Chess Plug – Software Engineering Project Memo - 3-26-27

To: Chess Plug
From: Judah Nava
Date: March 26, 2025
Subject: Software Engineering Project – Status Update and Next Steps

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Overview

Laween and I met with the IT department to discuss the direction and technical feasibility of our software engineering project. The meeting helped clarify key decisions and next steps for development.

Key Decisions & Updates

1. Platform Integration – Alduin vs. Smoke

We have decided to integrate the project on **Alduin** instead of **Smoke**. This change was recommended by IT, as Smoke currently runs an Apache web server that may conflict with the Flask framework we intend to use. In contrast, Alduin offers a more compatible environment for Flask development.

2. Chess Command Deployment

IT proposed a solution for deploying the `chess` command more efficiently:

- The `chess` command will be installed in the `/usr/bin` directory.
- It will run in its own isolated Python environment, reducing the need for users to install it individually and avoiding potential system-wide `pip` dependency issues.

3. Alduin Sandbox Environment

IT also plans to create a **sandbox environment** on Alduin. This isolated environment will allow us to test the `chess` command and other project components without affecting the live system.

Faculty Approval Process

Following the meeting, Bryan Kotta sent an email to Dr. Lee and me requesting faculty approval for the project proposal. After our discussion, Dr. Lee indicated that he would speak with **Dr. Chen** before providing his formal approval.

The meeting with **Dr. Chen is confirmed** and will take place **immediately after the Software Engineering class**. If you would like to attend, please let me know in advance so we don't surprise Dr. Chen.

To-Do Web Application Integration

I am currently testing a To-Do web application developed for Juan's AI class. After discussing it with Laween, we both agree it would be beneficial to incorporate this tool into our software engineering project.

The app is designed for Agile teams and supports collaborative task tracking and assignment. While we're still learning the details of the Agile process, this tool may help us organize and manage tasks more effectively as the project develops.

Next Steps

- Meet with Dr. Chen to discuss the project and seek approval.
- Await faculty feedback following Dr. Lee's conversation with Dr. Chen.
- Coordinate with IT to begin using the Alduin sandbox once available.
- Integrate and test the To-Do app as part of our team workflow.

Sincerely,
Judah Nava