lessen, but still a present hinderance to my ability to keep up with project work

Percentage Contribution: 20%

Strengths: Diligent worker, identifies problems or gaps in knowledge to be addressed in class

Weaknesses: Limited Time

Name: Spencer Ward

Role Played: Product Owner

Duties: Read up on JSDocs for code documentation and type checking; continued development of the schedule page in React

Role for Next Week: Developer

Goals for Next Week: Work on the Configuration Management Document, get React site running

Issues Encountered: Hard to develop a site without knowing anything about the user interface; had schedule conflicts every time the rest of the group met

Issues Resolved:

Percentage Contribution: 10%

Strengths:

Weaknesses: Unavailable during group meetings

Sprint 5

Name: Samuel Elliott

Role Played: Developer

Duties: Working on documentation entirely, coming up with design patterns and creating a detailed class design model. Attending meetings and assisting others with problems that may arise.

Role for Next Week: Product Owner

Goals for Next Week: Work on developing the application in react.

Issues Encountered: Difficulty with changes in previous design and our current design. Difficulty with some information that was covered in a class which i missed due to personal issues.

Issues Resolved: We fleshed out our design more completely and have a better understanding of the product, I caught myself up using the slides posted online.

Percentage Contribution: 19%

Strengths:

Weaknesses: Limited availability due to personal issues

Name: Jens Hansen

Role Played: Scrum Master

Duties: This week was primarily focused on documentation writing.

Role for Next Week: Developer

Goals for Next Week: Develop. As the majority of our work thus far has been focused entirely on documentation, all further work on the project will be development focused.

Issues Encountered: Lack of group motivation/cohesion leading to minimal accomplishment prior to the deadline. As well, our design continues to change frequently as the documentation changes.

Issues Resolved: We were able to unify the desired implementation to a high degree. This means that our development team has a more clear idea of what each method, class, and structure will accomplish.

Percentage Contribution: 19%

Strengths: Consistently shows ability to problem-solve and find the best solution to a problem.

Weaknesses:

Name: Connor Langlois

Role Played: Product Owner

Duties: Wrap up development of database schema, start and complete the Configuration Plan, start and complete Design Pattern

Role for Next Week: Start portion of app development

Goals for Next Week: Have a presentable application that includes the integral functionality of Advisely

Issues Encountered: There are many different possible database schemas to use. Choosing the best to minimize data duplication is difficult given Firestore's quirks.

Issues Resolved: Have narrowed down the possible choices. Now left to choose one that best fits with Advisely's needs.

Percentage Contribution: 19%

Strengths: Has good knowledge of configuration plan details that provide good insight into the document's design.

Weaknesses: Could speak up more during group discussions to offer input.

Name: Eli Legere

Role Played: Developer

Duties: Start and complete Detailed Design Document.

Role for Next Week: Developer

Goals for Next Week: Develop features with React js

Issues Encountered: Many sequence diagrams to turn into Design Class Diagrams

Issues Resolved: Created Design Patterns and Design Class Diagrams

Percentage Contribution: 19%

Strengths: Very thorough in completing the documents and extremely good at collaborating with teammates

Weaknesses: Too focused on one thing at a time.

Name: Eric Schessler

Role Played: Developer

Duties: Contributed to Configuration Management Document, Produced Pseudocode and low level design towards development

Role for Next Week: Developer

Goals for Next Week: Put work into coding development, finalize documentation, produce presentation

Issues Encountered: Inability of group members to find congruent times for meeting, lack of clear pathing between project descriptive documents and class materials

Issues Resolved:

Percentage Contribution: 14%

Strengths: Timeliness, engaged and active during meeting times

Weaknesses: I was out of state for several days, and missed a sizeable chunk of group working time

Name: Spencer Ward

Role Played: Developer

Duties: Proofread and edited the Configuration Management Document; added navigation through React Router and styling through CSS to the site

Role for Next Week: Developer

Goals for Next Week: Sketch wireframes of the interface design; create an interactive prototype to model our code after; explain and walk through the prototype during our presentation

Issues Encountered: Coding in React goes extremely fast you know what you're making, but it goes extremely slow when you don't. An interface needs to be designed before it can be programmed.

Issues Resolved:

Percentage Contribution: 10%

Strengths:

Weaknesses: