

# Project Management

## Explanation of GitHub

Ben's diagrams – full papyrus project.

Ben's images – screenshots of all diagrams, as my Papyrus wouldn't allow me to properly link to the GitHub.

This document contains all written work – discussion on teamwork, quality requirements and discussion/ explanations on diagrams.

## Team Structure

The team for this Project consists of four members, each of whom is focusing on one of USU's subsystems. And I believe this method is optimal considering the fact that the main system has already been split into four more simple subsystems in the brief. The development of each subsystem is as follows:

- Member A – USU Student App (mobile application for students).
- Member B – Student Union Management System (web interface for university-specific student unions).
- Author - USU Operation System (federation management subsystem).
- Member C – Society Leader App (mobile and web interface for society leaders).

## Collaboration

Despite working on four different subsystems, we are still focusing on having a high level of collaboration by attending weekly meetings to share options on others subsystem designs. Along with the weekly meetings, we also have other ways to communicate, including a GitHub page to share files and information like our weekly meeting notes or our meeting agendas as well as our design documents. We also have a WhatsApp group to update each other on where we are on our design documents and to confirm if we will all be able to attend the weekly meetings.

We also decided to assign a team leader to manage the organisation of the meetings and take meeting notes. Tania Reyes was eager to take the role, so this was decided without conflict.

## Meetings/schedule

| Meeting | Date  | Topic  | Attendance                                    | Time and Place                         |
|---------|-------|--|---|--|
| 1       | 23/09 | Organising group roles, assigning a leader, and setting up collaborative media.  | All member                                    | 12:00–13:00, AB-115, Headington Campus |
| 2       | 07/10 | Review case study, discuss quality attributes, review Project management notes, and set initial deadlines.   | Tania Reyes<br>Malahai Broderick              | 12:00–13:00, AB-115, Headington Campus |
| 3       | 14/10 | Finished write-up on early group collaboration and shared progress on quality requirements, as well as planning use case diagrams.                           | Tania Reyes<br>Ben Crosfield                  | 12:00–13:00, AB-115, Headington Campus |
| 4       | 21/10 | Sharing finished quality requirements as well as starting on the use case diagram.   | Tania Reyes<br>Ben Crosfield                  | 12:00–13:00, AB-115, Headington Campus |
| 5       | 28/10 | Uploaded and shared my finished use case diagram and my activity diagram. Issues with papyrus were slowing progress; however, we helped each other fix them. | Tania Reyes<br>Ben Crosfield                  | 12:00–13:00, AB-115, Headington Campus |
| 6       | 4/11  | Discussed plans for the component diagrams and began working on them.  | Tania Reyes<br>Ben Crosfield                  | 12:00–13:00, AB-115, Headington Campus |
| 7       | 11/11 | Shared progress on component diagrams.   | Tania Reyes<br>Ben Crosfield                  | 12:00–13:00, AB-115, Headington Campus |
| 8       | 18/11 | Completed component diagrams and began group implementation of the component diagrams  | Tania Reyes<br>Ben Crosfield                  | 12:00–13:00, AB-115, Headington Campus |
| 9       | 25/11 | Shared our combined component diagram  | Tania Reyes<br>Ben Crosfield<br>Lucas Olivera | 12:00–13:00, AB-115, Headington Campus |
| 10      | 25/11 | Continued work on component diagrams ensured all content of part 4 was completed to a good standard.   | Tania Reyes<br>Ben Crosfield<br>Lucas Olivera | 12:00–13:00, Online                    |

|    |       |   |   |  |
|----|-------|---|---|--|
| 11 | 02/12 | Shared our UML diagrams and behaviour diagrams before working to prepare our final submission | Tania Reyes<br>Ben Crosfield<br>Lucas Olivera | 12:00–13:00, AB-115, Headington Campus |
|----|-------|---|---|--|

## Project Management Approach

We have decided the best approach to this project is an agile approach. We achieve this by having a focus on collaboration at our weekly meeting. This helps us keep our work flexible while giving us clear roles on what work we need to carry out.

# Quality requirements of USU's Operating System

## Overview

USU is a UK-based organisation that is looking to upgrade its current system to a cloud computing-based system. Their goal is to provide software and assist all student unions and societies in organising events, as well as software to assist student unions and societies in managing their members. To do this, they plan to create four pieces of software that link to a backend system called the United Students that shares the data from these 4 pieces of software to carry out live updates. The system I will be looking at the quality requirements for is a web app for the USU officers to manage the student unions connected to the USU and the USU national events.

## Functionality of the system

This web app will have a few different functions that the users should be able to carry out:

- Receiving a USU application and reviewing the application data before rejecting or accepting the union's USU application.
- Upon a successful application, union leaders should receive a login to the student union management app, and students in that Union can access the USU app, and their data will be stored. As well as this, union members can promote events via USU and attend USU events.
- Receiving requests to edit student union data and then accepting or rejecting them, saving the changed data over the old data.
- Receiving a request to terminate membership and then deleting that union's details and blocking their access to USU tools.

- USU officers should be able to create events containing all event details. This information will go on USU's portal.
- A USU officer should be able to make announcements about existing events. This will show on the portal and email those attending.
- USU officers should be able to see those who have registered for one of their events.

## Quality priorities

In the brief, USU has outlined 5 key features of their system, these are:

- KF-1: Dynamic Update of Information.
- KF-2: Services Across University-Specific Student Unions.
- KF-3: Automated Workflow.
- KF-4: User Experience.
- KF-5: Security and Privacy Protection.

From these attributes, we can understand what Quality Attributes they want to focus on.

### KF-1: Dynamic Update of Information.

Here, USU talk about dynamically updating data and pushing the updated data to users in real time. This is most important for the mobile app; however, it still means that data entered on the USU web app should be pushed into the cloud database quickly, so they want a focus on efficiency.

