Project Recap & Summary for Funding Organization

In large enrollment university courses instructors often find it challenging to provide students with content-appropriate problems and provide sufficient practice opportunities for students to master skills, while also providing individualized feedback to each student. Student-to-student peer review is a promising approach that allows students to engage in multiple meaningful learning opportunities, and receive individualized feedback. In addition, peer review has been shown to result in improved written work from students, enhanced professional skills, and retention of instructional content. However, the organization of materials for peer review and feedback can be very time-consuming especially in courses with large enrollment. The use of online tools to assist in the peer review process is an emerging option, but existing tools have a number of limitations. This project proposes the creation and field-testing of a new peer review tool (uJudge) that supports student-to-student peer review that might precede teacher feedback for a given assignment. The proposed tool can be used for a wide variety of instructional activities, with features that will benefit both students and faculty.

uJudge will be an approximately year-long project starting with the capstone group consisting of Ashley Fowler, Jason Killian, Chris Siergiej, and Rachel Phares and their sponsors David McNaughton and Larry Ullman (with Larry continuing work over the summer). With this in mind, rather than create a finished, but hastily built product, we created the start of a well constructed, maintainable, and scalable website, from which the rest of the uJudge project can be built upon. We originally started with five goals in mind (that would end up being core-features to uJudge). Unfortunately only two of these goals were completed by the end of this semester, but this was to be expected. Our work was done in an agile environment, where we met once a week with our sponsors (or customers) to discuss what had been accomplished the week before and what was to be accomplished the coming week. This set-up allowed constant communication with our sponsors and our goals ultimately changed. As new problems arose and new ideas formed, our goals for the week revised. Each week, our goals were accomplished, no matter how big or how small and if something wasn’t working as expected, it was immediately communicated with the group. In the end, we as a group, are very happy with our solid foundation and feel confident that the next group will be able to pick up where we left off and implement the actual pages of the website, building upon our database and framework.

![uJudge's home/login/registration page that shows our working database](image-url)