

Minutes

NELUG Meeting

April 19, 2017
4:00pm – 6:00pm

Facilitator: Laura Gillenwater, Chairperson

Host: Laura Gillenwater, Sun Life Financial

Minutetaker: Mike Nelson, KVH Industries, Inc.

Attendees: Daryl Fleary, Debra Mascott, Deidre Shaprio, John Mortenson, Judith Smith, Laura Gillenwater, Margaret Guillory, Mike Nelson, Paul Tarquinio, Peter Sorenson, Rebecca Donnelly, Sandra Sousa

Agenda Topics

5 min. NELUG Business Laura Gillenwater

Discussion:

Recruitment

- We're seeing some membership attrition. Let's do what we can to grow membership.
- But we have new members at today's meeting!

Website Hosting Renewal

Sergey (BranchTrack) sponsored the website for the current year. We need a sponsor for the coming year if he's unable to renew. Cost is around \$100. **[Update from Laura – Sergey came through and renewed Branchtrack's sponsorship of our website. Thank you, Sergey!!!]**

Website Header

- The header of the NELUG website is dated. For example, it shows the old Lectora logo. We need a redesigned header.
- Daryl (Trivantis) said their graphic designer might be able to help us out if no one volunteers.

Action items:

Person responsible:

Deadline:

Promote our group and its value to other Lectora users you know, even if they're not in New England. Send them to the website for details.

All

If your company might like to sponsor the website for the coming year, let Laura know. The company will get a banner on the website.

All

If anyone is interested in redesigning the website header, let Laura know. Show off your graphic design skills!

All

70 min.

Downright Sneaky Tricks to Quicken QA and Create an Elegant UX

John Mortenson, The Fresh Market

Discussion:

John demonstrated how you can add a one-day delay for retaking an assessment, as well as how to build a DevMode in your course... an excerpt from a popular lab session he presented at last year's LUC. A detailed handout was emailed to all attendees. John will also provide the Lectora project files to Laura for distribution to interested members.

See John's handout for complete details. It explains how to build these features, step by step.

One-day Delay

- Allows the learner to retake the test only if the current date does not equal the date of his/her previous attempt.
- If the current date equals the previous submittal date, show a message when the user clicks Retake Exam that says something like "Please try again tomorrow."
- Build in a failsafe to prevent a learner from just closing the course then reopening it to retake the exam. (Retain variable settings between sessions.) Always think of ways your learners might try to find workarounds.

DevMode (Developer Mode)

- Build a backdoor in your course (like "God Mode" in a video game, or a secret passageway through your course).
- Allows you to test your course much faster, as you're no longer constrained by the learner experience.
- Examples of what you can provide in DevMode:
 - Show the correct answers to all test questions (but won't work if you're randomizing the answers).
 - Add a menu that allows you to jump to any page in the course (very helpful if you're enforcing sequential navigation).
- Tip: Use an odd color not used elsewhere in your course for all DevMode-related items you display on screen.
- Add a transparent button that launches DevMode.
- Protect DevMode with a password.
- Be sure to display a "DevMode On" indicator, so you always know when it's enabled.
- Build in a way to toggle DevMode on and off at any time so you can always revert to check the learner experience.
- You can find a lot of your own uses for DevMode! For example, Daryl suggested you could show the media player controller for audio tracks.
- John submitted a feature request to Trivantis to implement a DevMode feature in the standard Lectora product.

35 min.	Lectora Tips and Techniques	All meeting members
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Discussion:

Webcam feature in Adobe Connect

- For this segment of the meeting, used the webcam feature so attendees could see each other. Seemed to be well received by those who had a webcam available.

Vidyard

- Laura asked if anyone was familiar with this video hosting platform. No attendees have used it.

Version 17 of Lectora

- Mike reported that the latest version seems to have fixed formatting issues he was seeing on some older Android phones. Testing in progress.

LMSSetValue Errors in Skilljar LMS

- Mike reported that there have been intermittent LMSSetValue errors when running Lectora SCORM courses in Skilljar. These errors are just an annoyance, as the data is being successfully passed to the LMS. Perhaps there is a way to catch these errors and prevent them from displaying?

Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:
Daryl will check with the Lectora development team about disabling LMSSetValue errors.	Daryl Fleary	

5 min.	Meeting Assessment/Ideas for Future Meetings	Laura Gillenwater
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Discussion:

App Development with Lectora

- When Mike spoke about the app he developed in Lectora, Laura suggested that might be a good topic for a future meeting. Mike said he learned how to create apps from Sergey Snegirev’s LUC presentation and recorded webinar.
- Daryl reported that you don’t necessarily have to upload your app to the official iOS or Android app stores – a very complex, tedious process. You can host the app from your company’s website.

Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:
Laura to ask Sergey if he’d be willing to talk about app development at a future NELUG meeting.	Laura Gillenwater	

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Special notes:

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