Kennedy Fields

Bruce Bauer/ Thomas Wallace/ Cheryl Johnston

ITEC 4610

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Capstone Reflection/STEM Coalition

In ITEC 4610 the main goal of the semester was to create a website for an actual client that is usable. In the previous semester we got to experience what it was like to work with a "client" to give us an idea of what we would be having to go through during that process. During that process I was the project manager for the group and in this capstone project I also was the manager as well. The client we worked with was Arkansas STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Coalition is a nonprofit that promotes STEM teaching and learning through policies and programs conducive to a successful STEM education and workforce.

The way we attacked this project was our team had 4 people in it so we each had a job in the group. As said I was the project manager, then it was Savannah which was our lead developer, then there was Oscar and Christain who were our design team. When he started this project we had a moment to talk amongst ourselves to find our strengths and weaknesses. I personally wasnt as advanced in the coding word, I could do the basics. I did feel comfortable with talking with the client and doing all the paperwork that was needed. Savannah was confident with coding in HTML and CSS and knew some Javascript; she also had worked with WordPress before. Oscar and Christian were knowledgeable about code but they felt that they could do better when it came to the design because they have worked with Adobe and logo design.

As said earlier my part of the group was the lead. Project managers play the lead role in planning, executing, monitoring, controlling and closing projects. I was accountable for the entire project scope, project team, resources. This was including talking with the client as much as possible to get all the information needed to put in site. My client also asked for a contract and also a spreadsheet of the dates that each assignment was needed to be done and she wanted it to be updated. I was the one would set up meetings, made sure scheduling was good for the whole time and also the client. Our client and I exchanged numbers so we were able to text each other or call each other in a faster manner.

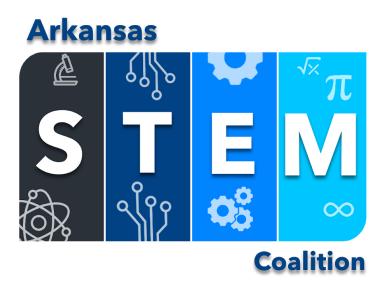
I think a really hard moment for the whole team was finding out we could not import the content due to a possible virus on the original website. Moving the content over manually added another step in our already tight schedule, but it was a necessary step if we didn't want to risk the integrity of the new website. Savannah was our developer so she had to outline the website and then populated the new website with all of the necessary pages so that we would have an idea of the layout before moving over the individual page content. We then as a team had had a meeting where she showed us how to move over the content onto the Wordpress website. We then each had our own pages to do to get the content over so it would be so much for the developer to do.

From working in teams these last two semesters I have learned that I am a very good leader more than I thought. I like everything to be very organized so that the team can get things done in a timely manner so we won't have to be scrabbling at the end. I also learned that you have to work with what you have. There may be obstacles but that can't be the downfall that's how projects fail.

In this project I dont think I would do anything differently. I think I attacked this project with a great team with different strengths and weaknesses and we still came out with a great project and a great client relationship.

Supporting Materials

- Project Plan
- Old Site
- New Site
- Project Slideshow
- Presentation Video
- Content Breakup
- Logo



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