# The Virtual Office Door

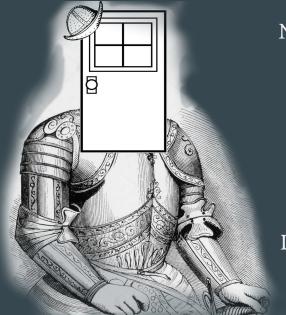
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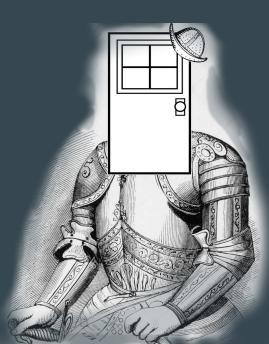


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Our Mentor: Dr. Eck Doerry

Our Clients:
Dr. Eck Doerry and Dr. Michael Leverington





### The Big Picture

- Office doors serve as a form of communication (e.g. notes, flyers, calendars, etc.)
- Many different people need access to office door information
  - Professors, Students, Managers, and working professionals
- Millions of people utilize office doors as a form of communication
- Communication is essential but a physical presence can be challenging.



### The Even Bigger Picture

### **Direct Communication**

- Emails, Phone Calls, Text Messages, Paper Handouts, Voice Messages
- Message is sent to those that need to hear or read the message.

### **Indirect Communication**

- Bulletin Board Postings, Posted Sticky Notes, Public Calendar Postings
- Message is posted so that readers need to go seek out the information
- Where the main problem lies!

## The problem in an academic context...

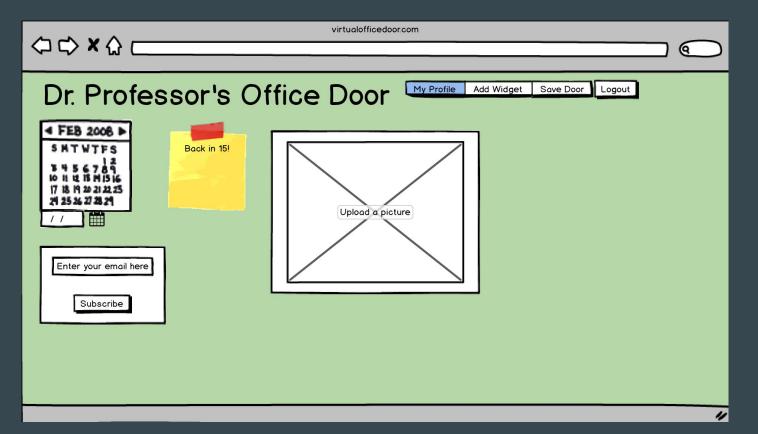


- Computer Science is split between Engineering on South campus and SICCS on North campus
- Teachers still use office doors, but they become cluttered.
- Email communication with students is slow and unreliable
- Teacher office hours are always subject to last minute change
  - No way to communicate this to the students in a timely manner
- Teachers need an easy way to inform students
- Students need an easy way to get informed