### KF-2: Services Across University-Specific Student Unions.

Here, the USU talk about how they must collect data from many different universities and push that relevant data to students at that university. This means that the system must be able to handle a large amount of data. This shows the USU also want to focus on scalability, which can have an inverse effect on efficiency. This is very important for the operating system as it needs to collect and store all the data from Student Unions across the country.

### KF-3: Automated Workflow.

Here, USU specify how important it is for all the systems to be linked together and how the connection between the four systems needs to be seamless. I'd say this is once again demanding high levels of efficiency in all 4 pieces of software, so I will remember efficiency is a high priority when designing the application.

## KF-4: User Experience.

Here USU demand an excellent user experience taking advantage of all technologies available to them they want features like graphical user friendly interfaces and would even like to provide an AI tool to assist with queries on the app these user experience features will definitely have inverse effect on the efficiency but shouldn't massively effect scalability unless they are unprepared for large amounts of traffic on features such as AI tools. These user experience demands show a high priority on usability; however, I will not need to worry about issues with the AI tool as the USU web application I'm designing isn't designed to be accessed by all users only the USU admins so while the interface still needs to be easy to use the amount of graphics and effects in the software can be minimal.

## KF-5: Security and Privacy Protection.

This is the final key feature USU list, and I believe that, as the people on my web application have access to a lot of the data submitted by societies, there will need to be a lot of features in place to prevent unauthorised access, the simplest of which would be something like password protection. Once again, security will have an inverse effect on efficiency. Despite this, I am going to put it as the most important feature for the software I am designing.

## Quality objectives

| QUALITY ATTRIBUTES | Desired Outcome  |
|--------------------|--|
| Functionality      | For functionality the main focus will be interoperability as systems must link to the other three systems created along with this, the security on the website should be very high as the system provides tools to access and edit a lot of data stored in the USU's database.   |
| Reliability        | Reliability is required in any system and is very important for the web app, as if there are any changes in USU events or USU's connected societies, they may need to be able to change their database quickly or use the website to quickly update the information on an event. So, we cannot have an unreliable system, and even in the event of one bug, we must have high fault tolerance, so it doesn't affect other users for the web app. |
| Usability          | The number of people with access to the web app is limited, as only USU officers can use it. However, it will still be important to have a simple, easy-to-use interface. To help with usability, learnability and operability.  |
| Efficiency         | We should be able to create an efficient website, as it is purely for data management; we don't need any resource-intensive  |

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
|                 | images or effects, so the overall efficiency of the web app should be high. This will help ensure updates can go out quickly.  |
| Maintainability | The system shouldn't be overly complicated, as the main system has been split into four sub-systems, and this web app sub-system should be easy to maintain. The main goal will be for it to be able to deal with the scale of information. Future changes to the software may involve entering more information to create a society, and small adaptations like this won't be difficult to add to the system. |
| Portability     | Being a web app, the software should be highly portable; it should work on all operating systems and devices, so this will be something that needs to be considered during design.   |

ISO 9126 Model

## Quality prioritization

While all quality attributes are very important, all should be considered in the design stages. I have listed them here in levels of priority for the system requirements USU have shared with us.

### **Functionality**

In my quality report I have decided that the most important quality requirements is the functionality this is down two main reasons the first being the requirement for the system to be connected to 3 other systems so a high interoperability is required also with the level of access to the USU database this piece of software offers I have decided that security should also be a high priority which in the model I looks at comes under functionality.

### **Reliability**

I have system reliability as the second most important quality. This is due to the fact that USU want real-time updates from this software to their other pieces of software, and without a reliable system, it may be hard to achieve this.

### **Portability**

While portability wasn't specified in the brief when designing a web application, it is important that it can be loaded on a selection of devices, as we don't know what devices the USU officers will have access to, so I think the website should be designed to work on all Operating Systems and devices, from laptops to mobile devices.

### **Efficiency**

While this software isn't going to be resource-intensive, I think that to carry out the real-time updates across their three other pieces of software, I will have to ensure the website is efficient.

### **Usability**

As the website has many different tools that can affect the database drastically, I must ensure the website is easy to use to prevent management errors that could damage USU's database.

### **Maintainability**

Despite having it last, maintainability is still very important. I need to ensure the software I design will be easy to change in the future and easy to fix so USU can continue to add new features to their system.

### **Quality relations**

Focusing on one quality Attribute can have inverse effects on others. With the project I must focus on this, I will have to remember that high levels of security can have large impacts on many other quality attributes. The main one it affects is the efficiency, as encrypting data will slow down the speed of the website. And it can have effects on the functionality, as there will need to be security features in place, like password protection and verification on certain actions, like deleting data, which does add an extra step to doing everything, but I believe it is necessary.

Another quality relationship I will need to keep in mind when designing the software is the fact that improving all quality attributes will influence the efficiency, so I will need to find a balance between focusing on the key quality attributes without having too much efficiency.

I will also need to find out about how reliability, which is one of the quality attributes I want to focus on when designing the software, can have a direct impact on maintainability and usability.

Zhu, H. (2025)

### **Success indicators**

| QUALITY ATTRIBUTES | Success indicator   |
|--------------------|---|
| Functionality      | <p>Data will be shared between the four different systems, and my system will be able to access and edit data stored in USU's database.</p> <p>The data will also be secure with encryption and password protection, so no unauthorised users can gain access to the data or web app.</p> |

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Reliability     | <b>Failure rate:</b> The USU web app system should be operated continuously with a failure rate lower than 3 times in a year of operation.<br><b>Mean time to recovery:</b> When a failure occurs, the USU web app system should, on average, recover to normal operation no more than 12 hours of downtime, as a longer downtime may result in USU officers being unable to carry out updates on live events.<br><b>Availability:</b> The USU web app system should not be out of service more than 50 hours per year in any consecutive operation period of one calendar year. |
| Usability       | The system should have a simple easy to understand graphical interface that will be easy for USU officers to understand.   |
| Efficiency      | When a user clicks a button, the system should take no longer than 2 seconds to respond. When a user deletes, edits or adds data, the system should take no longer than 4 seconds to respond.  |
| Maintainability | The software should require minimal maintenance and be easy for someone with low-level IT skills to maintain, and carrying out software updates should be easy.  |
| Portability     | The software should be highly portable, and it should work on all operating systems and devices.<br>The system should be ready to deal with a large amount of data and be ready to deal with traffic from having up to 500 users, which will consist of all the USU officers across the country.   |

Zhu, H. (2025)

## Preliminary quality strategies

Some of the strategies I think we should consider in the design stage are:

**Secure by Design-** this involves starting the design process by thinking of security as a foundational property of the software instead of an afterthought. (Niri, M. (2025))

**Encryption/Password Protection** – as mentioned earlier in the report, I am very keen to have encryption and password protection to add more levels of security to the software.

