Strike A Spark Project Overview

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This project started when we were approached by professor Sible. He asked if anyone was interested in making a Python app for the Strike A Spark Conference. A few others and I volunteered. However, this project was to count as a project in our python class. We met with the Strike a Spark Committee, and they seemed to want a Web Application that would use a global username and password for all users. They also wanted the application to allow judges to enter scores and allow for the final scores to be calculated for each poster. Later on in the project, they also wanted us to sort the poster scores form highest scoring to lowest scoring in each department. More specifically, the departments would be listed in a order with the posters from that department being listed in descending numerical order by score in that section.

Since this project was initially assigned for a Python course, we initially approached the program with the intent of using Python. However, we quickly learned that Python was not the right tool for the job. After talking with Bill Staffen at U-Tech, he recommended us to create a web page using html and Java Script for the front end. We of course, also used CSS to improve the visual style of the pages. Additionally, we used PHP for the backend of the website. This PHP connected to a DataBase which housed all the poster information. For more information on how exactly the database was made, look at the DataBase Documentation pdf. We have also included the code we used for the DataBase in the Project Files Folder. Information was read into the database before the day of the conference using Python Programs. One program Generated random judge ids, and the other uploaded a csv file containing all the information about posters to the database. It was not required that we use specifically python to upload data to the database. This could be done using most modern programming languages including PHP. However, for this to count as our python project, we had to write this part in python. We would recommend finding another way to upload information to the database for future years. The only reason we did what we did was because we had to for credit in our python class. We also created an admin panel for the Strike a Spark Committee to access the scores once the conference was completed.

Additional Potentially Useful Information:

CSV File Columns:

- ID

- Name of Presenter

- Title - Department

- Category

- Graduate/Undergraduate

- Class Level

- Area of Study – Sponsor

Test Site Password: 123Password

Test Site IDs:

Rubric for all Posters:

- Visual Quality (0-4) - Clarity (0-3)

- Thoroughness (0-4)

- Breadth of Research (0-3)

- Depth of Research (0-3)

- Quality of Analysis (0-3)

- Discussion Quality (0-5)

- Understanding of Research (0-5)

- Overall Quality (0-10)