**Proposal: Parking Reservation System for SCU**

**Problem Identified, Business Description, and Background of As-Is:**

During peak hours, when many classes or a basketball game is scheduled, parking can be a nightmare. Lots close to class are full, leaving students to find parking completely across campus including street parking and they are left on their own to figure out hourly requirements or be left with a ticket when they return from class. It can even be a challenge to find the location of the spot if it changes every time. This is time wasted that could be spent on more valuable activities. There are many applications that can help students find where they have parked, simply dropping a pin, or other “find my car” applications. However this does not help with having a reliable, consistent place to park every time it is needed. There are two applications that are trying to solve this problem that our team will look to for inspiration:

Google’s “Parking Location” is a new system available on Android phones. It uses the sensors and GPS on smartphone to know when the user is driving, automatically noticing if motion has stopped and record where the user has parked based on the lack of movement.

SpotHero is an on-demand parking application (for Android and Apple mobile OS) that allows users to reserve parking spots in certain locations, usually lots/garages with valet service for a time window of their choosing.

To help improve the student parking/commuting experience, in our system we plan to combine and adopt some features from above two systems, defining requirements with the help of input from students, faculty, and the SCU Transportation Services Group on campus.

The goal of this system is for the SCU Parking/Security system to shrink parking seeking time and provide accurate, real time parking location information that is actionable for all user groups including student or faculty (primary users) and the SCU Transportation Services Group .

**Business Need and Requirements (To-be):**

**Opportunities:**

This new system will allow Santa Clara to offer variable pricing that offers more flexibility to students that commute. It will also allow Santa Clara to analyze trends in preferences among that group of students (like location preference) and adjust accordingly.

**How the System will Support Operations:**

The SCU Transportation Services group aims to provide “parking and transportation services” to the faculty and staff. (<http://university-operations.scu.edu/transportation-services/>)

This system with enhanced functionality would allow the SCU TS group to provide a much more tailored user experience to commuter students.

The university also provides a mission statement:

“The University pursues its vision by creating an academic community that educates the whole person within the Jesuit, Catholic tradition, making student learning our central focus, continuously improving our curriculum and co-curriculum, strengthening our scholarship and creative work, and serving the communities of which we are a part in Silicon Valley and around the world.” (<http://www.scu.edu/jesuit/University-Mission.cfm>)

Noting that they want to create an environment that focuses on the education of the student. This would take away some of a student's logistical challenge of getting to class so they can focus on learning.