Post Analysis

Reflecting on the semester and our team, I can honestly say that our team had little to no issues or group challenges. Our group had great chemistry and we all shared a hard-working attitude. Everyone contributed, listened to their peers’ ideas, and always made the effort to respond to questions/tasks promptly. We all stayed on schedule and didn’t fall behind. We continuously worked on the project, little by little, with almost-daily commits. When deadlines approached, we only needed to fine tune our project and didn’t need to make sudden drastic changes.

One of the challenges we did face was getting physical meetings with the entire team. The only time we could all meet in person was two hours before the class and during the class period (3.5 hours a week maximum). To compensate, we split into back-end and front-end teams, then met all together in class. Our back-end team, Saengduean Calderaz, Supritha Amudhu, led by James Hinds, decided to meet weekly in person for 2-4 hours outside of class and it showed in their work. Their group work was exceptional; they always completed their tasks ahead of schedule and even found time to help their classmates. Our front-end team, Brendan Kelly and Bravolly Pich, didn’t meet in person as regularly but were able to communicate effectively via Slack. During our full team meetings in class, each team member would show their deliverables to the team and would listen for their next assignment. Each week, progress would be made for bot the front-end and back-end towards our final goal.

Another challenge we faced was the unfamiliar technology, such as BLOBs. By researching, we were able to overcome this newness and successfully implement BLOBs in our application. Our back-end team made this possible by researching, learning, and testing over the weeks. They were constantly proactive with all challenges and were always able to find a solution.

A large contributor to our team’s success was our back-end lead, James Hinds. James consistently solved our team’s back-end issues with diligent research and faithful GitHub commits. He was always available and eager to assist his team members and went out of his way to help other groups with their issues.

Our success would not be possible without our graduate students, Supritha Amudhu and Saengduean Calderaz. With Supritha’s industry experience and her database expertise, she was able to create and maintain our database and its tables. Saengduean’s upbeat attitude always brought a smile to her team member’s faces and motivated her to complete our application’s browse function.

Our application’s beautiful user interface is due to our front-end team, Bravolly Pich and Brendan Kelly. Bravolly’s attention to detail ensured that all webpages would be uniformly styled, functional, and aesthetically pleasing. Despite a busy schedule, Brendan always found time for his tasks and was able to code a first-rate navigation bar and implement thumbnail images for our search results.

In conclusion, I agree that a team with no conflicts may seem impractical, or even impossible. As a team lead, I anticipated team arguments, procrastination, high stress, inconsistent efforts, and even a nonresponsive team member. I was sure that no team could be without conflicts or issues, and no team could be a “dream team”. Yet, I felt that our team was this illusive “dream team”. Each team member made a conscious effort to make our group work as seamless as possible. I am so lucky to have worked with such brilliant and hard-working team members and hope them all the best in their future endeavors.