Requirements

Background:
Currently a large amount of time is being spent on scouting out for 4th year Bachelor of Engineering (and potentially 3rd year in future years) group projects. Much time is spent obtaining the initial project idea and further time is spent interacting with Industry partners to determine whether the project is viable for three students to undertake in the allotted time. It has been estimated that this process currently takes on average 40 hours per project. Currently all the information gathered about prospective projects is not easily sortable and locatable (hidden away in coordinator email archives etc.) where some information may be missed when assigning projects to students.

Aims:

- To build an online system that helps the course instructor/coordinator to obtain Industry projects from 3rd party source and manage different aspects of the project through the project's life-cycle. Specifically from initial idea, through the approval stages up until the point where they are handed off to students.
- To reduce the overall time taken to source and approve Industry projects.
- To gather all required information about prospective projects in single place, to allow for better management and review.

Scope:
As the initial struggle is locating and creating connections with Industry partners, the proposal is to first have a front facing (internet-live) website whereby prospective Industry partners can submit project(s) online to be considered for students to undertake in their final year. The hope is that by raising the profile of course and advertising the fact that the university is looking for Industry projects, more projects will be submitted giving the course a richer array of choices. Note that this will be accompanied by a large display of past projects which will help raise the course profile and inspire Industry partners to submit a project proposal, but that will not be discussed here.

The course coordinator will then be able to login and view all submissions and various aspects associated with the submissions. At this stage the coordinator will then choose to approve or reject the project or "send it back" to the prospective Industry partner to provide more information and the coordinator can ask questions etc. to move the project along. Eventually some projects will have all information captured and can be approved by any other relevant parties. These projects can then be matched against student skills and groups can be automatically created and assigned a project. (Pending student data privacy requirements). Or they can be manually assigned to students. The students can

then access basic details of their project and use this information to gain a firm grasp of what is required, as opposed to instructors relaying information hidden away in numerous emails.

Detailed Use Cases:
Industry Partner:
1. Navigate to page
2. Link to Submit Project
3. Prompt user with basic information about their project
4. (Prompted to create an account/given reference number to track the project) - Pending more refined requirements from stakeholders. We don't want to make it overly complicated for the Industry partners, but we also don't want to have data being compromised.

Course coordinator:
1. Login to system (back end)
2. View list of projects in various stages (Newly submitted, accepted,rejected,pending with Industry,archive of past years etc.)
3. Detailed view of a submitted project
4. Options to make a decision or to send back to industry with more questions

Industry Partner:
1. Navigate to page
2. Enter login information or reference number
3. View their project information
4. Answer any further questions/clarifications that have been raised
5. Save/Submit

Note: Above 2 stages may iterate numerous times

Course coordinator(s)/School heads etc:
1. Final approval given

Course coordinator:
1. Navigate to accepted projects page
2. Detailed View
3. Enter in student ID numbers to assign students to project
4. Mark as Ready

System:

1. Email student with link to be able to view the project they have been assigned to.
2. Archive previous years projects

Student:

1. View information gathered throughout the project viability process
2. View contact information for the Industry Partner