Case Study #1:

Course Management System

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**Abstract**

This group was constructed with the expertise, skill set, personality, and individuality in mind to figure out the best solution to a problem. The group will have multiple solutions and have a lot of discussion regarding which approach is best as well as figuring out information about each other. The disciplines are important in this approach because it allows for a multitude of direction and provides viewpoints that may otherwise have been overlooked. Creation of a new point of views is important in society and from a group project that has real stakes will have greater impact on some of the individuals within the group. This information will lead to better discoveries of themselves which they can take on throughout life as the progress in their careers and in general. Also, the solution to this problem can be looked back at in study when others have to figure out a problem and the best way to approach it.

Blasé University decided they wanted to capitalize on their current success in the international online college market as well as provide quality systems so in order to efficiently do this they created a group from various disciplines. The group was put together with the purpose of using an interdisciplinary approach to figure out a solution because the input given from each person and their respective disciplines could offer multiple routes for a solution. The disciplines and personalities would create an atmosphere that generates different answers which can be used together for one final solution.

A large factor for most group members taking on this case was for career building experience and potential to “climb the ladder” within their profession. As for the rest of the group some were in it for the creative process, while others have been in their position for a while and are looking to finish out their careers soon so this would be another project added to their list of accomplishments. This is an important point for figuring out why problems are in relation to each of the group members because it compounds on top of other motivations. This case would be considered high profile because it features a prominent international online college in the midst of system overhaul; Jenny fits in perfectly for a project like this as team lead because of her past accolades and skill set in ensuring a group is heading in the right direction by means of delegation or any other methods she sees fit. Addie enjoys tackling high profile projects as well but is more hands on versus someone like Jenny who is normally in a leadership position. Bill, Kelly, and Mindy have the same disciplines which they can apply their skills and logically figure out the best solutions by putting their skills on display for everyone. Sid sees a project like this could be reminded of his previous career in aerospace and could understand that now as a teacher the mix of two career paths may help him find clarity in project solutions as well as his life. Charlotte enjoys research and this is more of the same with greater stakes because there are other factors such as dealing with a potentially different subject, group, and important outcome to finding an answer. Juan is all about business and this is a business so a problem like this will intrigue him for figuring out the numbers and how they will work with a new system. Jean-Pierre may have the most interest in this project because of how he teaches, such as him using tools and if they are creating a new system or modifying the current one that affects his teaching methods.

The choices for each group member focus on their exceptional skill set and some with lengthy experience which is normally a how a project group is created especially in an interdisciplinary approach where bridge building and other aspects will be important. Jenny is someone who I think fits the description of a group leader well, she has done it multiple times and has done it for a while. Although she possesses some characteristics that others may seem to dislike, if it works then that is why she was chosen for group lead. Determined people seem to have an energy about them that leads to success and that is what kind of person Addie is, someone who enjoys handling a large problem making her a great group member that could act as a pseudo group leader if needed to. Logical solutions to problems involve people who think that way which is why Bill, Kelly, and Mindy were brought into the team because they will be critical to the project when figuring out system rebuilding, improving, or anything else in terms of any technical aspects. Their ambition to design something also is helpful when seeing visuals representation of potential solutions. Sid can contribute to these design decisions because of his discipline while having a different approach because engineering can be quite different in certain ways than IT or CS which leads to technical aspects being presented to the rest of the group in multiple perspectives. Charlotte seems to be an addition to the group because of her research goals which means something like this will allow for thorough investigate into the problem. Juan is probably the most analytical person within the group considering his discipline because in finance or accounting it comes with budgeting in mind as well as other financial factors that others in the group such as IT centric minds may not consider. Jean-Pierre has the mindset of pushing the limits and changing the ways lessons are taught, and they added him to the group in order to keep the rest of the group in check essentially. He is a voice that can echo sentiments of other professors that may not belong to any category within the group and questions modifications or new system implementations in order to push the group to find a better resolution. The group was put together by people whose personalities would also clash with one another leading to better arguments for why or why not something should be done when assessing the systems.

Discipline table below:

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| Discipline | Classification | Historical Background | World View or  Perspective |
| Psychology | Social Science | Sigmund Freud a common and important name heard throughout psychology because he discovered many important mental health related issues through psychoanalysis methodology. | A lot of concern with the cause of something or effects of somethings on other things. |
| Music Education | The New Humanities | Pilgrims and Puritans began a journey in a new world and brought with them songs that would soon expand throughout history. | Expression of human experience through artifacts. |
| Education | Professions | From beginning in Europe through public educational learning until now, education gradually grew and the importance of it gained traction through time. | Large focus on learning and how its is taught through a direct path. Includes models of progress, civilization, democracy, rationality, and science. |
| Information Technology and  Computer Science | Natural Sciences | 1975 Bill Gates and Paul Allen create Microsoft. 1976 Steve Jobs created Apple Computers. