CS352 Group 14
Daniel OFarrell, Josh Geller, Jessica Spokoyny, Kyle Bedell, Elliot Bates

Status Report 3

Team meeting minutes (if any)

22 October. Created a dialogue to specify language in project.
23 October. Traveller and Local Expert decided as working titles for both user groups. Project name is still being debated.
23 October. Discussion over couchsurfing. The pro's and con's were weighed as to being a comparable product.
24 October. Members registered with myBalsimiq and began practicing with it in anticipation for next week.
25 October. Group discussed grade for Assignment 4 and how to move forward.

Interviews with potential users (if any).

No interviews were conducted this week.

Problems encountered.

Our group discussed at length the questions: what should we name our 2 user groups, and what should we use as a name for our program? We wanted to use terms that would make the intent of our product self-evident.

Upon receiving our grade for Assignment 04, our group lost a bit of focus. We felt we accomplished the goals set by the instructor but we received a less-than-stellar score. We decided to contact our TA for more clarity on this issue.

Problems solved.

Our group set up a special slack chat to solve the naming problem. We decided to use **traveller** and **local expert** for our two user groups. Tentatively, we wish to move forward with the name **Tours by Locals** and in doing so, work on improving an existing product rather than coming up with a brand new one.

Regarding the confusion on the grade, a group member emailed the TA's with our position that our impression was that the research was meant to answer the unknowns from our initial predispositions (assignment 123). Moreover, we were reluctant to dive into design decisions as that hadn't been covered yet in the course.

Action items.

- Created a dialogue to discuss user terminology and program name
- Began tinkering with myBalsimiq
- Begin formulating a strategy and clarifying requirements for project 5

Observations, lessons learned, etc.

Our group learned that there are a lot of competitors out there, but many just don't seem to merge or even recognize the needs of these two symbiotic user sets. Some catered just to the

travellers, at the expense of the local experts. Others switched this and catered to the local experts, offering little variety for the travellers. Some, while popular, featured poorly thought out UI's that often left users with a poor experience, such as Couchsurfing.

Next, we learned that while there may not be a problem with how we conducted our interviews, there may be a problem in how we presented our findings. We may not have listed the observations of our semi-structured interviews in an obvious enough manner to be read and decoded by outside parties.