

# Bi-Weekly Report 12/10/2016

Team 12 (MegaNexus) - Oliver Bennett, Bogdan Ionita, Vlad Popa

## Overview

After contacting the client through emails and phone calls we organised to meet during our first lab day on thursday. Following on from this meeting a more formal meeting in their office was arranged for Monday. We were given a proper overview of the kind of work MegaNexus does and we were encouraged to join them at the FORINER conference which they were hosting. At the conference we learned more about their work which involves supplying foreign national prisoners with educational resources. There was also a hackathon style event where we worked with other FORINER delegates to draft up a list of requirements for an international platform which we then hacked together on the day.

## Meetings

### 6/10/2016 - Initial Client Meeting

During our first Systems Engineering lab session I met with the client Dr. Daniel Brown to discuss the project briefly. We organised a proper meeting with the entire team for Monday and he mentioned an upcoming hackathon that would be extremely relevant to our project and invited us to join it.

### 10/10/2016 - MegaNexus office meeting

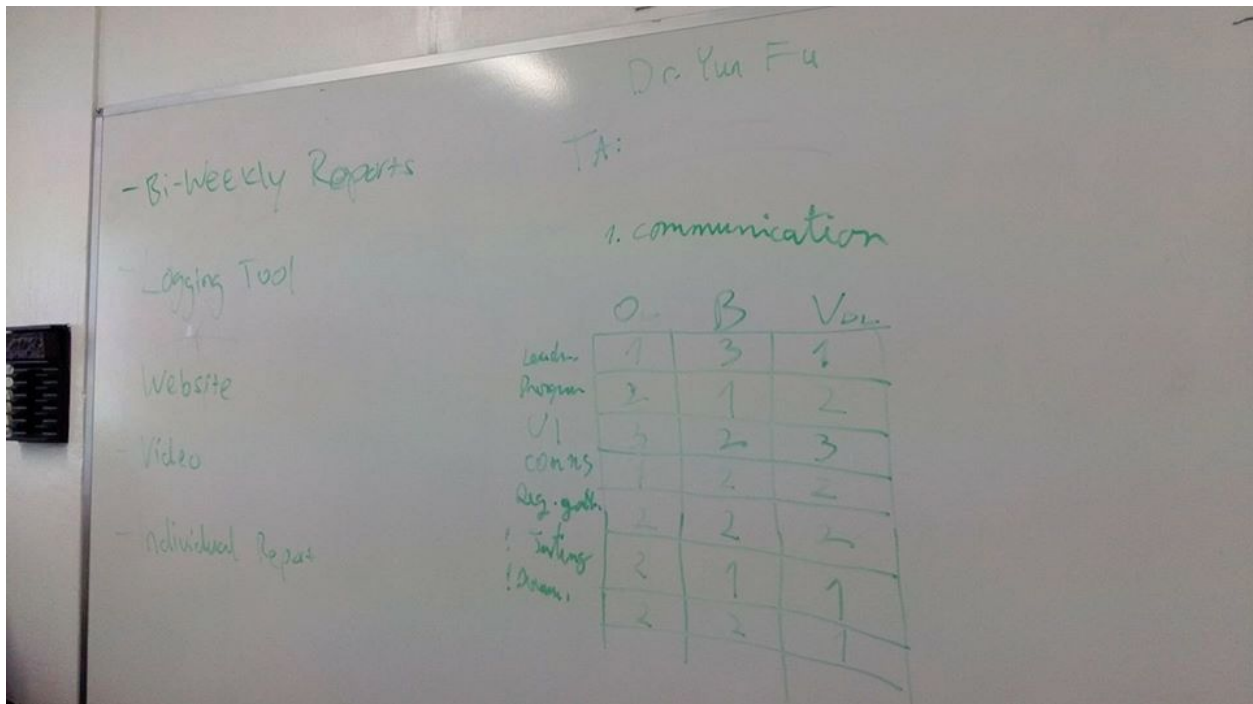
At this meeting we met with the client again as well as some project analysts who would be working with us to make the project a success for both parties. During this meeting we evaluated each of our strengths and weaknesses, producing a table which ranked our confidence in key areas of the project on a 3 point scale (1 - Confident/Proficient, 2- Some knowledge far from best, 3 - Not confident at all), this is shown below. Using this matrix we assigned preliminary roles to each member of the team, Vlad will be the Deputy Team Leader.

Additionally we went through the key dates of the project with MegaNexus in order to better align their objectives with our modules assessment. Finally we were properly briefed on the upcoming FORINER conference and hackathon that would take place over the next couple of days.

