Andrew Woodruff 10/24/2017 CPSC 430 Usability Study

### 1. Imaginary Users

- a. George is a sophomore political science student. He has been using the internet for 15 years. Most of the past 5 have been through his mobile phone. He likes to see websites designed for the mobile user and prefers to have everything just one tap away.
- b. Victoria is an adjunct professor for Data Science that has been using the internet for the past 10 years. Her primary way of accessing the internet is via a Macbook or desktop PC. She likes being able to see all the options available to her with clearly clickable, labeled, and iconed buttons/links. She will be managing the system and also likes to see the source code.
- c. Frank is a Chemistry major senior currently going through OCS for the Marines. He doesn't have time to spend managing anything for most websites and needs things to be fast and readily available. He never knows when he'll have time to check on his progress and could be from his Laptop, tablet or phone. Regardless of the device used he needs them to be the same interface so he doesn't have to learn more than one sequence to get where he needs to on the site.

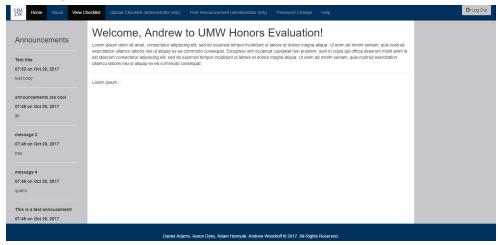
#### User Model

- a. The system being developed is going to be used to allow students to monitor their Honors checklist progress and view any announcements that have been posted. The system will also allow the Honors administrator to update student checklists and post new announcements. To be able to use the system a user must first login to the website. As well as these main features the system should also provide some quality of life items such as login validation, password reset, and contact/help pages.
- b. Highlighted Feature: Posting/Viewing of Announcements.
  - i. How will they interact with it?
    - 1. There should be a page to view all the announcements, and a page to post announcements.
    - Announcements should be on the home page. At least some of them should be. The rest could be on a separate announcements page.
    - 3. Like a Facebook feed where you could see all the announcements.
    - 4. An announcements tab or page that displays some of the recent announcements.
  - ii. What should they be able to do?
    - 1. Click a link to the page of the announcements. And another link to the post announcements page.

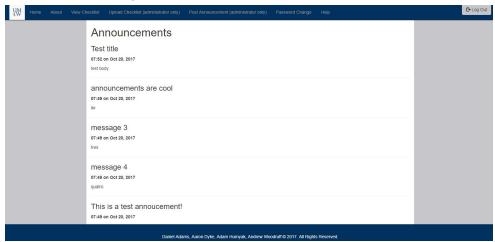
- 2. See announcements on the homepage in some form, and be able to navigate from there to the rest of the announcements.
- 3. Students should be able to view and sort announcements.
- 4. View the announcements as a list.
- iii. What should they not be able to do?
  - 1. Students shouldn't be able to post announcements.
  - 2. Since students can't post announcements, the option to post should be hidden to them.
  - 3. There shouldn't be comments and the such.
  - 4. There doesn't need to be any other interaction with the announcements other than viewing them.
- c. As a student user you will be able to see a number of announcements on the homepage of the application. From those announcements you can click to see more. The announcements should be arranged from newest to oldest. As a student there will be no other options on the announcements. As an admin there will be the added feature of being able to make new announcements. This will be a separate page.

## 3. UI Prototype

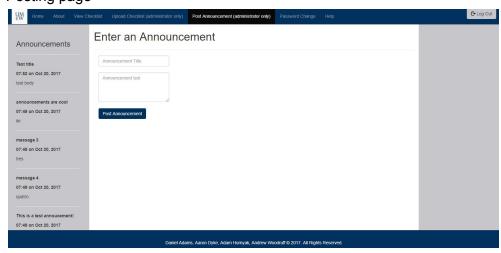
## a. Homepage



# b. Announcements page



## c. Posting page



### 4. Focus Group Feedback

### a. Comments

- i. Said that the pages look kind of plain. Should the announcements have their own tab on the top menu? Can admins edit or delete posts as well?
- ii. Expected the announcements to be a larger part of the homepage, but says the sidebar on every page makes sense to them. Noted that the post page seemed bland.
- iii. Not as refined as they expected. Thought there should be an option to sort or search. Pointed out that the options to edit or delete posts should be available to admins as well.
- iv. Looks pretty similar to what they expected. Thought there was too many announcements on the homepage/that the link to all announcements should be at the bottom of the page without having to scroll down.
- b. Reflection on feedback (commonalities, discrepancies, ...)
  - i. The general consensus was that the interface looked kind of plain. A couple of the test group noted the absence of edit and delete options for posts. Most said that the sizing or styling seemed off to them but that it could just be the lack of content in the announcements. Organizing the announcements was another question that was raised.

### 5. Changes

a. Based on the feedback I'm thinking that a edit or at least a delete feature should be added to the admin actions. Gonna spend some time trying different styles for the announcements themselves. If time permits, a sorting or searching function to the announcements page could also be added.