Literature Review and Related Work

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Abstract

This paper is divided into two sections, a literature review section and a related work section. In the literature review section this paper will give information about the resources that I have used or plan to use in order to inform myself on the most current and best web development practices available. I will discuss what I have found thus far as well as why I feel that it is relevant and important. In the related work section I will discuss the web development experience that I have gained from my recent employment with a software company called Doculynx Inc.
1. Introduction

Through my undergraduate work at Cal Poly I have not had the opportunity to take one of the few web development courses that are offered. Cal Poly has a very good computer science program and I do feel that I have received the tools and knowledge that will enable me to be successful and reliable in the real world, but I also feel that I lack some experience in the area of web development. This is one reason why I choose to do a project in this area. The research that I do in order to successfully complete this project will give me the knowledge and experience that will complete my education here at Cal Poly.

2. Literature Review

At this point in my project I have not implemented any part of the website, but I have started my research and design. I have researched possible languages, tools, frameworks, and hosts that I might need in order to complete my project.

2.1 Languages

- **HTML**: Obviously HTML will need to be heavily used in order to develop my website. A good source that I have referenced is w3schools.com. This source provides examples along with editable form that allows the user to change the HTML and view its effects at the same time.
- **PHP**: To develop a website a developer needs some kind of language that will allow data structures, database interaction, loops, conditional statements, and functions. I have looked into other languages for the back end of the web site such as java using JSP as well as C#. I think that I will use PHP because the web hosting service that I decided to use supports PHP and not Java or asp.net.

2.2 Tools

- **Visual Studios 2008**: I have recently been required to use Visual Studios with my job. Visual Studios has an interface that allows the developer to drag and drop controls into their project and allows the developer to do a lot of things without looking at the actual HTML. It also allows the developer to very easily put in the code behind the website to do its computing. I am not using Visual Studios because my web hosting service does not support it.
- **Eclipse**: Through my career at Cal Poly I have become very well acquainted with Eclipse and its capabilities. Eclipse is used for Java programming and has plug-in's for almost anything that you will need. It is very easy to use with subversion. I did not use Eclipse because my web hosting service does not support JSP which is the main means to interact with the Java code behind the website.

2.3 Frameworks

**CSS**: I will need to create style sheets in order to make the website look consistent and visually appealing, which is one of the most important requirements for the photographer as she is very artistic. CSS allows the developer to control the look and feel of the website.

2.4 Hosts

- **Dreamhost**: I decided to host this website with dreamhost for a couple of reasons. The first reason is price. Dreamhost gives the first year of hosting for only 12% of the normal price.
dreamhost also has many benefits that come with a membership, some of these benefits are unlimited space, unlimited bandwidth, unlimited sub-domains, unlimited databases, bash shell, PHP support, along with many others. URL: www.dreamhost.com

- **Vision Web Hosting**: I looked into hosting the website with Vision Web Hosting because they supported JSP servlets which was very appealing to me because of my experience with using java. I decided to go with dreamhost because Vision Web Hosting does not have many unlimited benefits and dreamhost is cheaper. URL: www.visionwebhosting.net

- **Seekdotnet**: Due to my recent experience in .NET environment I considered using Seekdotnet to host the website. They support asp.net files but do not offer as many of the many benefits as dreamhost, not to mention it is more expensive. URL: www.seekdotnet.com.

### 3. Related Work

I work for a company called Doculynx Inc. They are mostly a .NET shop developing software to store and retrieved documents for other companies. In doing this they are continually developing software and web interfaces that are custom for each new customer that they receive. They also have a web service so that other companies can develop their own websites to use their software.

I have worked on a couple of main projects both web based and not. I built a demo website in asp.NET to show the functionality of their web service. I have also built the same website in Java/JSP to show that it can also be done using Java. These two web developing project consist of my major web developing experience.

#### 3.1 Asp.net

I have built a demo web site in C# using Visual Studios 2008. This website represents a fake client, in this case a bank, to show the web service functionality of Doculynx Inc.

#### 3.2 JSP

I have built a demo web site in Java using Eclipse. In order to use the Java code behind, JSP allowed me to use the Java code within the HTML of the website. This website did was not as extravagant as the asp.NET website as it was developed with the purpose to show that the web service can be used with Java/JSP code.