

PROGRESS REPORT

To: Jonathan Thomassian, OSServices Manager
From: Chance Daniel, OSServices Intern
Date: 3 November 2015
Subject: Progress Report for Swift Research

Work Completed

After the approval of my research proposal, I have made great headway in my research by conducting my own primary analysis and gathering secondary sources. The most notable markers of my progress are as follows:

Primary Research

- Completed a simple coding objective in both Swift and Objective-C in order to gauge which language is cleaner syntactically. These code samples will also be used as my reports main visual.
- Integrated a Objective-C framework into a Swift project to see how well backwards compatibility works.

Secondary Research

- Extracted relevant information form multiple scholarly sources.
- Gathered public opinion from technical blog articles.

Report Progress

- Completed majority of report including but not limited too: an introduction to Swift, the differences and similarities between Swift and Objective-C, and a benefit-cost analysis of making the switch to Swift.
- Designed a rudimentary outline of one-page visual.

Work In Progress

Moving forward, I have the following planned:

- I need to finish my secondary research, diving deeper into the challenges of switching between Swift and Objective C.
- I need to finish my visual.
- I need to create a more concrete document design that is organized in the most effective way.
- I need to summarize my primary research and incorporate the results into my report.
- I need to include a section about switching to Swift for third-party developers.
- I need to write my final recommendations as to whether Swift is ready for Apple to make the switch.

Challenges

While conducting my research I had a few setbacks that I wanted to make note of. First and foremost, I have been under a time constraint, trying to complete research while also keeping other projects and obligations up to date. Though I am not as far along as I had hoped to be, I am still on schedule to reach my projected completion date. Finally I also encountered a challenge in finding adequate scholarly research since Swift is a very new language and little about it has been written and peer reviewed. Therefore I am mostly drawing my conclusions from my research and what accredited technical blogs have to say about Swift.

Overall, I am confident that my research will be useful to Apple and will guide our decision in switching to Swift in the future. I also have no fear that I will have trouble completing my report before the deadline.

CC: None