Stephon Mensah

Individual Capstone Assessment

Personally, this final senior design capstone project is a culmination of all the things that I and my peers have learned over the last 4 years at the university of Cincinnati. From experiences in the classroom and our co-ops and all we learned in those two settings separately. I think this is a way to implement, test and showcase all the things that we will be bringing into the industry or research post grad. Since there is so much, we have learned over these last 4 years, this will be the best way to showcase that. Overall, a final wrap up of everything that we've learned and experienced over the past 4 years.

The experiences that I had in my college curriculum will help guide the development of our project in many ways. 1, the overall structure of all our classes during these years. The structure of deadlines, homework, projects and exams to test our knowledge I think will be the main thing to reflect into the projects. Making sure that we manage time like we've had to over the past 4 years will be very important in my opinion. Also, some of the technical topics we learned from classes. Classes like Computer Science 1, Data Structures and Algorithms, AI Principles, etc. These classes laid the foundation for a lot of the things that we needed to learn and learn during co-ops and future classes. A lot of these topics fade from memory if they're not being practiced consistently.

The experiences that I had in my co-op/ internships will also help guide the development of our project in many ways. The main thing for me would be technical experience and working with real code and putting it into production. I worked at two places in relation to computer science co-ops, these places were Siemens as a software development co-op and Dell Technologies as a Software engineering intern. The main technical skills I learned here were a combination of web development skills, QA testing, and data science, in particular data engineering. I acquired these by working on projects that had to do with updating source code for the front end of a tool we used. I worked with QA testing for a website/ tool that our team at siemens developed. In particular I used Junit and Jenkins, as well as selenium. For data science/ engineering at dell, I used pandas, SQL, postman, python and more for the extensive project we built. I learned at these two companies. I worked by myself at one and with 8 other people at another. I learned that I could work by myself, and I don't mind doing it when I worked by myself. When I worked with the other interns, I learned that it is very nice working with people my age and I learned more than I could've ever imagined working in a more collaborative team. I preferred that role.

The motivation for the project was something that the common person could use. We wanted to focus on something that would enhance the overall lifestyle of a person. I am excited to work on this project because I haven't been able to work on something this vast with a group of people that I already know well and I think that aspect will be a lot of fun and I will learn a lot. I also just am excited to showcase and put into motion all the things that I and the team have learned over the past 4-5 years. The thought of that really excites me and I think that will be a great thing. I want to go into this project with the approach of finishing what we absolutely need

to finish early, so that the majority of the latter half of the time working on the project can be spent on adding in perfecting/ fine tuning things.

I think this approach will allow us wiggle room and will frontload most of the real effort to lessen the chances of burnout throughout the course of 2 semesters we will be working on this. Our expected results is a fully working and functional app and have people hopefully feel like we made something that would be able to be worthwhile on the market. I will self-evaluate my contributions by checking with the team throughout the course of the project so that I or the team feels as if there has been a great deal of effort put in to get it done or at least try to get it done. I think I and the team will know we are done when we have tested this with real people that have no real familiarity with our products and testing internally.