**3.0 Risk Mitigation and Contingencies**

**Hazardous Travel**

Overview:

Given it being the winter semester, the likeliness that travel will become difficult and dangerous is very high. Weekly meetings are planned for Sunday evenings, but we cannot always be sure everyone can safely arrive. To prevent meeting disruption, weather will be monitored regularly.

**In the Event of Hazardous Travel**

Alternative means of communication will be established in case an in-person meeting cannot occur. Slack has already been established as a main mobile source of communication by all team members. Additionally, visual means such as skype can also be utilized to add visual communication. In the event of library closure, the team has agreed on an alternative meeting location. Task assignments will be discussed in person and reiterated on slack.

**School and Other Obligations**

Overview:

Our team consists entirely of students. That means that all of us at some point or another will have other work that must be dealt with. Exams, projects, and other tasks will be assigned to all of us in other classes throughout the semester. We cannot expect every team member to be able to contribute all their time to this project the entire semester. Therefore, tasks must be distributed to accommodate each team member's schedule and obligations. Additionally, we must make sure that this distribution stays even amongst the team throughout the semester. Any slack given must be made up at another point in the semester by that team member.

**In the Event of External Obligations**

If a team member has another obligation that must be attended to, they may have some of their tasks picked up by another team member. However, by passing tasks on to another member, this team member agrees to take on extra responsibility on the next set of tasks assigned. This will keep the distribution of work fair and even throughout the project. Under no circumstances should one team member be doing more work than the rest involuntarily and without future compensation from the teammate he is taking extra work from.

**Loss of Work or Data**

Overview:

When working with any form of technology, sudden loss of data is always a possibility. Careful measures should be taken throughout the project cycle to minimize the chances of this occurring should be taken. A weekly backup off all uploads on GitHub will be downloaded once per week while the project is underway. This will minimize the amount of work that could be lost under catastrophic failure. If backups are kept diligently, a worst-case scenario would only produce a week's worth of lost data. Keeping contents shared among team members will also mitigate losses and make lost information easier to reproduce.

**In the Event of Loss of Data**

In the event data is lost, the team will roll back to the latest version available of the document that was lost from our last backup. A worst-case scenario should be at max a week's worth of work (assuming weekly backups are kept). It is also advised that documents be shared amongst the team so that more than one person knows the contents of documents. This way, the information is more spread amongst the team and makes it easier to replicate the lost information.

**Team Switching or Loss of Member**

It has been made apparent that at some point during the project cycle we will lose one or more members of our team. Many steps can be made to minimize the impact of this switch and transition. Team members should do their best to make sure that their work is done cleanly, clearly, and is well documented. Additionally, everyone should know and understand what each member of the team is doing and is responsible for throughout the project.

**In the Event of Loss of Member**

If all the mitigation strategies are followed, the transition of new team members should be smooth. If all team members understand the tasks each member takes then there should be a smooth transition between new members. We can use previous documents and notes from each task to better clarify and complete any unfinished work from a lost member. Maintaining traceability is also critical, as it will make it much easier to track progress and process, making understanding others work much easier. Ideally, any new member should be able to understand the process we have followed quickly and can contribute to the project.

**In the Event of Loss of the Team Lead**

Admin privileges will be given to all current team members. Dispersal of the documents ensures no information is left to only one person to have access too. This will allow a smoother transition in the event we lose our team lead. However, the team lead still holds all administrative powers unless stated otherwise. This ensures that no unnecessary modifications or edits are made without the consent of the team. This prevents any hard to find errors or code breaking changes from being slipped passed the teams vetting process.

**Outsourcing**

Overview:

Outsourcing refers to giving work to an outside source to be completed for us. It has been inferred that we may be outsourcing some of our coding to a CIS 200 student. To minimize the risk of this code being unsatisfactory, steps will be taken to ensure the code is exactly what we need. We must be sure our algorithm is detailed and as clear as possible. The easier it is to understand, the more likely we will receive a favorable result.

**In the event of Unfavorable Outsourcing**

It has been agreed that while our code is being outsourced, we will ourselves be writing our own version of the code. If the code seems favorable and well done, then we will continue to use that code and integrate it with our plans. However, if we find that the code we receive is poorly done or incomplete, we will use our own version of the code. That way, if the code we receive back is poor or damaged beyond repair, we will mitigate the time lost from starting the code over from scratch.