SoC Student Proposal

My proposal is made up of two major milestones, and many smaller milestones where I'll produce working code updates for review. I'll be checking often for mentor feedback, so when the SoC program officially begins I'll be ready to proceed with a running start.

First Major Milestone: Notifications Platform

The existing notifications is feature is upgraded to incorporate back-end elements of the recently opensourced JaikuEngine codebase for near-realtime messaging. New messages, events, pages, code snippets, and other items are streamlined into a news feed format where they can be then browsed or filtered, and new items can be created. And an improved UI.

- First Minor Milestone: Back-End for Updates
- Second Minor Milestone: Front-End for Updates
- Third Minor Milestone: Design for Updates
- Fourth Minor Milestone: Testing, Testing, Testing and Documentation for Updates

Second Major Milestone:Form Builder (aka Quiz Adapter)

An extensible Form Builder feature accommodating of a wide range of applications. This component will meet the requirements of the listed Quiz Adapter idea on the SoC wiki.

As James Crook explained to me on the #melange IRC channel, the current forms are made up of a single entity. Therefore, records cannot be reused, and there is little ability to process and analyze form results with any granularity. The focus will therefore be on field-level entity granularity, which will address the following issues, among others, on the SoC tracker: 22, 29, 80, 81, 94, 95, 100, 101

Form-field granularity means that each field in each form is its own distinct entity. Requested additions such as new field types, or non-field elements like helper tips can easily be added with new model classes and templates. Form-field granularity also means that it will be possible to easily render tables of form results, create charts and visualization using form results, export form results to a spreadsheet, etc.

- Fith Minor Milestone: Back-End for Form Builder
- Sixth Minor Milestone: Front-End for Form Builder
- Seventh Minor Milestone: Design for Form Builder
- Eighth Minor Milestone: Testing, Testing, Testing and Documentation for Form Builder

Note: I would also like to implement a deep integration of Google Moderator, but it's not (yet) open source. :(

About Me

Name: James Levy

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I've spent most of the last 6 months developing on GAE, including most recently a community resource for quizzes, called PlopQuiz.

I recently open sourced two Government 2.0 apps: http://quizthebill.appspot.com and http://govpix.appspot.com

Although these "quizzes" in question are different than those described by the Quiz Adapter idea, it's safe to say that I'm comfortable with rapidly prototyping GAE, webapp, and HTML/JS.

Thanks for your attention. I'll be anticipating your suggestions and feedback.