

Topic Submission

As a senior in college, it is safe to say that other than tuition, textbooks are the most expensive requirements that in some cases students cannot succeed without. Some classes require up to 3 books for the semester, and for information technology courses, there is also software that is required. Marymount does provide numerous software versions for MU students on Dream Spark, for free but some classes require software that is not on the website. My idea for the project is to create an application for students called Book Exchange. It will be used for students to exchange books throughout the semesters; to avoid the high priced books found in the bookstore. Everyone does not have financial aid, and it is very stressful to keep up with the course requirements for every course that students take throughout their years of enrollment. This application will not only decrease their spending's, but it will also speed up the process as opposed to ordering books from Amazon or other websites.

The application will be simple and easy to use, MU students can find the link on the MU website and they can use their credentials to login and begin their search and exchange. It will be more used in the beginning and end of each semester, because people will be looking to

buy new textbooks or return textbooks at this time. There will be a main office where students can bring the books too, like a mini library and someone will be in charge of checking books in and out like a real library. So the way it works is, students will log in to the application and state the book that they are looking for, and wish to exchange. This will be more commonly used with between the second semester freshmen all the way up to second semester seniors. Since first semester freshman's will not yet have books to exchange they will have to wait until the second semester. Once the students enter the information, they can go to the office and exchange the book that they have for the book that they want. If the book that they want is not currently in the office (which is rare since many students will be taking different courses at different times) they can either leave their book with the administrator and wait for a call when the book that they want is available or they can just sell the book to the MU bookstore and buy the book that they need. This also applies to online textbooks; students can simply exchange PDF copies through email.

This application will be very helpful to every student that chooses to use it because it will greatly decrease there cost of attendance, and make it so that they are recycling the books amongst the MU students. It will eliminate some of the stress that students are

faced with financially, and also speed up the process of obtaining the books needed for each of the courses.

I want my faculty mentor to be Professor Narock, upon his approval. I chose him because he is familiar with what the course requires and provide guidance and advice to lead me in the right direction. The timeline of this project will consist of me talking to different students and gaining a better understanding of their needs and what they prefer in terms of the application. This will require a lot of time, along with researching the needed data. Since this application is not based on an already existing company it will be solely based on the opinions of the MU students and faculty. That will be how I collect my data, and also research apps that may be similar to this one to see how they operate. I am very eager to hear what other students will hear and gain insight on what will and won't work. I will use all of the feedback to come up with the final application details of Book Exchange.