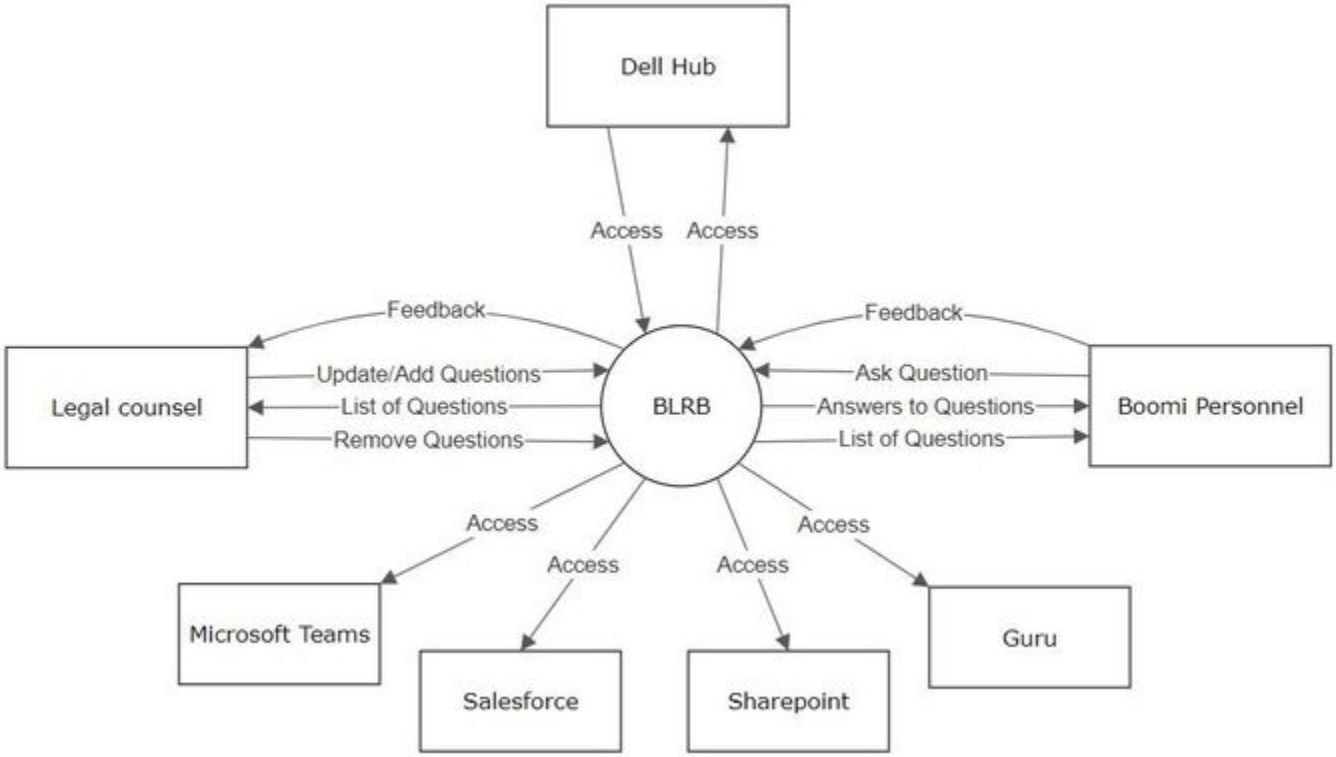
Data Flow / Software Context Model

BLRB Context Diagram



- A Context diagram is the level 0 representation of a Data Flow Diagram that represents the system as a single process with its relationships to external entities. It represents the entire system as a single bubble with inputs and outputs indicated by arrows. It provides detail on what kind of data will be carried between interfaces. Using a context diagram is beneficial as it can help identify external interfaces that may need to be accounted for (missing interfaces), helps identify interfaces that are within or out of scope, help identify stakeholders, and provide a functional boundary to understand the context of the system as a whole. Its main benefit is that this visual representation of the system is a quick and easy way to explain what the system will do to any wanting personnel (People want to see something simple rather than an extensive document explain each interface interaction).

- With my previous functional boundary assignment, I was able to identify key interfaces with the BLRB. From there I looked at the tools provided by Professors Vanselow website, (SmartDraw, StartUML, and draw.io) from those I chose SmartDraw due to its simple use and not to use the same draw.io I did in previous assignments which is great as it integrates with Jira. Once I decided on SmartDraw I headed over to their website and selected Start Now, signed up, and began building my Context Diagram (choose the Data Flow Diagram option to have the correct symbols). Note, I attempted to use another software called Edrawmax by Wondershare recommended by my friend Jaysson but it would not let me sign up for some weird reason.