Call For Project Proposals

The Computer Science Department at Washington State University Vancouver announces a call for proposals for the capstone course, Software Design Projects I/II.

This course aims to bring together all of the computer science coursework the student has taken, along with writing and communication skills acquired in non-CS courses, and give the students an opportunity to demonstrate their skills and creatively design a substantial software system. All the programming language knowledge, algorithms, data structures, application domain knowledge and mathematics the students have acquired are brought to bear on a team project. The overall intent is to give students an experience that is comparable to conducting a software development project in a professional setting.

I. Scope of potential projects

A potential project should be suitable for a team of 5 to 6 students working over two semesters (from August 2017 to May 2018). The final deliverables will include the software product, as well as a user’s manual and any other required documentation. In May 2018, a capstone project showcase will be held at the WSUV campus.

We are particularly interested in mobile applications, web applications and computer/mobile games. Some example capstone projects from previous years are listed as follows.

1. Portland Food Cart: a mobile app for searching, browsing, and writing reviews for Portland food carts.
2. Recipe Genie: a web application which searches for recipes on the Internet based on available ingredients and user’s preferences.

3. e-Learning: a mobile friendly web application for young kids to practice reading and writing skills.

A list of some prior projects can be found here: https://ecs.vancouver.wsu.edu/industry-projects

II. Expected Involvement of industry sponsors

The development of the product/project is free of charge to the sponsors. However, if the project requires specific hardware, software, or other resources, the sponsor is responsible for any additional cost of the project.
If the project is selected, the sponsor is expected to meet with the students at least one hour every two weeks, either face-to-face, or via video conference. At the end of the project, the sponsors are required to fill out an evaluation form for the project, which will be considered in the grading process. The sponsors are encouraged to attend the capstone showcase in May 2018.

III. Licensing, Ownership and Intellectual Property

The software is, by default, owned by the student team. If there is a specific requirement for licensing the sponsor should reach an agreement with the student team.

IV. Application Procedure

If you are interested in providing a potential project, please send a 1-page proposal, which includes the following information:

1. Contact information of the sponsor
2. A brief description of the software
3. The platform on which the software is designed, e.g., iPhone, Android, Mac OS, Windows, etc.
4. Any additional requirements

Please submit your proposal by August 31, 2017. The selected sponsors will be notified by September 15, 2017.

How to submit: send a PDF proposal by email to the course instructor:

Dr. Xinghui Zhao (x.zhao@wsu.edu)

Acknowledgement: we would like to thank the support from our sponsors: