**HFOSS project on OpenMRS**

The OpenMRS means open Medical Record System and started in the 1990’s. It is free software that is used for storing and tracking patients’ medical case record or information electronically. The OpenMRS is a web-based application that makes use of open architecture that is standardised for information systems in health. OpenMRS is flexible, scalable, re-usable and the features are prioritized for end-users.

The customization of OpenMRS to improve the treatment of HIV in Africa was initiated by Paul and Burke in 2004. The application was first deployed and tested on HIV patients in Eldoret in Kenya in February 2006. Five months later, it was deployed in Rwanda. After the success story of the application in the first two countries, it was later deployed to about 24 countries mostly in Sub-Sahara Africa.

The application can be customize because it is developed using Java based application.

I gain a lot from this application based on the explanation by Paul and Burke on the development phases especially on the database design, decision support system, the security measures, the customization features and so on.

The largest challenge I see is how to incorporate some instructors into the development team without having knowledge about some technologies that are not coming used in the classroom especially in developing countries such as hibernate, dwr and dojo where the OpenMRS is commonly used.

I have not heard about some of the technologies mentioned in the Google Tech talk video such as dwr, dojo, and hibernate even the technologies they are trying to integrate to improve on the existing system such as BIRT and Pentaho for statistical analysis and analysis of large data respectively.

The technologies used presently for the development of the OpenMRS are as follows

Python

Java

MySQL

Hibernate

DWR

Dojo

Javascript

**From Google Tech talk video**

Apart from Java, MySQL and javascript other technologies are not in the Computer Science curriculum presently in my institution and have not heard of some of the technologies before now except python, MySQL, and javascript.

To handle the gaps in knowledge one should be ready to learn and collaborate with the team that develop the application.

The HFOSS project am interested in is the openMRS.

I will like to be part of the team to improve the openMRS application for “early detection and prediction of Co-infection of HIV and TB in HIV patients”.

It was discovered in recent research that the co-infection of HIV and TB kill faster than HIV or TB especially in Sub-Sahara Africa.

**Extract from Seneca College (Center for Open Source Technology)**

The existing materials I found are on course outline and they are useful for two of my courses. The course outline are on BTP300 and ULI101 which I intend to modify and integrate into the existing course outline am using. The two courses am taking are introduction to Computer Science and Introduction to Object-oriented programming I using C++. I want to start introducing the year one students to Linux/Unix operating system instead of to only windows environment so that when they get to year two they can easily run C++ on Linux/Unix environment.

I will like to request for the course outline for BTP100 and BTP200 to aid instructors to go through the prerequisite of the BTP300 for comparison with what we are already using in our various institutions.

The material by Andy Lester’s and Craig Buchek’s are very interesting.

Learning about the 50 ways to be a FOSSer is amazing.

The teaching materials catalog is very good but still on the old website of TOS.

The Open source course by Steve Jacobs is not opening.

**Plan to use HFOSS in our curriculum**

We intend to introduce the HFOSS in three of our courses (Introduction to Data Mining, Programming languages and Database Management Systems).