Email-connected Notification Box

I propose to build an Email-connected Notification Box: a device that help you to filter information based on your focus level. The focus levels are represented by three different balls with different colors (or other indicators).

Summary

The Email-connected Notification Box is a small device that you put on the table. Inside the device are two computer fans and a wifi chip (or photon?) that allow the device to talk to the email account. Three balls (with different indicators, color or RFID chips) represent different focus levels: light focus; medium focus; heavy focus. They carry different messages and would filter different amount of email notifications. Light focus would filter out all the spams; Medium focus would filter out all the spams and group messages; Heavy focus would only allow emails from certain email addresses to notify.

The main goal of the project is to help people monitor their messages based on their focus levels and not being disrupted all the time by unnecessary and trivial messages. People will interact with the device in two ways: physically putting the ball on the device indicating different focus levels and input from computer what messages to filter.

Component Parts

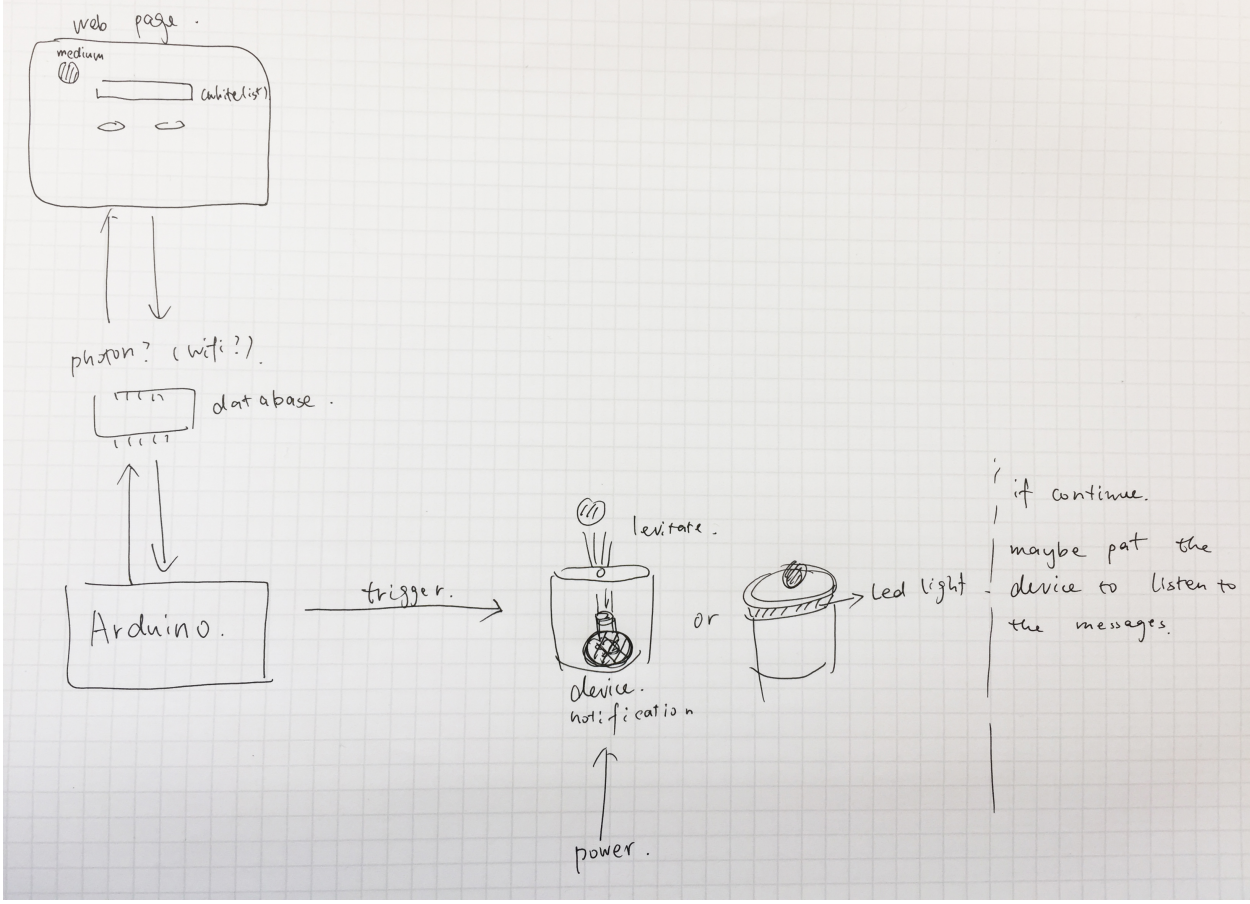
On the hardware side, there's a device where you put the focus ball on. The device will need a few main components:

- Photon? that used to talk to computer
- Computer Fan to levitate the ball or LED lights to indicate the messages
- Power Supply

On the software side, there's a web page that let you decide what information to filter out. The software will have a few main components:

- A user login system
- A message filter system
- A graphing system

Block Diagram



Challenges

- How to make the device talk to the email account is most challenging
- How does different focus balls indicating their differences (RFID? color?)
- If completing the notifying process, how to make the device speak and talk the messages out.

Timeline

Week 1 : Write a proposal and get necessary components ready
Week 2: Start prototyping; how to make the device talk to the computer; what triggers the arduino
Week 3: Make the prototype working from input to output
Week 4: Integrate all the components together and debug
Week 5: Present complete project

RIGHT NOW: Desperately need help :))))