

# Own Idea - Computer Science Forum - Project Plan

Group No. 2 - Screw you Gary, we'll call it what we want.

February 19, 2016

## 1 Project goals and objectives

### 1.1 Background

The project was our own idea to do, hence doesn't have the same context as other projects. We are aiming to create an online forum for computer science students of Trinity College Dublin to contribute to and benefit from, hence we are treating our course-mates as our clients, and will ensure that they are happy with the final product.

Catering for computer science students, we will have to keep their various activities in mind, and build a forum that suits their needs in regards to these activities. For example, we need to be able to segment the forum into different groupings based on year group, so that students can easily seek out their peers. We also need to keep subject lists in mind, and create sub-forums for each so that again students can seek out exactly what they need as soon as possible.

### 1.2 Objectives

Successful completion of the project should lead to increased communication amongst computer science students, and hopefully an increased understanding of their course, assignments and subject matter. The hope is that students will use the forum to aid each other and contribute to meaningful discussions about their real world studies.

### **1.3 Goals**

1. A specialised online message board for computer science students of Trinity College Dublin to contribute questions, answers and discussions about their course.
2. Separated sub-forums per year grouping, which is further broken down into sub-forums for each topic and module.
3. Unique information for each user and post. For example, unique user names, unique post dates, etc.
4. Moderator tools to maintain the forum, help prevent spam and edit currently existing posts.
5. Best Response System, where the original poster of a topic can highlight a response that they thought was best/gained the most knowledge from so that other users in a similar position can easily get the same benefits.

## **2 Project scope**

### **2.1 Project deliverables**

1. Source code for front-end (PHP/HTML).
2. Source code for back-end (SQL).
3. Full documentation of database (entity relationship, relational schema, functional dependency diagrams etc).
4. All documentation required by the module (i.e. weekly meeting minutes, project plan etc.)

### **2.2 Project Boundaries**

#### **2.2.1 In scope**

1. Unique user names.
2. Trinity e-mail exclusive sign-up.
3. Password protection.
4. Topic creation.
5. Replies to topics

#### **2.2.2 Out of scope**

The below items will be attempted, should time permit it.

1. Text editing tools (will attempt to integrate these if possible).
2. Github integration.

## 3 Project approach

### 3.1 Initial schedule

Stage	Description	Start	Finish	Duration (in days)
Team Formation	Met as a team, broadly outlined goals and tasks for the project ahead	19 <sup>th</sup> Jan	25 <sup>th</sup> Jan	7
Research and self education	Researched and self taught languages and techniques required.	25 <sup>th</sup> Jan	8 <sup>th</sup> Feb	14
Project Work	2 <sup>nd</sup> years developing front end, 3 <sup>rd</sup> years working on the back end	8 <sup>th</sup> Feb	4 <sup>th</sup> April	56
Reflection	Review project and note successes and failures for future use	4 <sup>th</sup> April	11 <sup>th</sup> April	7

### 3.2 Milestones

1. First front end implementation - 15<sup>th</sup> February.
2. Back end specification - 22<sup>nd</sup> February.
3. First back end implementation 29<sup>th</sup> February.
4. First working prototype - 14<sup>th</sup> March.
5. Security - 21<sup>st</sup> March.
6. Polished product - 4<sup>th</sup> April.

### 3.3 Gantt chart and work breakdown structure

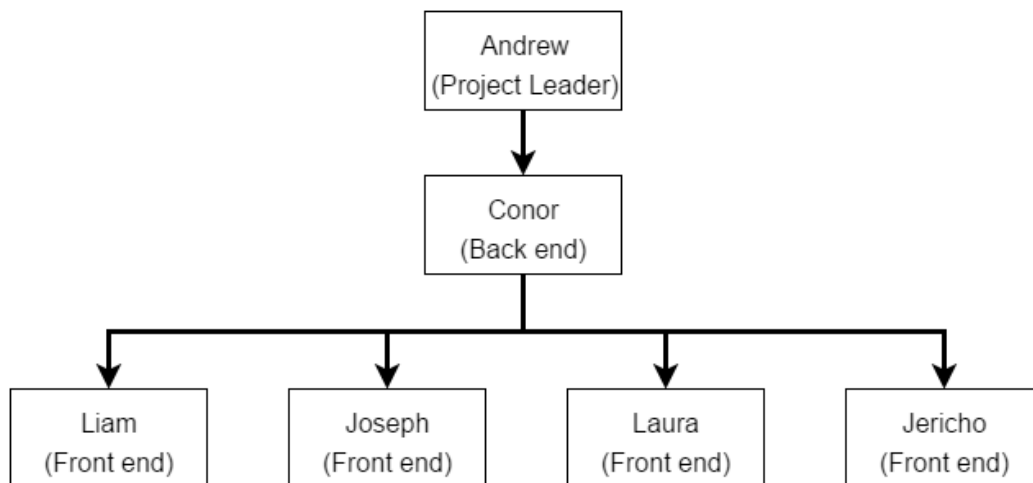
The gantt chart can be found appended to this document, as including it here would involve scaling the image at a factor such that the original image would be incomprehensible

## 4 Project organisation

### 4.1 Roles and responsibilities

Role	Group member	Responsibilities
Project leader/Back end	Andrius Buinovskij	Allocating tasks, back end programming.
Second in command/Back end	Conor McKenna	Taking minutes, writing documentation, back end programming.
Front end	Joseph Fitzpatrick	Programming front end
Front end	Laura Young	Programming front end
Front end	Liam Farrelly	Programming front end
Front end	Jerico Alcaras	Programming front end

### 4.2 Staffing chart



## 5 Risk analysis

### 5.1 Risk analysis

Risk element	Impact (1 to 5)	Likelihood (1 to 5)	Risk factor (I*L)
SQL Injection	5	4	20
Inappropriate content	1	5	5

### 5.2 Risk mitigation

#### 5.2.1 SQL Injection

SQL Injections will be dealt with in the manner standard within industry standard practices such as input sanitization and seperation of user input and actual SQL commends.

#### 5.2.2 Inappropriate conent

Inappropriate content is sure to arise, although hopefully in a jovial manner. Mitigation is left up to moderators and the users themselves.

## **6 Project Controls**

### **6.1 Scope**

Project leaders set out the basic scope of the project from the first week. This includes all the basic features of a forum, the things to store in the SQL database and an overview of what the front end design would be like. To keep from being too overly ambitious in our approach, we agreed we would finish what we set out to achieve in the basics first, before adding more to the scope of the project.

### **6.2 Quality**

All quality factors will be regulated via simple candid evaluation. A forum is a standard and simple concept, and our implementation will strive to simply adhere to the standard already widely prevalent.

### **6.3 Schedule**

We set moderately strict deadlines for this project. After meeting on a Monday, we would delegate ourselves work to have done for next week. The deadlines were met so far, however we would set them in a way that if they werent met we would still be ahead of schedule enough that it would be easy to keep or progress on track for the final submission.

## 7 Communications

### 7.1 Client communications

Meetings	Date	Purpose
Initial meeting	22 <sup>nd</sup> Jan	Discuss features students would want to implemented in a CS forum.
Post reading week meeting	7 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Check up on the desired features implementation.
Final meeting	28 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Final review of the website with the

## 8 Appendix

### 8.1 Content

1. Gantt chart.
2. Requirements document.
3. Change log (void, no changes have taken place).
4. Compiled minutes.