Project Inception - Team 3

We have chosen as our term project to assist Dr. Li with the conversion of two web applications from PHP to Python. Our goal is to produce two functional applications that include all the features that are currently implemented. Those applications are the CSE Talks application and the Faculty Biography update application. The first allows the publication of details regarding CSE talks and also sends out those details using email. The other gives faculty members the ability to enter and update the details of their profile on the UTA website. Our team is committed to providing functioning applications by the end of the semester.

Because of project choice, our team does not have any 'competitors' to consider, other than the old applications itself. For the purpose of this project, we will be comparing our python based applications to the functionality of the old apps. If we recreate all existing features into our application, then it is a success.

At this the project, we unfortunately do not have access to the existing applications. We may not yet be aware of all the required functionality. The first application is called CSE Talks. It allows an administrator to enter details regarding CSE talks that will also be published on a UTA webpage. The application also sends out emails regarding those talks. It will also send emails if there are any updates, such as the time or place of the talk. The application covers any talks from invited guests, as well as MS and PHD defenses. The second application is one that is used by the UTA CSE faculty. It allows users to enter and update the information that is provided on the UTA Faculty Directory page. Users are able to update their office hours, phone number, webpage URL and other data.

We will need to spend significant time with Dr. Li and/or Damian Jimenez to understand what exactly is expected from us regarding code style/structure and the like. Our biggest risk is our dependency on others outside our group and may need to rely on others to proceed with the project. Furthermore, we need to actively collaborate/meet with other people (Dr. Li's team) and have our own scheduled group meetings to update and produce meaningful work. It is important that we plan for those occasions ahead of time, especially when it will require face to face meetings with them. Another significant challenge will be our lack of experience with PHP and Python. We will need to make sure to spend extra time studying the languages. It will be important for us to study the existing code to begin to understand the application architecture. As before, this will depend on others giving us access to that code.

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GitHub Link:

https://github.com/cristian-garces/CSE3311-ClassProject.git