Lessons Learned – XamineRIS

Team 7

Throughout this semester we have learned a lot from this project. This project has taught us how to use various applications such as GitHub, WindowBuilder, Jira, Diagram Builder, MySQL and etc. All those applications have taught us a lot over the past couple of weeks but WindowBuilder has really taught us the most. We were not very familiar with building GUI’s until we got familiar with the WindowBuilder application. The WindowBuilder helps you create GUI’s by selecting components and dragging them over to a window. Once the components were dragged over, it would generate the code for you.

We believe something that could empower the future team is having set communication expectations, knowing one another’s strengths and weaknesses and additional team members. I think these 3 ways could really help the team by distributing the work evenly or distributing the work based on their skills and previous work.

We believe that better addressing team members aptitude and availability would have contributed greatly to progress under the duration of the semester. Initially we thought it was best to assign each group member a portion of the project and merge them together using the database. We see now that this view was ignorant as each team member came into the project with a varying amount of coding knowledge in addition to knowledge of the tools being used. We also found that as some team members were able to spend extensive amounts of time each week implementing their share of the code others were hindered by work, conflicting classes and in general day-to-day life. All to say that distributing work in an uneven way to prioritize each team members strengths would have better served the group opposed to an even distribution of work to all members regardless of prior knowledge or available time.

As far as workflow the project would have greatly benefitted from a design change. We realize now that the most progress was made after a fully functional database was implemented. Instead of waiting till the end of the project to implement the data storage we would have greatly benefitted from starting with the database and using it as a cornerstone for our development process. We believe this to be the case as having a defined database enabled us to see what data we needed to call and represent on screen and what was needed to be stored in order to pass the imaging order onto the next phase.