Project Objective/Purpose

- Develop a wiki-like computing knowledge base
- Used by Texas A&M faculty, staff, and students
- Allow users to determine solutions to common technical challenges or to share information about their solutions.
- Database will benefit various fields of studies

Project Overview/Introduction & Background

- Humanities department is the major proponent
- Computing knowledge can help analyze data
- Wiki will act as platform for computing ideas to assist other majors

Methodology/Results

- Forum for users to share solutions
- Past projects, as well as current ones included
- Used to assist users with solution trade-offs and problem complexity
- Computer science can be jargon difficult to understand
- Installation of glossary bridges gap between beginning and advanced coders
- Terms have a short definition, and a link to a more extensive one
- Reader can explore terms he or she is interested in, and avoid unnecessary ones
- Existing tools to help learn computer science
- Show several approaches to computer science so users can form better ideas
- Both visual and text-based programming utilities
- Can appeal to all kinds of learners

Conceptual Design

By using a MediaWiki installation combined with several plugins to facilitate learning, we hope to better enable the students, faculty, and staff of our university to share knowledge relating to computers or programming. We will directly contribute a small amount of information to the wiki to provide an example to other users of the type of information that the wiki will maintain and to encourage further contributions. We hope that the community will come together to expand upon the content on the wiki.

Conclusion

- Began wiki implementation on CSE servers.
- Started foundation for writing data in wiki
  1. Forum for the discussion of projects and solutions
  2. Glossary extension for easy term and definition linking
  3. Learning tools section for providing advice on computing tools

Future Work

- The next step in the development of the computing wiki, is to plan crowdsourcing type of events to add the bulk of content to the wiki.
- A needs assessment will also be needed upon the addition of the content added during the crowd sourcing events; to ensure that the content added will meet the needs of the future users.

References

- MediaWiki