

# Observer Pattern

Observer pattern is a proper way to notify many listeners in case of one Subject changes. One of the most common usages of observer is in Model–view–controller (MVC) software architecture. Although In our project they didn't use MVC architecture, Observer is a proper pattern to update view as in following I will explain.

Reference: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Observer\\_pattern](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Observer_pattern)

## Why observer?

In AssignmentPlanner class, both following methods are called time to time to update the calendar and LeftPanel view:

```
updateCalendar(eventsLoadedStartDate, eventsLoadedEndDate);  
updateLeftPanel();
```

## Snippet code

```
private void deleteFinishedEventsToolStripMenuItem_Click(object sender, EventArgs e) {  
    //display confirmation message  
    DialogResult reallyDelete = MessageBox.Show("Are you sure you really want to delete all  
finished class events? This will remove all graded assignments and associated grading  
information for the past events associated with finished classes.", "Really Delete Finished  
Class Events?", MessageBoxButtons.YesNo, MessageBoxIcon.Warning);  
    if (reallyDelete == DialogResult.Yes) {  
        Database.modifyDatabase("DELETE FROM Event WHERE EndDateTime <  
DATETIME('now', 'localtime') AND EventID IN(SELECT EventID FROM GradedAssignment NATURAL JOIN  
Class WHERE FinalLetterGrade IS NOT NULL);");  
        calendarEvents.Clear();  
  
        //reset calendar view to default settings  
        ...  
        updateCalendar(eventsLoadedStartDate, eventsLoadedEndDate);  
        updateLeftPanel();  
    }  
}  
  
private void deleteFinishedGeneralEventsToolStripMenuItem_Click(object sender, EventArgs e)  
{  
    //display confirmation message  
    DialogResult reallyDelete = MessageBox.Show("Are you sure you really want to delete all  
finished general events? This will not delete any current class assignments or events.",  
"Really Delete Finished General Events?", MessageBoxButtons.YesNo, MessageBoxIcon.Warning);  
    if (reallyDelete == DialogResult.Yes) {  
        Database.modifyDatabase("DELETE FROM Event WHERE EndDateTime <
```

```

DATETIME('now', 'localtime') AND EventID NOT IN(SELECT EventID FROM GradedAssignment));");
calendarEvents.Clear();
...
    updateCalendar(eventsLoadedStartDate, eventsLoadedEndDate);
    updateLeftPanel();
}
}
private void updateLeftPanel() {
    updateEvents();
    updateGrades();
    updateGPA();
}
//another Example of repetitive using these updates
enableDisableToolStripMenuItem.Checked = PlannerSettings.Default.SyncEvents;

    updateEvents();
    updateGrades();
    updateGPA();
    updateCalendar(eventsLoadedStartDate, eventsLoadedEndDate);

```

I think better way for implementing of these updates is using an observer pattern to update both these calendar and leftPanel. In this way by each change on form's data such as add, delete and modification; observer will be responsible for these updates.

## Mechanics

1. Add Listener class to AssignmentPlanner class

```

public interface Listener {
    public abstract void viewchangs();
}

static private ArrayList<Listener> listeners = new ArrayList<Listener>();

static public void addListener(Listener listener) {
    listeners.add(listener);
}

static public void notifyListeners() {
    for (int i = 0; i < listeners.size(); i++) {
        Listener v = listeners.get(i);
        v.viewchangs();
    }
}

```

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2. Make an update method :

```
Public void Update (){  
    updateCalendar(eventsLoadedStartDate, eventsLoadedEndDate);  
    updateLeftPanel();  
}
```

3. Replace all

```
updateCalendar(eventsLoadedStartDate, eventsLoadedEndDate);  
updateLeftPanel();  
with  
notifyListeners();
```