	Oliver	Bogdan	Vlad
<i>Leadership</i>	1	3	1
<i>Programming</i>	2	1	2

UI Design	3	2	3
Communication	1	2	2
Requirements Gathering	2	2	2
Testing	2	1	1
Documentation	2	2	1

*Skills table produced in the meeting*



*Picture taken of points discussed during the meeting*

## 11/10/2016 - FORINER Conference

We attended the conference in order to gain more information about FORINER prior to the hack day on Wednesday. The conference consisted of talks from the various partners including MegaNexus. It allowed us to learn more about the current systems in place to deal with supplying educational resources to foreign national prisoners, therefore giving us a better understanding of the current situation for when we will need to gather requirements during the hack. There was also the opportunity to talk with the other delegates to understand the requirements from each different perspective.

## 12/10/2016 - FORINER Hackathon

The hackathon was organised into 5 groups, each consisting of people from different backgrounds (i.e. those from prisons who need the resources, and those supplying the

resources), this allowed our team to gather a broad range of requirements, from restrictions based on facilities available to prisoners to more technical requirements that dealt with integrating the new system with existing solutions. After the initial requirements gathering phase we grouped together to start building a proof of concept vision of the future system.

We initially decided on doing a series of mock-ups of the platform due to the time constraints as we were worried that we would not have enough time to get a working demo of an actual site. However after we received feedback that the mock-ups were not ideal, we focussed our efforts on building an actual website. We utilised Bootstrap to quickly get a decent looking website up and running in the remaining time. As there were 5 of us there, we split the work between us, with each member working on an aspect of the site that related to the group they were gathering requirements from. There was some overlap here and so we all helped each other.

Due to the extreme time constraints and restrictive requirements we were unable to produce a fully working prototype but we did succeed in developing something that behaved like the real thing. We presented our work to the delegates at the end of the day. MegaNexus and the delegates were pleased with the result as it showed them what was capable after a single days work.

## Tasks

- Contacted client and exchanged contact details
- Organised communication methods for the team / MegaNexus. (Messenger group, WhatsApp group, Google Drive)
- Met clients in their offices and discussed future plan.
- Assigned preliminary roles to team members
- Procured technical requirement template
- Took part in the FORINER Conference
- Built an international distance learning platform for prison inmates
- Presented our work to FORINER delegates

## Problems

- Have not seen much of the actual project yet.

## Future Plan

- Meet with CTO / MegaNexus
- Set up GitHub repository for future use
- Gather requirements for project
- Set up website
- Set up logger

## Individual Reports

### Oliver Bennett

As team leader I made initial contact with the client by email and met him at our first Systems Engineering lab session. I subsequently organised a further meeting with them at their office. I took part in the FORINER conference and hackathon which involved gathering requirements from the ICT group and proposing new ideas and solutions for their problems. Also developed the main profile dashboard of the proof of concept FORINER platform using Bootstrap. Finally, I presented my section of the platform to the delegates at the conference.

### Bogdan Ionita

Even if I could not attend the first meeting with the client and to meet my team, I have caught up with them and attended all the other meetings. During the meeting at the Meganexus' office I noted down as many details about the soon-to-come hackathon, and tried my best to understand our clients requirements. We have been asked to attend the FORINER conference on Tuesday, to get more in-depth details about what does Meganexus expects from us on the Hackathon. I believe that I understood properly what I'm required to do, as it was reflected in the hackathon day. I have been placed in a group with european prison and college representative and governors from Norway, Sweden, Belgium and United Kingdom. Most of their concerns were regarding the confidentiality forms the inmate has to sign so at his personal details can be shared with the 3rd party course provider. Also, the possibility of distant coaching , while maintaining a strict access to internet of the prisoners, was a challenge I had to face, and the solution was based on using voice mail functionality in the platform, and also some complementary Skype calls between the inmate and his teacher. I know we were really appreciated for our speed while working on the platform, and the level of development and functionality we managed to get it to. I worked on the course part of the platform, using HTML, Javascript and jQuery , to have the AJAX functionality, which is the one which gives the truly immersive INTERACTIVE feeling. I believe the client was really impressed with our skills, which he also highlighted at the end of our successful presentation.

### Vlad Popa

I have met with the team and the client and discussed about what they want to achieve and what we want to achieve. We have chosen our role and I am the second leader responsible with planning the deadlines to send reports to our Meganexus and focus on communication. I have attended the conference on Tuesday with Bogdan and Oliver and on Wednesday we went to the hackathon where my job was to code a form in Html, CSS and Javascript for the website we have built. An issue I have found was communication between us, as it was hard to split the work for the website, but after we have agreed about the approach, we have managed to do a good product for the hack.