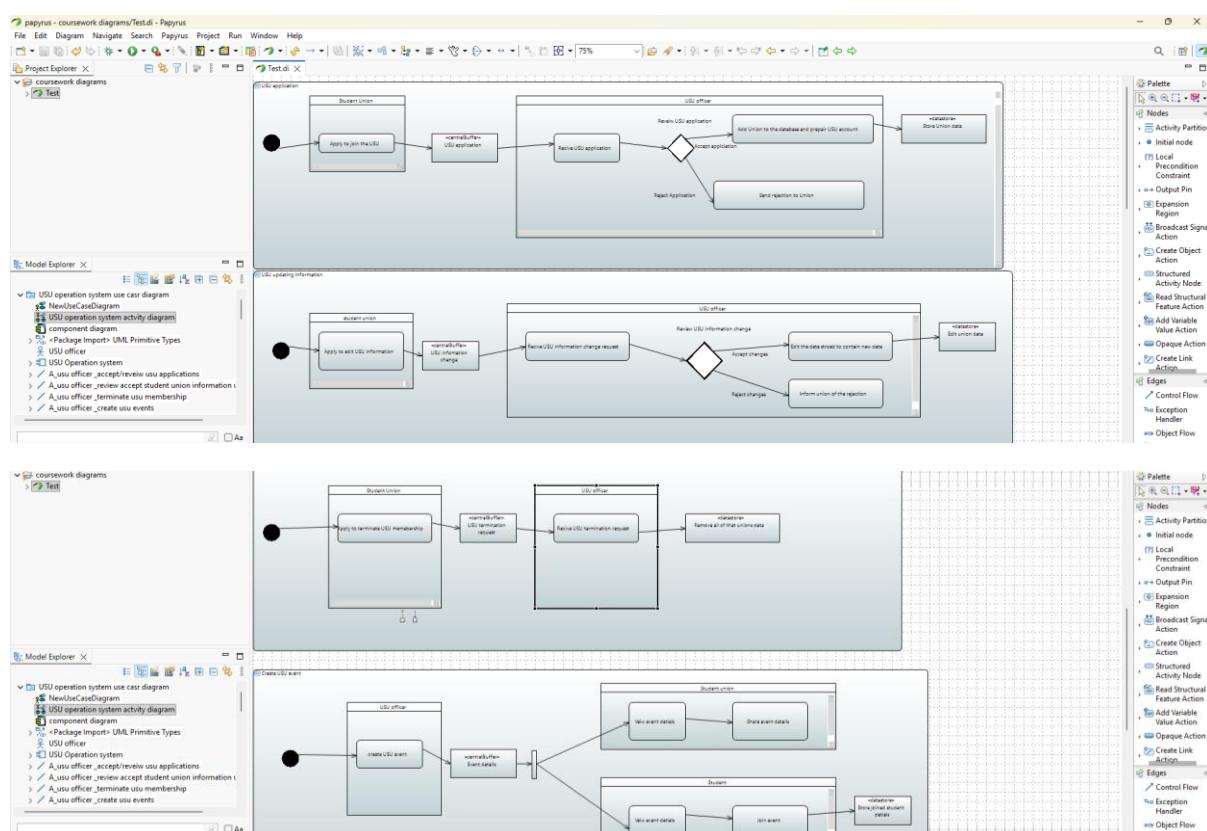
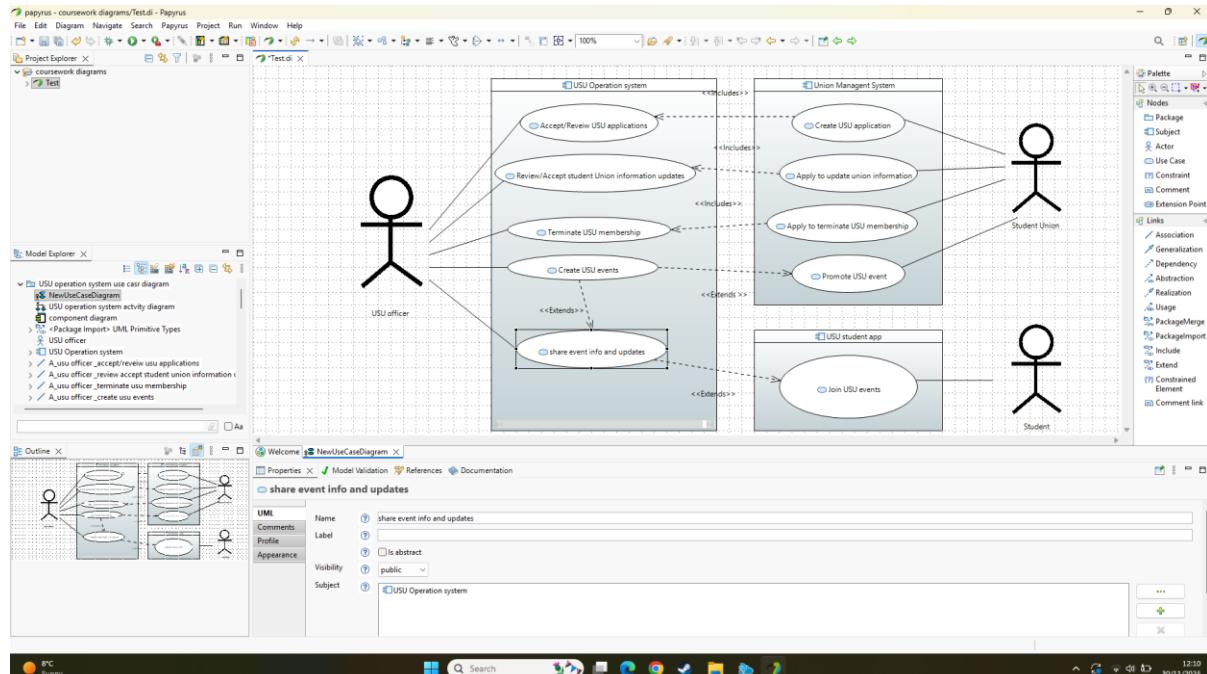
**User Testing** – to assist with usability, I want to have USU officers carry out testing through the design process so they can give feedback on the graphical interface.

