**Tiger Planner**

**CSC 3380 Postmortem Report**

**Matthew Miceli, Christopher Chee, Shaun McFadden, Kareem Abdo**

What worked for your project?

Our project composed of many components that were completed successfully. The web scraping module that extracted course and section information into text files works completely. The scheduling algorithm that generates all possible schedules given a list of courses works without issue and can also generate reports if sections have a time conflict. The webserver to host and execute the java files has also been set up and is running.

What didn’t work for your project?

Not all of our projected goals for our project were met. Extra features such as user preferences have not yet been implemented. A graphical interface to accept user input needs to be implemented and the graphic to display possible schedules can be greatly improved. Finally, our current website does not have any method to generate revenue. In the future, we will implement an ad system on our website to generate revenue from visitors to our website.

If you did the project a second time, what things would you do differently?

Things we could do to improve the design process would be to incorporate more third party libraries to handle problems that have already been solved before. For example, a versatile library for recording and logging errors already exists and would have been simpler and more time efficient to implement than writing our own error logging system. Also, more effective scheduling algorithms using genetic algorithms have already been done and would both save time and be more efficient with computing resources than our implemented scheduling algorithm. In a similar theme, we could apply commonly used design patterns to handle problems and the structure of our project in a more efficient manner.

In the face of rapidly changing technology, how would you keep yourself updated with respect to the technological aspects of the project?

The course scheduling problem has existed for a long time and consequently, implementations for solving the problem have not advanced too rapidly over the past few years. State of the art implementations take advantage of genetic algorithms. Therefore, staying updated would require paying attention to new developments in Artificial Intelligence. However, our current implementation of the scheduling algorithm operates very quickly, requiring little wait time from the user. Any improvements in the time complexity of the scheduling algorithm would be marginally noticeable; so the benefits from implementing a new scheduling algorithm would be minimal. Conversely, paying attention to university course scheduling platforms would be advantageous. Experience suggests that, in the future, universities may include mobile services for scheduling courses. Providing our scheduling program on a wider array of platforms could help us stay up to date.