Southern New Hampshire University

CS-499-T4251 Computer Science Capstone

4-1 Journal: Career Choice and Artifact Update

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**Part I**

I decided to pursue my bachelor’s degree in computer science later in life when compared to the average person, and this is my second attempt in pursuing higher education. The first time was around fourteen years ago, I enrolled in a Community College looking to get an associate degree in software development. After my first semester in school, I found out I was pregnant and I could not afford school and a new baby, so I gave up going to school. Once I reached the decision to return to school, I was working in the construction industry, but I decided to pursue it because I knew technology is a passion of mine, and skills like attention to detail and people skills can be easily transferred to a Software Developer position.

Before I started school, I made a list of goals for myself, that included getting in the technology industry after my freshman year, where I could have the opportunity to grow more technical and after I graduated, I could transfer to the development team, or I could find a position within a different company that would allow me to work in the field. I am glad to see that my hard work and dedication is paying off. I was able to enter the security industry as a Technical Support Representative, which is a non-technical position, I was given the ability to grow within the company and transition to a more technically inclined position before being promoted to an engineering position. Just six months prior to me finishing up all the courses required for my bachelor’s degree I was able to land a fantastic new opportunity with the solutions development team within the company I work, that will offer plenty of challenges and growth. As a testament to my successful progress, I was awarded the 2023 Excellence in Customer Service Award, I was nominated my superiors and feel like I have progressing well within my plans.

**Part II**

I am really enjoying the challenges I am encountering during this course, because I feel like that’s when I learn the most. I appreciate the fact I am recognizing areas for improvement when compared to my original plans. I have caught myself drawing up a quick flow chart to visualize my thought on how the program should be designed, taking into consideration the CRUD method I was introduced to in a past course, while keeping in mind the possibility of scalability in the future.

At this point, my program is not behaving as I expect, and I realize I must replace some if statements with for or while loops. My initial approach is to mimic the original program in a different language, before making additional changes. Right now the improved zoo monitoring program creates or opens an animals database that includes two tables, where the user can select to access the animals or the habitats tables. I am struggling with the SQlite3 integration, so to demonstrate my data structure and algorithms I decided to work on a flowchart, and I developed the program with outputs serving as holding spots for the database statements.

Diagram

Description automatically generated

References

*Priscilla Gomes-Dacosta wins 2023 excellence in customer service award*. (n.d.). Axis Communications - Leader in network cameras and other IP networking solutions | Axis Communications. https://www.axis.com/en-us/newsroom/news/2023-excellence-in-customer-service-award