Problem Statement and Goals Software Engineering

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Table 1: Revision History

Date	Developer(s)	Change
09-18-2025	Virochaan Ravichandran Gowri	First Rough Draft
09 - 18 - 2025	Rayyan Suhail	First Rough Draft
Date2	Name(s)	Description of changes
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1 Problem Statement

 $[You should check your problem statement with the problem statement checklist. \\ --SS]$

[You can change the section headings, as long as you include the required information. —SS]

1.1 Problem

The Mcmaster Engineering Society (MES) hosts various large events throughout the year such as the Fireball Formal, Graduation Formal, and Pub Nights. Currently, the processes of registration, waiver collection, ticketing, and checkin are managed manually or across multiple platforms, resulting in unnecessary administrative burden for student organizers and a tough process for attendees. MES also makes surveys/forms to gather feedback from events, to aid registration processes and manages nationwide surveys gathering information on the experiences of undergratuate engineering students. These forms can often get very complex due to various branches and conditionals attempting to

gain information from certain demographics or categories. Due to this complex nature the survey response rate is very low as many are put of from answering. Furthermore, there is very little data analytics that can be done from the current implementation making it difficult to actually gain information from both surveys and event registrations to improve future events and student experience.

This project aims to develop a solution which can centralize the activities of the MES within a single platform with functionality for both admins and users.

1.2 Inputs and Outputs

[Characterize the problem in terms of "high level" inputs and outputs. Use abstraction so that you can avoid details. —SS]

1.3 Stakeholders

The main stakeholders currently are:

• Luke Schuurman: The project supervisor.

Luke is a member of the McMaster Engineering Society and has first hand experience planning and hosting events. He will halp in integrating the project with current MES systems and provide us with feedback for improvements.

• MES Executives and Council Members

Students who will be utilizing the new platform to create events and surveys and use the analytics to help plan for future events.

• McMaster Engineering Students

Students who will be using the platform to register for events and answer surveys.

1.4 Environment

[Hardware and Software Environment —SS]

2 Goals

Our primary goal is the development of a platform that can aid in the creation and registration of events and host forms and surveys for feedback and future improvement. It will contain to main components:

1. Web App:

• Admin Dashboard: Should allow for the admins to create events and forms. View analytics and perform rudimentary data analysis.

• User Interface: Front end for web users to interact with the platform and answer forms and signup for events.

2. Mobile App:

Allow for push notifications and mobile users to use the app.

3 Stretch Goals

1. Test Title:

4 Extras

[For CAS 741: State whether the project is a research project. This designation, with the approval (or request) of the instructor, can be modified over the course of the term. —SS]

[For SE Capstone: List your extras. Potential extras include usability testing, code walkthroughs, user documentation, formal proof, GenderMag personas, Design Thinking, etc. (The full list is on the course outline and in Lecture 02.) Normally the number of extras will be two. Approval of the extras will be part of the discussion with the instructor for approving the project. The extras, with the approval (or request) of the instructor, can be modified over the course of the term. —SS]

Appendix — Reflection

Virochaan Ravichandran Gowri Reflection

1. What went well while writing this deliverable?

The writing of this deliverable went quite well in my opinion. From the original prompt from our supervisor we were able to glean many of the features and goals of the project which we then refined further through internal meetings and meetings with out supervisor. We also worked well to divide up the work equally between this document and the development plan ensuring we kept up to date with one another on the progress of our work. I found that the communication we had with one another

2. What pain points did you experience during this deliverable, and how did you resolve them?

One part that we struggled with is the claddification of goals between stretch goals and goals as well as providing enough details to our goals. We didn't want to make it too detailed so it would be considered features or requirements but we also wanted to have enough details so that it could still be considered measureable. We gained good insight on this through our TA meeting and he offered us some suggestions on how we could improve our goals to better meet the criteria. We also had some issues in our version control such as using branches but we researched some potential ways to use it and have improved our process for the future deliverables.

Group Reflection:

1. How did you and your team adjust the scope of your goals to ensure they are suitable for a Capstone project (not overly ambitious but also of appropriate complexity for a senior design project)?

We ensured that before the project started we understood the skillsets of each of the members in our group. We talked about the experience we had through both personal projects and in our co-op experiences. From this we decided upon a project that we all felt comfortable with accomplishing. Once a project was decided we realized that this project could become massive as there was endless features that we could add and build upon and there was natural room for expansion. Though we were excited about the potential we had to ensure that we tempered our expectations and did not get to carried away. To limit our scope we discussed with out supervisor what they valued the most and what features he considered essential. From this we developed our goals which would accomplish this while maintaining a scope that was actually feasible within the timeframe.