ResearchWeb
Final Presentation

IPRO 321
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Presenters:
Matt Abhay
Adam Eberlin
Bethany Nicholson

Zach Cornelius
Max de Courten-Myers
Tom Corsus
James Kapaldo
Yuriy Sizyuk
Stephen Sundberg
Professor Robert Ellis
Undergraduate Research

• Exposes students to research process
• Gives students a valuable experience
• Brings together the IIT Community
Lack of understanding of research process
Lack of promotion of research opportunities
No place for student-initiated research
No central, online place for undergraduates to display research
• Undergraduate (UG) research project

• Software specifications

• Rapidly developed prototype
Goals

• Improve and expand UG research at IIT
• Create a website that aids the research process
• Design all site interfaces and features
• Hold internal testing (alpha)
• Hold open testing (beta)
• Launch advertising campaign
Team Planning

ResearchWeb Tasks

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User Survey

Hindrances to UG Research
- Student's Lack of Experience: 12
- Time Commitment: 14
- Knowledge of Opportunities: 11
- Availability of Resources: 4

Preferred Methods of Communication
- Face-to-Face Meetings: 22
- Email: 28
- Phone: 9
- Instant Messaging/Texting: 8

Are Privacy Settings Required?
- Yes: 18
- No: 7
- Should be Customizable: 7
- Wouldn't Post Sensitive Data: 2

Enticements to Use ResearchWeb
- Common Storage: 8
- Streamlined Communication: 7
- Research Community: 9
- Simple Interface: 8
- Opportunity Listings: 5
- Place to Learn about Research: 4
Software

Ruby

Ruby on Rails

REDMINE

CISCO

Ubuntu

NGINX
## Server

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Original Server</th>
<th>Temporary Server</th>
<th>Current Server</th>
<th>Virtual Private Server</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monthly Cost</td>
<td>Free</td>
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<td>Student Administrative Access</td>
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<td>Secure Location</td>
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<td>Reliable Network Connection</td>
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<td>Professional Maintenance</td>
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<td>Guaranteed Up-time (5 9's)</td>
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*Students have limited access*
Website Design: Front-End

• User-centered design
• Bulletin board style
Ethical Issues

- GNU general public license version 2
- Privacy protection
- Content ownership and rights
- Copyright
- Non-disclosure agreement
Site Features
Projects & Lab Book

- Central place for data storage
- Private discussion space for collaborators
Social Networking

- Online research community
Bare Necessities

• Search
• Research Resources
Future of ResearchWeb

- Additional tools and features
  Forums, opportunity listings, communication tools

- Sandbox environment

- Flash based voip

- Integration of external systems

- Public release of ResearchWeb
We would like to thank

– Prof. Robert Ellis, our advisor
– Prof. Eric Brey, Asistant Dean Office of Undergraduate Research
– Prof. Karl Stolley, Co-director of the Usability Testing and Evaluation Center
– Nickolay Schwarz, software developer at Centro
– Sourixat Thavisouk, Executive Producer and CEO of A List TV
– Jeffery Lee, Marketing consultant of BET
– Mark Cooney, current server administrator
Questions?