### Solution: A Virtual Office Door

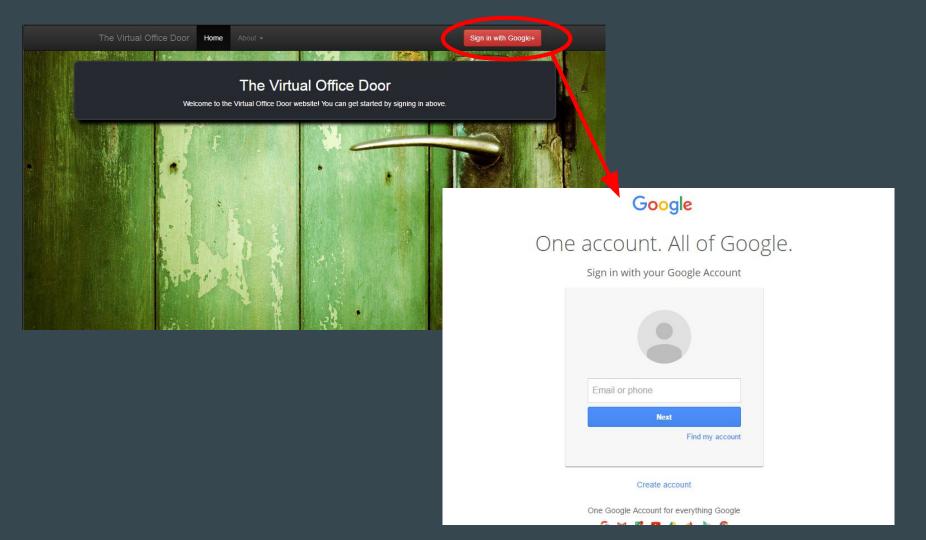
- We envision a secure, fast and account based Web 2.0 application that operates as a "virtual office door".
- The "office door" can display:
  - Calendar with events vs. BBLearn current system
  - Sticky notes for quick alerts vs. manual email sendouts.
  - Notification widget to instantly inform users of pertinent updates
- Accessible on a laptop/mobile device as well as a physical office door display.
- Allows users to receive communications from door owners, which turns indirect communication into direct.

