PRELIMINARY INFORMATION

CST8225 GROUP COMPOSITION

1. You will have over the last two years developed friendships in your class. This is a good thing for you and the college experience, however, it is not a good thing for Application Development.
2. One of the first things IBM used to do was to move everyone to a new location. This meant that all the members of the team were uprooted and placed in a situation where they needed to create new alliances and new friendships within in the new group they were going to be working with. For example the RESERVEC system team was taken from people who were working in 8 different IBM offices across Canada and the United States and they were all moved to Japan to work together on the system.
3. I am not going to send you to Japan but I am going to suggest that you be very careful about building your SRSA and IAD group. It had been my experience that being friends before you become part of the group(team) can lead to conflicts within the group that will be detrimental to the project you will be working on and to your friendship.
4. Once your group has been established then you can work on creating the necessary dynamic to achieve the goals.
5. An important factor is to create a group which has a well balanced team with differing primary skills. What this means is that your group should be balanced where one person is good at analyzing, one is good at synthesizing, one person is good at communicating, one person is good at organizing (especially organizing others) etcetera.
6. Peoples weaknesses tend to be exaggerated in a small group setting which can lead to conflict. By picking a team with different strengths and marshalling those strengths in to a cohesive team will make your experience much more positive

To this end on Thursday September 8 during the Lab hour we are going to do a team building exercise. This will allow me and you to assess others in order to build your team, especially if you do not know some of your fellow students very well. After this you will be fill out the Group Application form to create your working group for SRSA and IAD.

You must then proceed to prepare your group to do the interview for the System Engineering exercise. The necessary materials will be posted Thursday evening for you to start working on this exercise.