

Climate Change Database Sample Interview

IT 120 - Databases

Steven Conger

Climate Change Database Sample Interview

In this imagined interview, Hannah is in the role of the database designer tasked with deploying a database to help a grassroots organization interested in climate change.

Hannah: Thanks for meeting with me. The goal for today is to get an overview of the database. We don't need to go into all the detail, just get a good general picture of what you need. What do you see as the main purpose of the database?

Megan: Our goal is to create a climate action site and we need the database to drive it.

Hannah: Ok, can you describe some of what you want to happen on that site?

Megan: Sure. We want to provide resources—links to sites and documents with useful information. We will generate some materials of our own. We also want to provide a calendar of events, some of which we will offer and some offered by other organizations and institutions. We want to suggest things people can do to make a difference.

Hannah: Are you anticipating any fundraising.

Megan: Yes, we are hoping to see items such as T-shirts, cups, books, posters, etc. to raise enough money to support the site. We will also take donations. Anyone that donates over 20 dollars becomes a member automatically, though you do not have to donate to become a member.

Hannah: How do you anticipate the site operations? Can anyone contribute articles, or can only certain people? How do you think it will work?

Megan: We will want people to register in order to contribute articles or links to events. There will be a small staff that validates the links to make sure they are legitimate, and to oversee donations and such. People who register can agree to receive newsletters that will update them about new information on the side.

Hannah: Will only members be allowed to view the data?

Megan: No. Anyone should be able to view the resources and events and be able to buy merchandise or donate. Only members can contribute events or resources and only members can add comments.

Hannah: Oh, what will they be able to comment on?

Megan: Events and resources, mainly.

Hannah: OK. Is there anything else you want to add?

Megan: I can't think of anything else at the moment.

Hannah: Well, if anything occurs to you: let me know,