Mozzarella

A Collaborative Web System for Student Computing Clubs

Client: Jack Rosenthal (jrosenth@mines.edu)
Team Size: 3-5
Skills: Python, Web Development (HTML/CSS), Relational Databases
Location: Mines Campus

Project

In February 2016 through August 2016, the Mines Linux Users Group developed a web system built on TurboGears to better communicate with their members. This website can be seen at https://lug.mines.edu.

Since Summer 2017, the Mines ACM chapter has forked and extended the Linux Users Group's web system and has developed it into an extensive web application. This web application can be seen live at https://acm.mines.edu.

The goal of the Mozzarella project is to unify the two web systems and develop one which is configurable and quickly deployable by any interested computing club. Extensions to the current code base will include:

- Configuration for club branding

- Integration of projects to wiki pages for ease of collaboration on projects

- Addition of presentation relational model and a front end to browse presentations

- Better configurability for a multitude of authentication systems to allow the project to be used by other universities

Platform

Mozzarella is built on TurboGears 2.3, a highly configurable Python WSGI framework. Technologies include:

- Python 3

- SQLAlchemy

- WebOb

- Kajiki

We don't expect students to be familiar with these technologies before starting; we will spend some time getting familiar with the framework and its technologies.

Student Benefits

Mozzarella is an open source project, by working on this project, students will gain experience with contributing to an open source project (using git, working on branches, submitting pull requests, code reviews, etc.).

In addition, students will come out of this project with a new technology toolbelt: TurboGears is very powerful and we hope the students can make use of it in other applications as well.