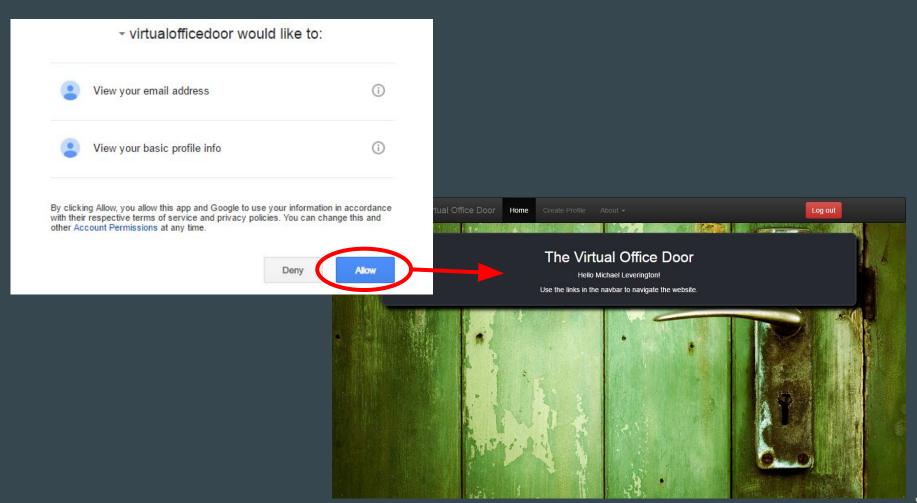
## A Virtual Door Mockup

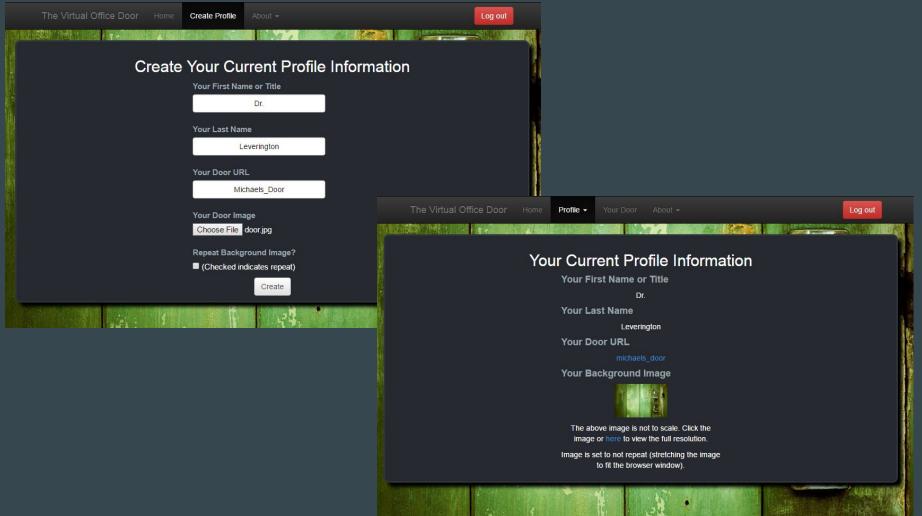


### Our main requirements...

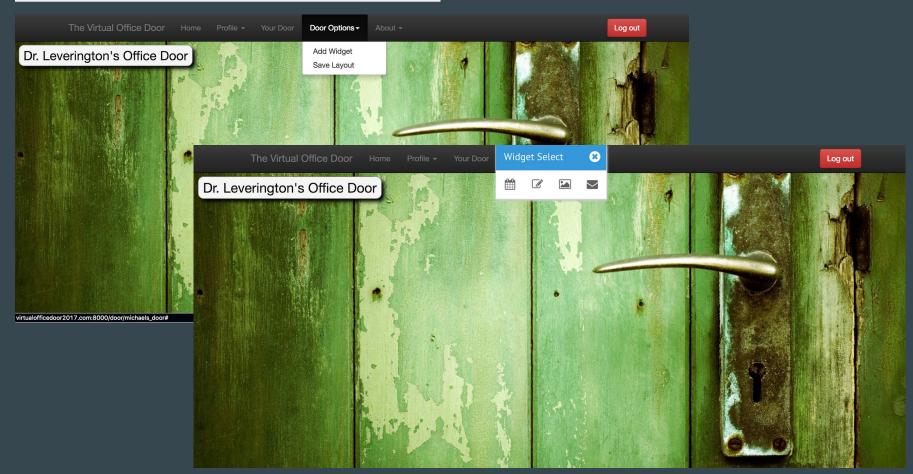
- 1. Customizable office door with widgets
- 2. Cloud based server to deploy the application and store data
- 3. Secure and reliable login to maintain sensitive user information.
- 4. A basic notification system between the office door owner and a guest.

