**CS5774: User Interface Software**

**Project 3**

**Group:**

Vanessa Cedeno

Mauricio De la Barra

Ambika Karanth

**Part 1 - Summary**

**VT Knowledge**

This is a web application targeted to grad students who will like to have answers to any type of question regarding University life from a reliable source. While it’s aimed specifically to grad students, faculty and VT future and current students can also participate in the application providing and soliciting knowledge in any topics they may be experts.

It gives the opportunity for a user to have a direct channel to obtain answers to questions related to the VT campus, regarding topics such as classes, dining, VT traditions, housing and the possibilities are endless.

To participate in the application, a user needs to create a profile specifying topics he may be an expert on. For example, a student may say he is an expert on the topic “CS4804-Intro to AI” because he took the class in Fall 2013.

A user can ask as many questions they want, specifying the main topics the questions belong to. This gives us the opportunity to find/filter questions related to a particular topic. In the same way, suggest experts users that may have the answer to that particular questions and communicate to them the question so they can answer and provide knowledge.

Users can browse questions from any topic and upvote/downvote answers so the ones with a higher rate will appear at the top of the answers list.

**Main Actions:**

**Sign in:** Users have the opportunity to use their valid vt.edu email address to register and sign in. Once they do this, they can update their profile with an image and introduce topics they may be experts on.

**Browse***:* Users of the webpage can browse through the questions/answer repository. It will be classified by date and in future versions of our application by topic and popularity.

**Topics:** Users can create, update and delete topics. For example, topics may include, classes, dining, VT traditions, housing, etc. Users will only be allowed to modify those topics that haven’t been related to any specific user or question.

**Question:** Users will be able to ask a general question or ask a question to a specific user, without forgetting to specify the topic the question belongs to.

**Answer:** Users will be able to answer any question, but they have to keep in mind that it will be more valuable coming for a verified expert.

**Future Implementations**

**Rate a question:** Users can upvote/downvote a question, so the answers with a higher question will have a visibility priority.

**Rate an answer:** Users can upvote/downvote an answer, so the answers with a higher rate will have a visibility priority.

**Search:**

**Part 2 - Instructions for setting up the software on a local machine**

**Step 1:** Copy the VTKnowledge folder in the htdocs folder inside the XAMPP directory

**Step 2:** Run the db.sql script to have the application database ‘mydb’ available for use

**Step 3:** Open your web browser and type in: http://localhost/VTKnowledge/