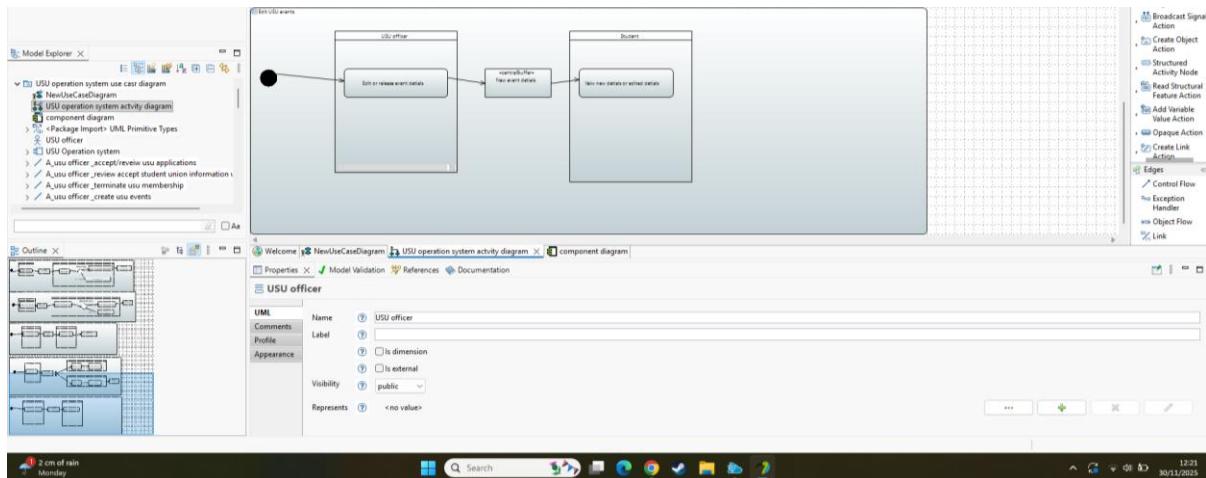
**Backups** – as this software is linked most closely to USU's database, I want to ensure the database carries out frequent backups to assist with reliability.

# Design

## Use case and Activity diagram.

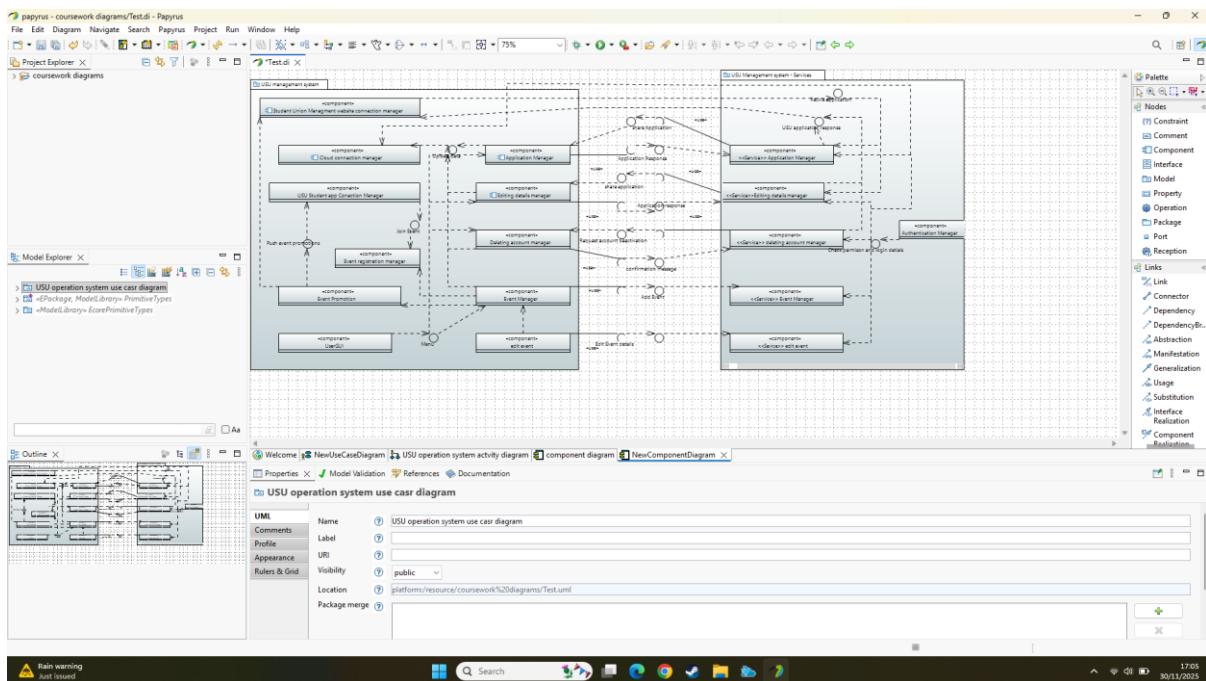
The first diagrams I constructed with my plan were my use case and my activity diagram, both of which aim to show the key features of the program, the use case diagram highlighting how all parties involved with USU will be interacting with my specific subsystem. The activity focuses on the main requirements and shows the functionality of carrying out all of these requirements.