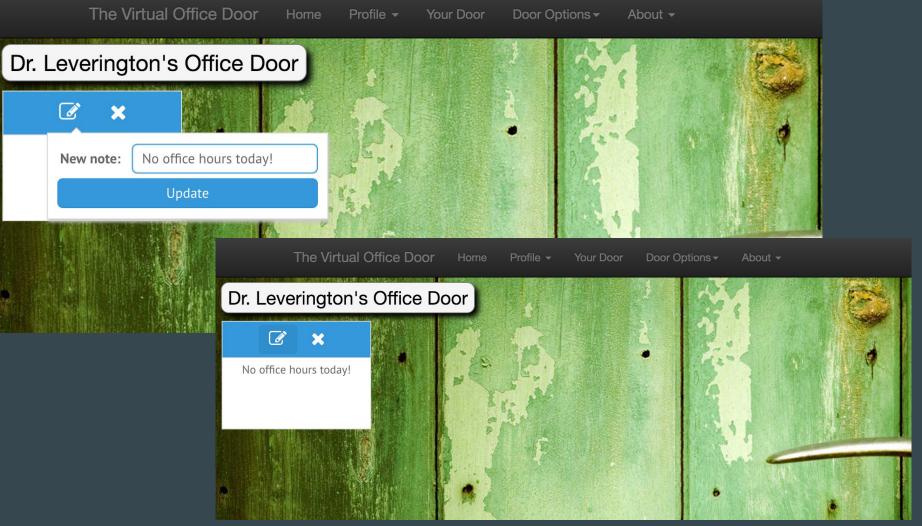


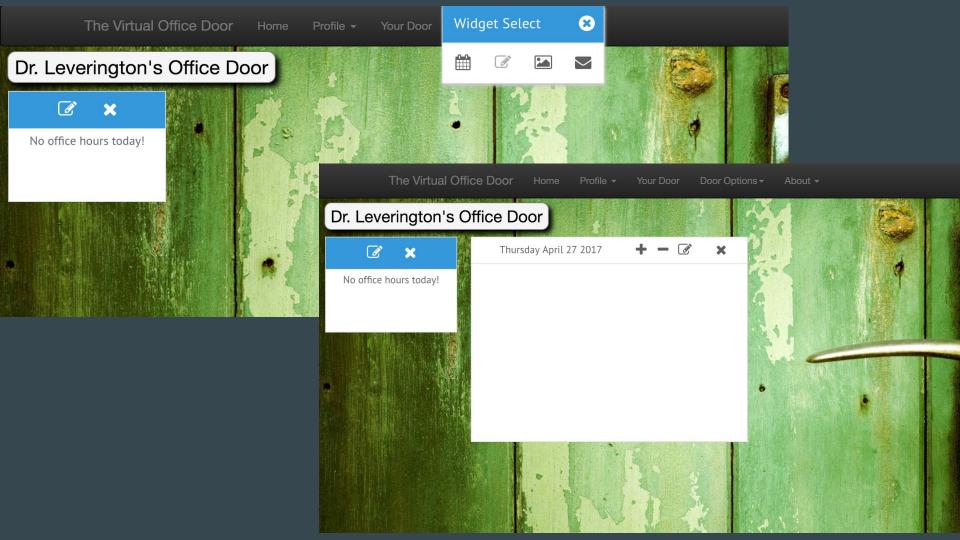


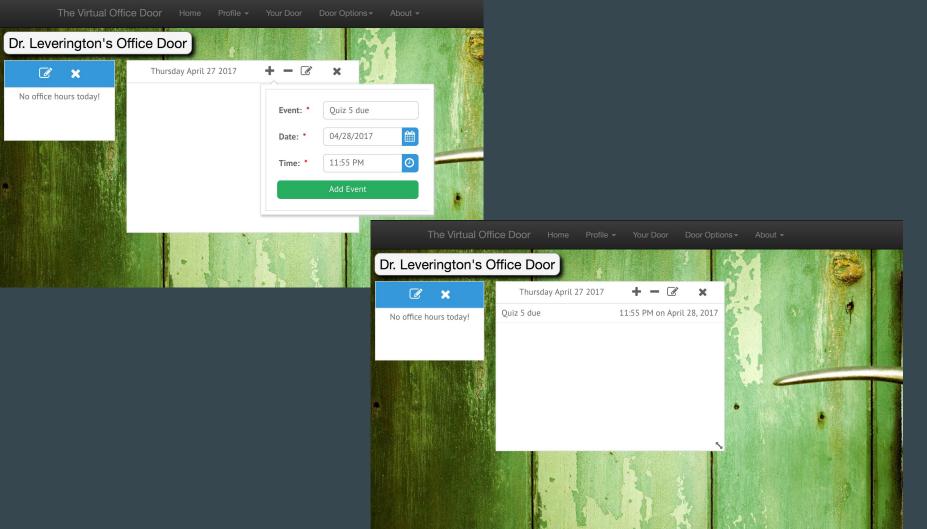


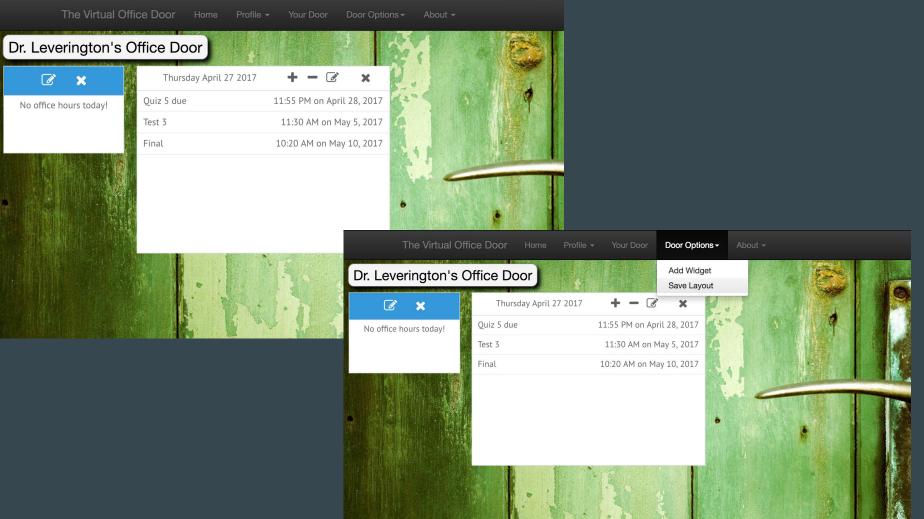


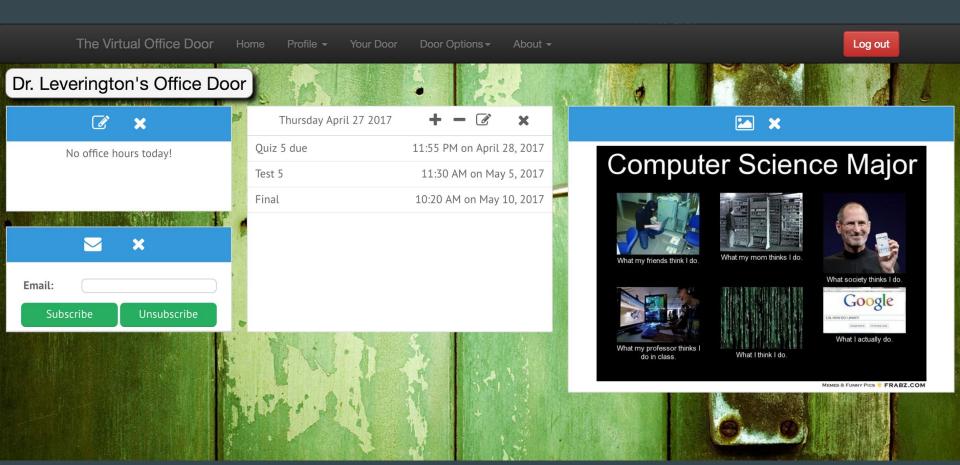


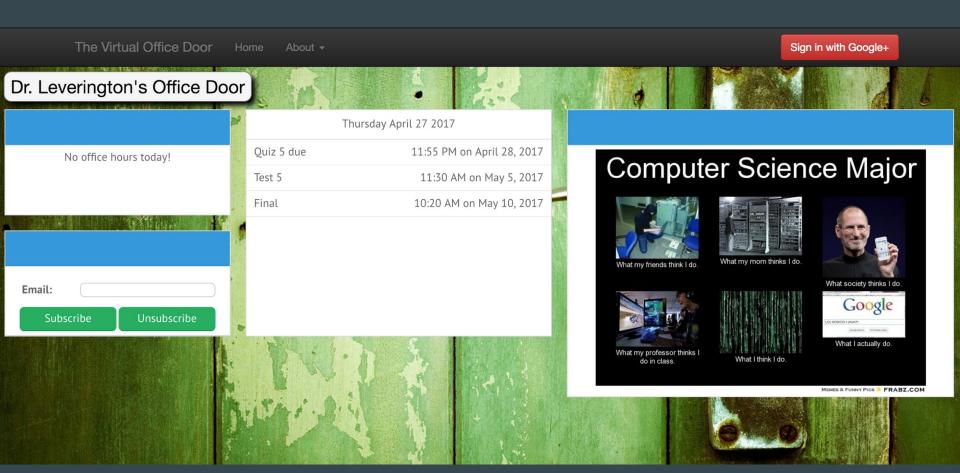












### Implementation Overview

- Django Web Framework
  - o Python 3.5
- Django REST framework
  - Allows communication through API calls regardless of the caller's state
  - Serializes and passes database information back and forth via GET and POST requests
- Javascript
  - jQuery
  - Webix
  - Gridstack
- Amazon Web Services
  - Free deployment options
- Google+ Login API
  - Secure 3rd-party account system

## **Presentation Layer**



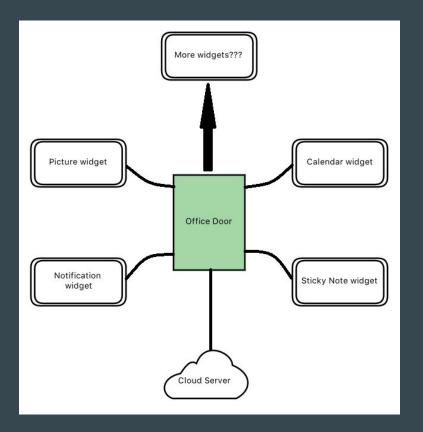
### Frontpage/Google Login API:

