Project Name: SME Alternative Financing
Team Members: Heidi Tan (Team Leader), Bill Ma
Date: 16th November 2015

Overview

During the last meeting with our client, he raised some very pertinent points on how we have to look at our project from both the investors' and SMEs' perspectives. He then also emailed us a list of questions to kickstart our thought processes. We then sat down and discussed them and will be documenting our opinions on the overall project documentation website. Our client also pointed out that since this is a relatively short project, we would have to make some assumptions which should be well-documented to define our scope clearly. We will keep this in mind while the project progresses. We have started on the main framework of the website as well. In addition, we took a look at alternativebusinessfunding.co.uk. We discovered that it works by letting anyone answer a set of questions that would give a list of funders either a red or green light. A green light would mean that that funder is fits the criteria given and vice versa. Clicking on the funder's logo would provide the funder's contact details. Our main goal is to have a similar website like that but one that would also provide a platform for the SMEs to communicate with the investors directly.

Summary of Meetings Held

No meetings were held for the last two weeks due to scenario week and reading week.

List of Tasks Completed

1. Went through the thought process about the purpose of the app and why people would use it
2. Edited the UCL reference document after taking into account our client's feedback
3. Started on the main framework of the website
4. Looked through alternativebusinessfunding.co.uk
5. Wrote out a detailed project timeline

Problems to be Resolved

We feel like we are currently a bit behind time due to our busy schedules during scenario week and reading week. However, we plan to pick up our pace and work even harder for the rest of the term.

Future Plans

Over the next two weeks, we plan to start coding the website and developing our Proof of Concept designs by building a protoype. We will also upload all our project documentation on the departmental web server.

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Individual Tasks

Heidi:

I documented our thought processes on the questions that our client had raised about looking at our project from both the investors' and SMEs' perspectives. The document will be uploaded on our projet website. Also, I looked through alternativebusinessfunding.co.uk to see how it differs from our project and how we can improve on what they already offer. In addition, I edited the UCL project reference document and sent it back to our client for further improvement. I have also started learning more about Ruby on Rails after using it for my scenario week project.

Bill:

During the last two weeks, I spent majority of the time researching on the website programming languages that are most suitable for our project. I found out that we could use a combination of HTML and CSS to do the website styling. As for the framework of the project, Heidi and I decided to use a programming language called "Ruby on Rails". After we decided the programming language to use, I started to follow online tutorial videos for "Ruby on Rails" and learnt basic syntax of the language. Moreover, I acquired the knowledge of "version control" and set my personal repository on "GitHub". Lastly, I produced a project outline for our client stating the progress and plan for our project.