## Architectural design

For my architectural design, I made a component diagram that consists of 4 main services with a couple of other features to assist with security and usage of the website.



|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Component</b>          | USU application manager   |
| <b>Description</b>        | This microservice allows the USU administrators to receive applications to USU and review them. |
| <b>Stereo type</b>        | service   |
| <b>Required interface</b> | Check permissions, Share application, menu.   |
| <b>Provided interface</b> | Application response, upload data.  |

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Component</b>          | edit account manager  |
| <b>Description</b>        | This microservice allows the USU administrators to receive requests to edit data and review it. |
| <b>Stereo type</b>        | service   |
| <b>Required interface</b> | Check permissions, share request, menu  |
| <b>Provided interface</b> | Application response, upload data.  |

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Component</b>          | Deleting account manager  |
| <b>Description</b>        | This microservice allows the USU administrators to receive requests to terminate accounts and process the requests. |
| <b>Stereo type</b>        | service   |
| <b>Required interface</b> | Check permissions, termination request, menu  |
| <b>Provided interface</b> | Confirmation message, upload data.  |

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Component</b>          | Event manger   |
| <b>Description</b>        | This microservice allows the USU administrators to create events, and it works as an interface for further microservices, such as editing or promoting events. |
| <b>Stereo type</b>        | service  |
| <b>Required interface</b> | Check permissions, menu  |
| <b>Provided interface</b> | upload data, add event   |

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Component</b>          | edit event (extends event manager)   |
| <b>Description</b>        | This microservice allows the USU administrators to update their event information. |
| <b>Stereo type</b>        | service  |
| <b>Required interface</b> | Check permissions, menu  |
| <b>Provided interface</b> | Edit event   |

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Component</b>          | User GUI  |
| <b>Description</b>        | This microservice prepares the GUI for the user so they can access all of the website's capabilities. |
| <b>Stereo type</b>        | UI  |
| <b>Required interface</b> | N/A   |
| <b>Provided interface</b> | menu  |

|                  |                       |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Component</b> | Authentication manger |
|------------------|-----------------------|

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Description</b>        | This microservice ensures the account accessing the software has valid login details and the correct privileges. |
| <b>Stereo type</b>        | service  |
| <b>Required interface</b> | N/A  |
| <b>Provided interface</b> | Check privileges   |

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Component</b>          | Event promotion (extend event manager)  |
| <b>Description</b>        | This microservice allows the USU administrators to create promotions for the event and share them across USU systems to things such as the USU phone app. |
| <b>Stereo type</b>        | service   |
| <b>Required interface</b> | N/A   |
| <b>Provided interface</b> | Push event promotion  |

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Component</b>          | Event registration manager (extend event manager)   |
| <b>Description</b>        | This microservice allows the USU administrators to view who has signed up for the events they are running, and it stores the data of who has signed up. |
| <b>Stereo type</b>        | service   |
| <b>Required interface</b> | Join event  |
| <b>Provided interface</b> | N/A   |

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Component</b>          | Student app connection manager   |
| <b>Description</b>        | This microservice ensures there is a connection to the USU app so data can be passed back and forth between the two systems. |
| <b>Stereo type</b>        | control  |
| <b>Required interface</b> | Push event promotion   |
| <b>Provided interface</b> | Join event   |

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Component</b>          | Cloud connection manager   |
| <b>Description</b>        | This microservice ensures there is a connection to the USU cloud storage app, so data can be stored in it. |
| <b>Stereo type</b>        | control  |
| <b>Required interface</b> | Upload data, check permissions.  |
| <b>Provided interface</b> | N/A  |

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>Component</b>   | Student union management website connection manager   |
| <b>Description</b> | This microservice ensures there is a connection to the Union management website so that data can be passed from this website to my website. |

|                           |                     |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Stereo type</b>        | control             |
| <b>Required interface</b> | USU response        |
| <b>Provided interface</b> | Receive application |

|           |                                      |  |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Name      | Check permissions and login details. |  |
| Provider  | Authentic manger                     |  |
| Operation | signature                            | USU login(userID(int),password(string),<br>Ip_adress:ip_Adressscode(String)).  |
|           | Function                             | Check if the user has a USU account and is a USU admin. If it is unsuccessful, do not grant them any access to the program. If it is successful, an access token will allow the user to access all functions of the program. |

|           |  |  |
|-----------|--|--|
| Name      | USU response   |  |
| Providers | Application manager, editing details manager, deleting account manager |  |
| Operation | signature  | USU application response (String)  |
|           | Function   | passes a message back to the applying student union to inform them of their application status, whether they failed or passed the application review.                      |
| Operation | Signature  | USU edit details response (String)   |
|           | Function   | passes a message back to the student union, trying to edit their details to inform them of their application status, whether they failed or passed the application review. |
| Operation | Signature  | USU account termination response (String)  |
|           | Function   | Informs the union that their USU account has been terminated   |

|           |  |  |
|-----------|--|--|
| Name      | Share application  |  |
| Providers | Application manager, editing details manager, deleting account manager |  |
| Operation | signature  | USU application (String)   |
|           | Function   | Send the application form to the application manager microservice so it can be reviewed. |
| Operation | Signature  | USU edit details form (String)   |
|           | Function   | Send the application form to the application manager microservice so it can be reviewed. |
| Operation | Signature  | USU account termination form (String)  |
|           | Function   | Informs the USU that a student union wishes to terminate their membership                |

|      |             |
|------|-------------|
| Name | Upload data |
|------|-------------|