- Easy to use Login system that integrates with current google accounts
  - NAU and many companies already use a google account for work or school reasons
- Clean design with the user being able to edit profile information on account creation
  - User might want displayed information to be different than their google account information
- Integration with database for profile storage and account security

## **Presentation Layer (cont.)**

#### Virtual Office Door:

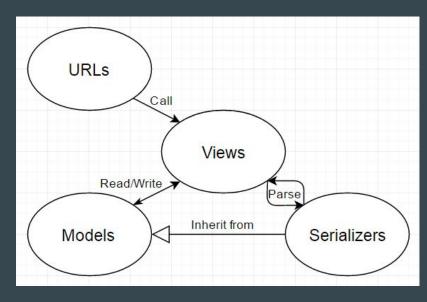
- 4 main sub-interfaces, the widgets.
  - Each widget interfaces with the other layers of the architecture in some way.
- This is the component that the user will interact with the most.



## **Application Layer**

### Four main components of our Django application:

- URLs
  - Specify which URLs call which views
  - Allow views to be called with parameters through
     URL patterns
- Views
  - Python functions that manage how requests are handled
- Serializers
  - Specify JSON format of a Model to serialize
- Models



## Data Storage Layer

- Models
  - Serve as a template for the Database
  - Each Model class correlates to a table in a database
  - Each class variable correlates to a column in a table
- Sqlite3
  - Storing user information
  - Storing widget information
- Amazon Web Services
  - Deployment platform
  - Proof of hosting portability

# Implementation Challenges

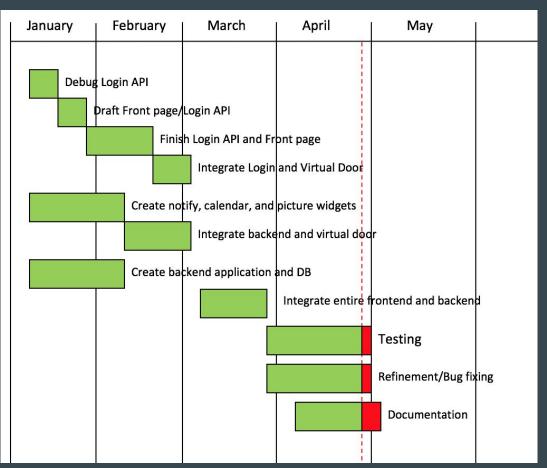
Challenge	Resolution
Email notification services cost money	Route through a centralized Gmail account
Different widgets made door layout modification not as straightforward as anticipated.	Utilized label Models for multi-record widgets.
Duplicate widget support would require reworking current design	Design idea saved for future updates (post capstone).

### Fall Schedule

### Completed Milestones:

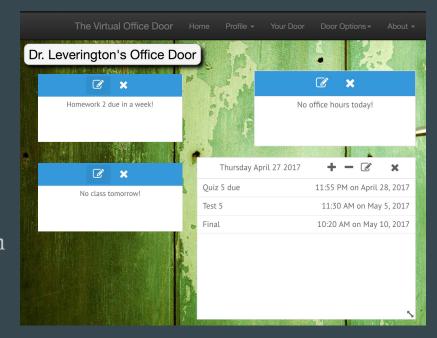
- Requirements Acquisition
- Feasibility Analysis
- Client ApprovedRequirements Document
- Pre-development Prototype

## Spring Schedule



### **Future Work!**

- Duplicate widget support
- Customizable email notifications
- Native (Android & iOS) mobile application
- Physical office door display
- Implement a door search feature
- Multiple door support



### Conclusion

- Our Goal: To deliver a web application that allows for virtual office door communications between teachers and students, that could be expanded for use across different disciplines.
- Project Status
  - Requirements document satisfied
  - Working prototype
  - Resolving bugs



# Questions?