

Quarterly Mobile Apps, Business Intelligence, & Database

BILT Meeting December 12, 2013

Meeting Minutes

TRENDS

Dawn Zapata – Good morning everyone, I wanted to talk about what we have done for the project. We are in charge of developing mobile app courses for the grant. *Explanation of certificate programs at Bunker Hill.* We wanted to get feedback from you so we know how to build on to this mobile app track. We wanted to know what you all see as trends in this area.

Matt Glover – I really enjoy the fact that you have the Android application as well as iOS and HTML5. Those were the main elements that I wanted to see. Android is very open source compared to iOS which is closed source. Apple and Android phones have such a large share of the market so that is important for students to know them all. Microsoft, Apple, and Android have such large market shares in the industry right now. There has always been a back and forth in the industry so I think this certificate is in the right spot. When it comes to business leaders in the larger organizations, they will be looking for the Windows 8 style technology. Are there any other trends out there that anyone would like to comment on?

Bob Schoenherr – I think you're right. The trend on mobile devices is huge. From a business perspective, we have moved into having to support mobile devices whether it is on the Apple platform, Windows platform, or Android platform. We are stuck in looking at what is going to be used by the majority of the people. Android is moving up quickly but we have to look at all three platforms. There will be winners and losers down the course. You can easily see that with sales of mobile devices this holiday.

Matt Glover – In addition to that trend, Windows 8 style technologies were not put into the programs. I believe it is something that we should pay close attention to. I also think we should pay attention to security. The security element, personal data vs business data, needs to move forward. I didn't see anything around security, which is going to be a big part of design that needs to be incorporated.

Dan Downs – I think that is a really good point. It could easily be a discussion that we have with students during certain courses. I am currently teaching the Android and the Web Application courses. Each of these courses will probably need a specific vision for how security should be applied. We just have to find a philosophy to include in the courses. Anything you could provide us with today to look into, I would appreciate it as it is beneficial to my students. I haven't seen a lot that integrates security and mobile apps but I do see what you are saying about it being necessary.

Matt Glover – From a business perspective, security is everybody’s business. I would prefer that the course work and certification that we are putting out, embodies that element. We just don’t want to put something out and have all of our students playing catch up. Does anyone else agree with me or have any other comments on this?

Dan Downs – I agree completely. Security needs to be built into these courses.

Matt Glover – When we talk about mobility application and HTML5, it is very complex. Because we have so many different types of technologies out there, we end up with many different tools that do not necessarily work together. HTML5 is a more capable platform that crosses over easily so I’m really glad to see that HTML5 is incorporated into this.

Dan Downs – I included HTML5 into an interactive design course where we mention the different platforms. Students coming in may or may not understand the differences so they are introduced to many of them early on in the courses. Ideally, after that first course, if they decide to go into web app route, they will have a little background about what makes a web application.

Matt Glover – I like where you are taking it; makes sense. One of the trends I’m concerned about is the giant move with companies and individuals are moving towards this hybrid cloud. The trend of the hybrid cloud will continue to press forward but there is also a concept of personal cloud. A personal cloud will gradually replace where your personal pc is located in the storage perspective. You might have an iPhone and your pictures are stored on the iCloud. Each of these different things, you are keeping on a cloud in a data center somewhere. The same concept is moving through where you want to keep all data. All of your preferences will be kept in some sort of shared space. I’m bringing it up because when you talk about a certificate trend and we talk about creating an interactive design, the interactive design class should be taking advantage of the hybrid cloud so they have data storage and giving them the experience with it. This concept will open the mind of those who did not know or did not take advantage of the cloud before that then can. Does that make sense?

Dan Downs – That is going to be something that continues to progress. Do you have suggestions for introducing someone to the cloud other than storage? I’m thinking that API could be embedded into the courses for students to consider cloud storage off their devices. Would that be a considerable move?

Matt Glover – I think it would but your iPhone is a small PC but it is not as powerful as one would hope. It is definitely more powerful than the very first computer ever. The interesting challenge in this process is freeing their minds to think outside of the box. Things like the internet of things, how can they look and create an interactive design.

Dan Downs – Yeah that is what I wanted in this course when I started writing it. I wanted students to develop their own concept and have it driven by what the most available technology was so the cloud storage is definitely something that could be built into this course. Especially when students start

investigating an application idea and they think about how they will store data. We can now suggest the cloud.