|           |   |   |
|-----------|---|---|
| Providers | Application manager, editing details manager, deleting account manager, event manager |   |
| Operation | signature   | USU application (Union name (String), Union ID (int), University of Union (string), union rep (name), Union rep id (int), USU officer name (string), USU officer id(int)).                    |
|           | Function  | Uploads the new union data into the USU cloud system.   |
| Operation | Signature   | Unions edit information application (Union name (String), UnionID (int), University of Union (string), union rep (name), Union rep id (int), USU officer name (string), USU officer id(int)). |
|           | Function  | Takes the new information the union has submitted and replaces the old information.   |
| Operation | Signature   | USU account termination token (USU id(int))   |
|           | Function  | Takes the USU account ID and uses it to remove all information about the union from the system.   |
| Operation | Signature   | USU events (event name(int), event date and time (datetime), event information(string))   |
|           | Function  | Takes the information of a USU event and stores it so it can be viewed by others, and people can sign up.   |

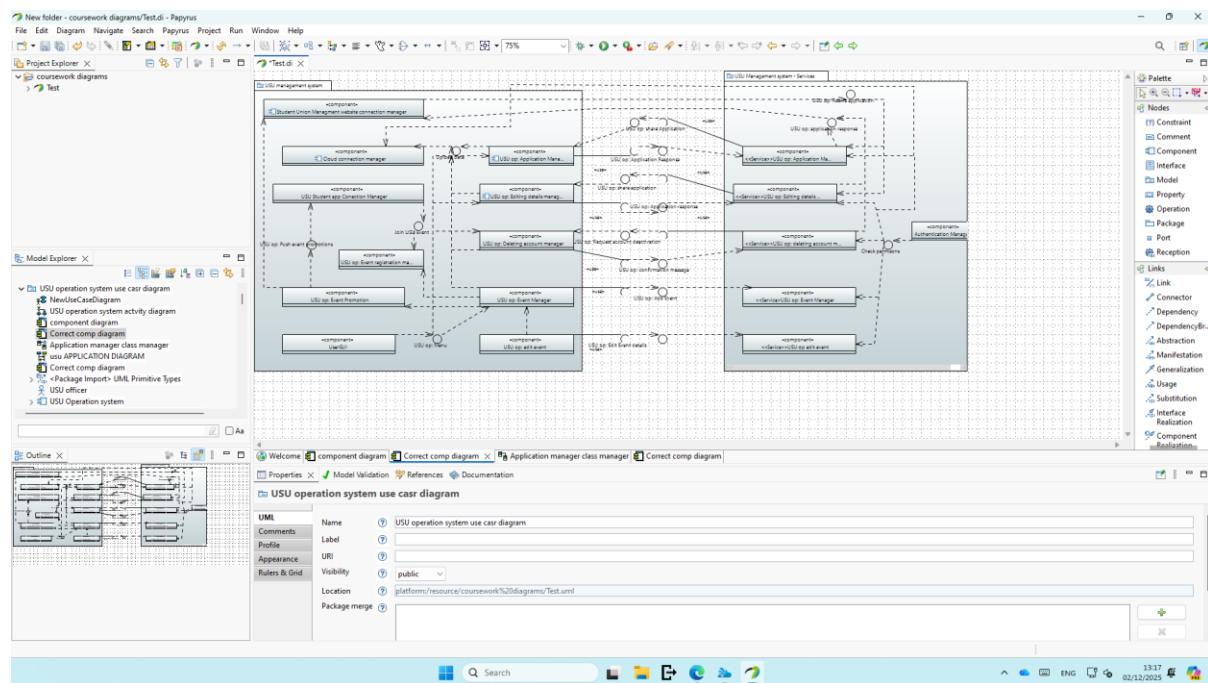
|           |           |  |
|-----------|-----------|--|
| Name      | menu      |  |
| Provider  | UserGUI   |  |
| Operation | signature | GUI(HTML)  |
|           | Function  | Loads the GUI that allows the users to access all the features of the program. |

|           |                                    |   |
|-----------|------------------------------------|---|
| Name      | Join event                         |   |
| Provider  | USU student app connection manager |   |
| Operation | signature                          | Student registration (Student ID (int))   |
|           | Function                           | This takes the information of all students who have registered for an event and stores it so it can be accessed by the event manager. |

|           |                      |  |
|-----------|----------------------|--|
| Name      | Push event promotion |  |
| Provider  | Event promotion      |  |
| Operation | signature            | Event promotion(string)                          |
|           | Function             | Send a promotion for events out to student apps. |

