

The Gidget Pipeline Project Database

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Abstract

The Gidget Pipeline Project is a collection of four different programs that all have the overall goal of increasing the number of women in computing science, whom they have nicknamed gidgets. The project currently has programs that work with girls in 4th and 5th grade and women in college. The Gidget Pipeline Project wanted a database to simplify tracking the gidgets that participate within the different programs and to collect data, such as the improvement of computer skills of the gidgets. This information will be used to prepare proposals for grants to improve and expand the Gidget Pipeline Project. The Gidget Pipeline Project also asked for a user interface to be created to allow both administrators to input and maintain information in the database. In this poster the development of the database and interface are described. The database also serves as teaching tool to the younger gidgets to help teach them more about how to use software. Security was an issue that needed to be addressed. There are different levels of security that are top down; they can only access information of people that have security levels lower than them. The database was written in MySQL. The Gidget Pipeline Project owns a server that will run that database and it runs Microsoft Windows. Since MySQL is open source there were not any major problems transferring the code from the development to the Gidget server. The initial plan was to use a combination of structure software development method and extreme programming (XP) method. Midway through the completion of the database some changes in the requirements lead to more interaction with the customers and lead the group to switch to entirely to the XP method.

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