

IPRO 313 Abstract

Background and History:

IPRO 313 is sponsored by Financial Management Systems (FMS), which provides operations and consulting services to government agencies and selected private sector organizations whose primary service is debt collection. It is located in Schaumburg outside of Chicago. FMS is a growing small business that is expanding rapidly and is in need of tools that are able to support its continuing growth. One area of their business that is experiencing tremendous growth is their student loan rehabilitation program. The student loan rehabilitation program allows a borrower of a federal loan an opportunity to recover his or her loan out of default. FMS uses data mining to generate reports helpful to managers to make predictions on where the company is going next. FMS has the edge on their competition and they are in need of a tool to maintain that edge.

The tool will consist of an independent database that will store all student loan rehabilitation accounts. The system will generate several reports that personnel of FMS will be able to view and extrapolate information from. The tool will be flexible to meet FMS' needs over time. Information pertaining to student loan rehabilitation accounts can be updated and all information that is updated will be stored as a history that will be viewable through the tool.

Spring 2006 Goal:

Provide FMS with a viable design document that will detail and describe all the functions and requirements of the student loan rehabilitation tool as well as define the data model for the database.

Sub-team Organization /Tasks:

Two teams went weekly to gather new information. The teams met on Tuesdays and Thursdays to discuss where to go next.

Problems faced by the IPRO Team:

With Sponsor:

- Responsiveness to emails and communication between IPRO team and Sponsor
- Ambiguity for the project between the president and IT personnel
- Scheduling to meet with Sponsor on a regular basis
- Availability of stakeholders during the gathering of requirements

Within the IPRO Team:

- Technical skill
- Work experience
- Commute to FMS

Accomplishments:

The design document that was completed will enable FMS to quickly and effectively implement the loan rehabilitation tool based on the discussions with the IPRO Sponsor, FMS.

Future:

Based on the design document a future IPRO may develop the student loan rehabilitation tool as well as add additional reports and adjust requirements as the needs of FMS change.

Sponsors:

Financial Management Systems

Advisors:

Professor William Maurer

Team Members:

Muhammad Atta
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