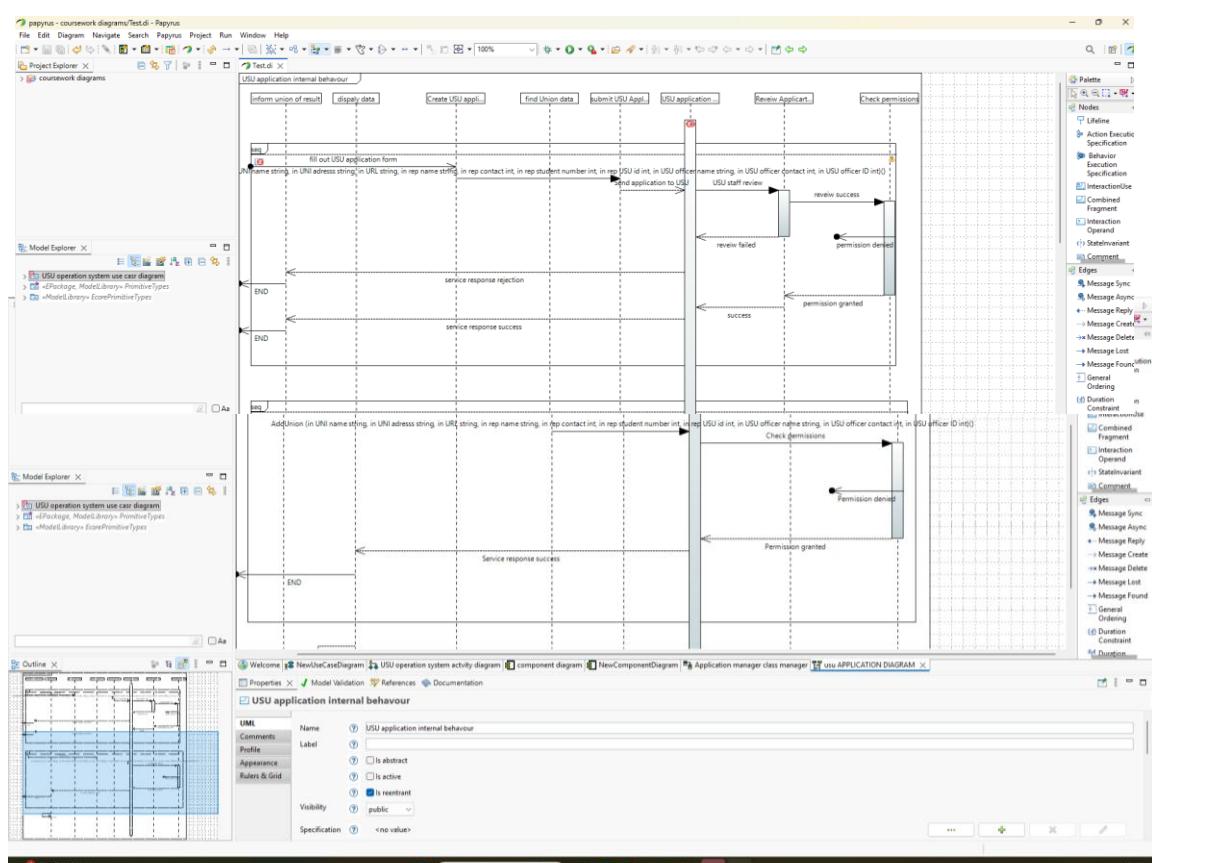
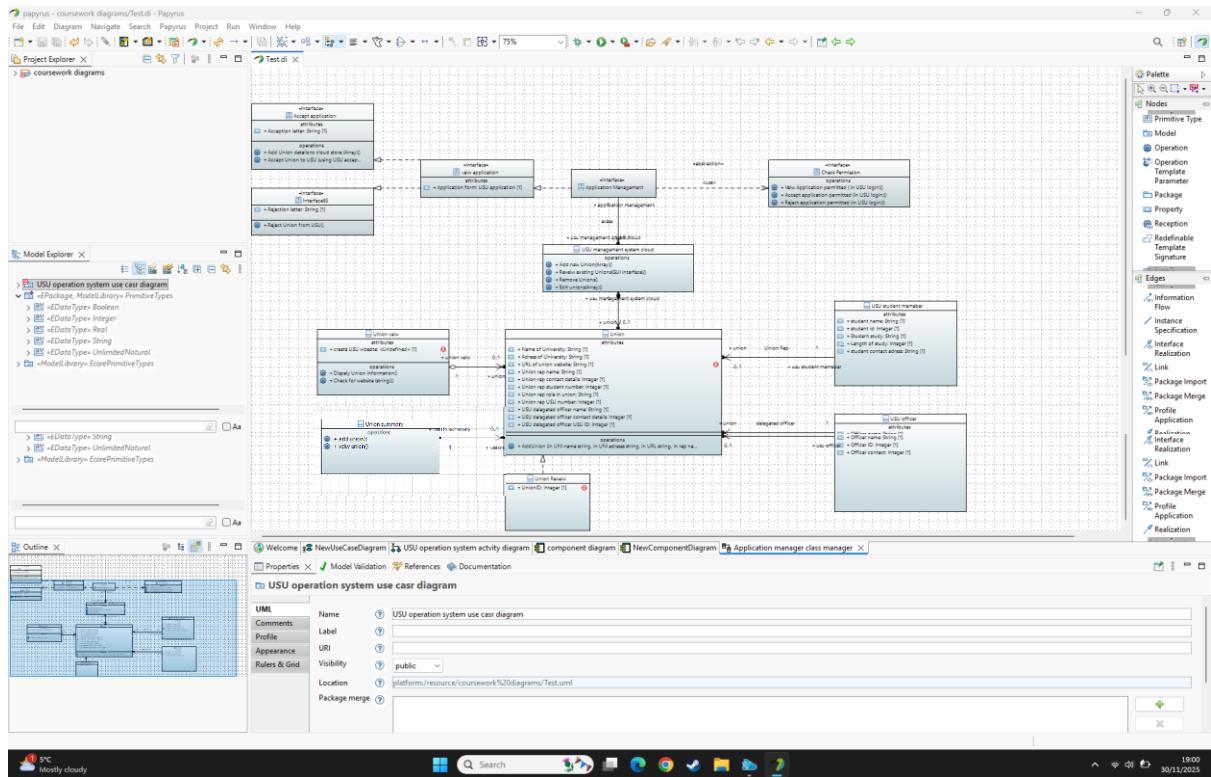
## Combined architectural design

For the combined architecture of the system, my group and I decided the best approach would be to ensure all our components or interfaces have unique names, or if they are the same component or interface, they share a name, so I edited my original diagram to meet these criteria. Firstly, for components and interfaces specific to my subsystem, I added a USU op: tag in front of them, as my subsystem is the USU operating system for the other components that may be utilised across multiple subsystems. I left the names as generic names and informed my group on what generic names to use. Below is my adapted component diagram



## Software detailed design

The first thing I made in my detailed software design was a structural diagram of one of my microservices. The microservice I selected to look at in more detail is the application manager. I decided that this was the best microservice to look at, as it was one of the 4 main features requested of my system, and it was very similar to the edit details microservice. As well as this, it also worked with a lot of data, so taking a closer look at it was important.



