Introduction

Course Manager is a Visual Studio LightSwitch Beta 2 sample project. It is a line-of-business (LOB) application designed to demonstrate many out-of-box features in LightSwitch.

In this sample, the application is designed for staffs at the Office of Registrar of a fictional school. New and existing students would call the office and request information about courses. Via this application, staffs can search the course catalog, create new students, and register courses for existing students.

Getting Started

To build and run this sample, you must have Visual Studio LightSwitch Beta 2 installed. Unzip the CourseManagerVB.zip (or CourseManagerCSharp.zip) file into your Visual Studio Projects directory (My Documents\Visual Studio 2010\Projects) and open the CourseManagerVB.sln (or CourseManagerCSharp.sln) solution.
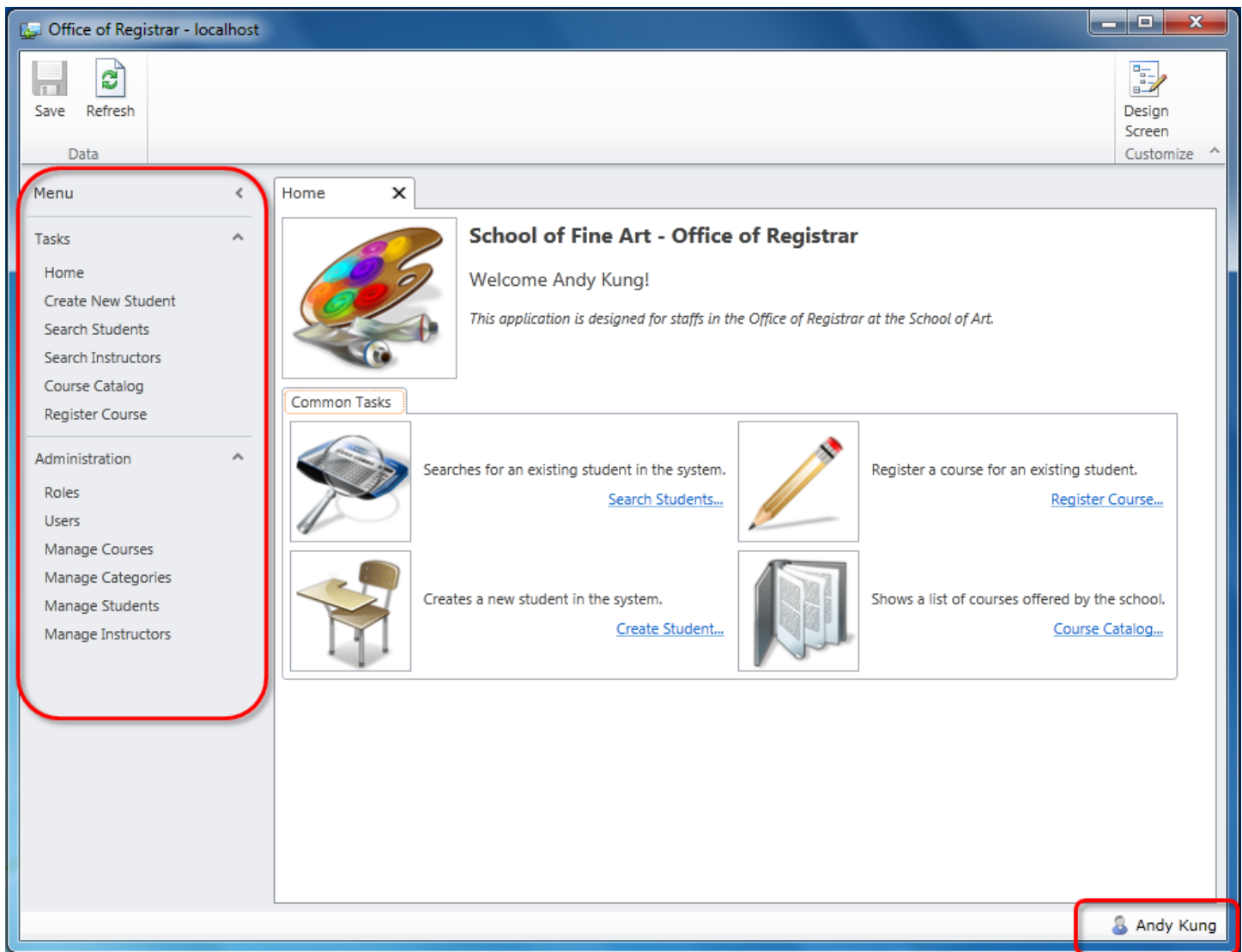
Building the Sample

To build the sample, make sure the Course Manager solution is open and then use the Build | Build Solution menu command.

Running the Sample

To run the sample, hit F5 or choose the Debug | Start Debugging menu command. The Course Manager application will launch.

By default, the application is a Windows application with Windows authentication. A welcome screen is open on startup.

There are two menu groups on the left side of the application: Tasks and Administration. Only users with Administration rights can see the Administration menu group. The developer has the Administration rights in debug mode.

There are many screens in this application. Each is designed for a specific task and workflow.

- Tasks
  - Home: Displays a welcome message and shortcuts to other tasks.
  - Create New Students – Adds a new student to the database.
  - Search Students – Searches and finds information for existing students from the database.
  - Search Instructors – Searches and finds information for existing instructors from the database.
  - Course Catalog – Shows a list of courses offered by the school.
  - Register Course – Registers a course for an existing student.
- Administration
  - Roles – Defines permissions of a user role.
  - Users – Assigns roles to specific users of the application.
  - Manage Courses – Shows a list-details screen for all courses.
  - Manage Categories – Shows a list-details screen for all course categories.
  - Manage Students – Shows a list-details screen for all students.
  - Manage Instructors – Shows a list-details screen for all instructors.

Project Overview

The project in this sample demonstrates several techniques you can use to create your own line-of-business application including:

- How to create a summary field for a table
- How to create permissions and enable authentications
- How to create many-to-many relationships
- How to write middle-tier logic and validation rules
- How to create static images and text
- How to use Font Style with text
- How to customize screens and work with different layouts
- How to create optional screen parameter

The team will be rolling out walkthroughs on these techniques. Please check the LightSwitch team blog and developer center.