**UAGC CST-499 Week 1 – Discussion Forum 1 – Vicki Kelm**

**Identify a scenario – list some of the high-level and detailed requirements elicitation techniques most appropriate for scenario**

**Identified Scenario**: Developing a new online learning platform for a university

**High-Level Requirements Elicitation Techniques:**

“At the high level, the requirements analyst will need to seek out the management and executives who sponsored the software project to understand the business rationale behind it” (Tsui, Karam, & Bernal, section 6.2.1).

1. **Interviews**: Conduct interviews with stakeholders like students, faculty, and administrators to gain information to understand their needs and expectations.
2. **Surveys**: Distribute surveys to a larger audience to gather a broad range of requirements and preferences.
3. **Use Cases**: Define scenarios to help understand how the different users will be interacting with the system.

**Detailed Requirements Elicitation Techniques:**

“At the low level, the requirements analyst must elicit and gather the details of the users’ needs and desires” (Tsui, Karam, & Bernal, section 6.2).

1. **Prototyping**: Create a preliminary model of the system to gather feedback and requirements refinement.
2. **Document Analysis**: Review existing documentation that relates to current systems in order to identify possible improvements and to avoid mistake repeats.
3. **Focus Groups**: Gather a group of users to discuss their needs and expectations.

**Describe the elicitation modes - categories of information – obtained constraints**

**Elicitation Modes**:

* Verbal
* Written (preformatted form)
* Online form

A requirements analyst should be disciplined in their preparation for conducting elicitation and gathering. Using written and online forms forces the analyst to create thorough and well thought out questions. However, these forms of elicitation can be rather rigid, so a verbal follow-up should be conducted.

**Categories of information**: The six dimensions of requirements

1. **Individual functionality**: Natural starting point of requirements elicitation.
2. **Business Flow**: Important category of information that must be gathered at the detail-requirements information level.
3. **Data, formats, and information needs**: “At the minimum, there must be some discussion of the application’s input and output data” (Tsui, Karam, & Bernal, p. 112).
4. **User Interfaces**: How the input and output of a software system is presented, includes the flow of the software application.
5. **Systems with other interfaces**: Interfaces with an existing application or to a network system, must be clearly identified.
6. **Other constraints such as performance, reliability, and security**: Serves as a catchall group and acts as a prompter for all nonfunctional requirements important to the project.

**Must be obtained constraints**:

* Allotted budget: Important when detailed requirements are being prioritized, contributes to the decision process of needs versus wants.
* Schedule: Implications of schedule constraints and the actual schedule must be clear to the requirements analyst.

**References**

Tsui, F., Karam, O., & Bernal, B. (2018). *Essentials of Software Engineering* (4th ed.). Jones & Bartlett Learning. <https://platform.virdocs.com/read/2348054/11/#/4/2[ch06]/2/2,/3:0,/3:0>