Matt Glover – Yeah, but don't sell short the cloud services. The process would be much faster if you have this massive server in the cloud to execute a big data gathering, all at the touch of a button. If you use your mobile device, it will take you months. You have to think about actionable analytics where we are sending forms and data to people from a mobile source. Being able to send analytics and that will be huge; it will be powerful to have that technology. I don't know about the rest of you, but I have a job where I have to be at my desk all day. Mobility and actual analytics would be huge in my day to day.

Ann Beheler – That brings us over to business intelligence. We should move into database and business intelligence from Bellevue.

Sylvia Unwin – Basically, we're looking at developing our analytics program. We are still using a server application. I really would love to hear more about actionable analytics; it is an excellent trend we could try to implement into our curriculum. I have a question about the interactive design course for Bunker Hill. Can you show us more about that course?

Dan Downs - Yes. *Review of interactive course*

Sylvia Unwin – You are platform non-specific. What is going to be taught in those classes?

Dan Downs – They will be reviewing what they learned from the basic java course but it will be implemented into an app course. They will be building basic applications and they have learned how to write for an application among other things. They will be applying what they have learned in other courses directly into real world applications.

Sylvia Unwin – Great, I understand. Are there any questions about our business intelligence classes? We have an introduction class; we are very Microsoft centric because we could use their programs free of charge.

Matt Glover – Do you talk about data warehouses? Business intelligence is truly just to supply intelligence. Otherwise, it is just reports that people don't even read.

Sylvia Unwin – We do show them how to use Microsoft tools for sending information and we do teach them how to build a data warehouse. One of the areas we are looking into is how to get data from different areas. *Review of business intelligence courses at Bellevue* We introduce the tools of Microsoft BI for students through the courses so that they understand the data and could bring back data information. The students learn about the data and how it works. They then get an intro into data mining as well. This is where they get introduced to the KPI concept. We are in the intro courses but the concept is introduced to them already. The developer part is going to be customization using Sequel.

Matt Glover –Are there references of truth or systems of records? One of the things that people need to understand is finding the system of record and if that doesn't exist, they have to find the master of key.

Sylvia Unwin – This doesn't go that deep. This course is introducing sequel queries to get the data you need. We introduce but we do not implement when they are using the tools.

Matt Glover- There is a large trend with executive dashboards that are customized and evolved. There is also a trend on providing self-service. People would want to be able to customize their own dashboards.

Dan Downs – I understand what you're saying; instead of sending out emails, you could use the dashboard for working together with others.

Matt Glover – Correct. You could work with someone almost instantaneously through your dashboard. We need people to be able to send out reports and communication this way. Another thing is if I'm seeing a lot of 'tweets' coming from the public about a company, I could use that information and find out where the root problem is. It would be nice to be able to do that instantaneously. I think those are the elements of big data, social media, and business intelligence start coming together.

TIGER TEAM

Ann Beheler – I think we're ready to talk about the Tiger Team. When we were in Boston, the group was pretty insistent that we have some kind of standard for curriculum. I would like to know if business people on this call would like to be involved in what should be included in a mobile app certificate draft and if it is something you still want to do.

Dan Downs – I'm up for this as soon as possible. Anything we could use with the experts, it will be helpful. As much as things are still unfolding, things are moving to be a mobile app focus. If the experts could give us as many cross platforms, this would unfold. I would be open for any suggestions.

Ann Beheler– Bill Cullifer is saying yes to cross standards. I know Matt is in favor of this. Who else is?

Bob Schoenherr – I am willing to work with you all on that.

Dan Downs – I know there is a lot of opportunity in this.

Ann Beheler – I will set something up for us soon in the next year. We could try to widely plan for an initial lab after that call. We want to thank you all joining us. Does anyone else that needs to be addressed?

Dan Downs –Are you seeing any changes as it relates to mobile?

Matt Glover – I would look more at market share when it comes to mobile. I would teach it so that you are teaching the largest part of market share so students have a better chance of getting a job. It gives our students a better leg up when they are interviewed. I would only lean on the strongest market share and that will change. If you and I were having this conversation seven years ago, the only dominant force was Blackberry. It is constantly changing but being on top of that helps.

Ann Beheler – That is one reason we need you so much. We need as much warning about the trends changing so that we could try to get ahead of that. We can't develop curriculum and programs quickly so the more notice we have, the better we could prepare our students.

Matt Glover – Yeah, I think we could just add to curriculum instead of just completely change curriculum.

Dan Downs – I am trying to keep these small gaps to adjust for the changes. I am building research components into courses for that same purpose.

Ann Beheler – Since there is nothing else, I would like to wish you a wonderful holiday season. Thank you for your dedication to the business and education side. We are making a difference. We just submitted our Annual Performance Report and things are looking great. Thank you again.

Meeting adjourned 11:19am