## Team performance report

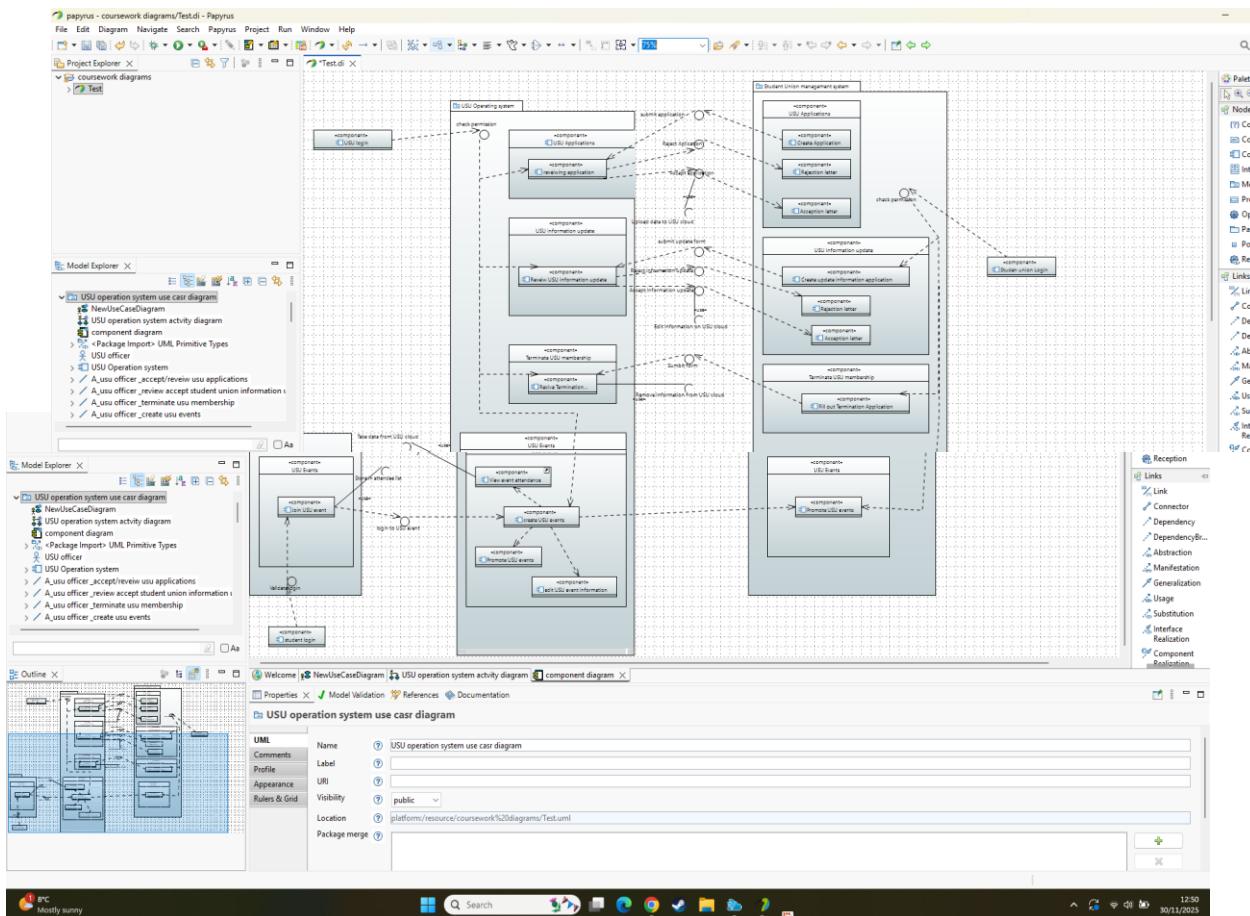
Overall as a group I feel we worked very well me and tania where constantly in attendance at all the weekly meeting which allowed for the agile programming approach to work really well for the two of us as we were able to share ideas and correct each other's incorrect work meanwhile Lucas was always active online responding to feedback we shared and sharing his own feedback on our work. However, Malachai stopped responding to the group messages after week 2, so communicating with him to get his part 4b was difficult, as, despite attempts from the group, we were unable to get his input for a lot of the work.

Our assigned group leader, Tania, did a good job of setting realistic deadlines, which both Lucas and I were able to meet, allowing for meeting to consist of progress summaries and planning for future progress and meetings.

So overall, I feel as a group we worked well, and I played my role well, helping add to meeting notes as Tania and I were the only members in attendance for a majority of the meetings, and I was able to successfully meet most of the group deadlines set.

## Individual performance report

Overall, I was pleased with my individual performance, as I mentioned, I was able to keep up with deadlines set by the group, but I was also really proud of the quality of my work. The area I feel I excelled the most in was finding and analysing the requirements of the system. I wanted to highlight this area in particular as I feel like my report for this area was thorough, covering all the functions they required with good detail and my thought process in prioritising the non-functional requirements aligned well with the brief. Meanwhile, I found areas involving papyrus slightly more difficult, liked my activity diagram as I feel I was able to show how all related parties can have an impact on my subsystem via the actions they take on their subsystem, and I feel my activity diagram showed all functionality of my program. However, creating the component diagram proved more difficult. I believe the original structure diagram I created was completely incorrect; however, I kept it as it shows how my subsystem interacts with other subsystems well, and I have put my incorrect component diagram below.



As is clear in the image, when making this diagram, I was unsure of how to properly make a competent diagram, which is another issue I faced for the structure diagram and behaviour diagrams; however, I feel the diagrams I made after making this mistake with the component diagrams are correct and a lot more insightful as to how my system should properly work. Along with trying to learn how the diagrams should look and what components they needed to contain, the task of making diagrams was made even more difficult by my lack of knowledge of papyrus, so at the same time, I had to learn how to use the software. This made some of the tasks very difficult. I found making the behaviour diagrams particularly time-consuming and fiddly; however, I eventually managed to make them, and I am proud of my final products.

## Reference

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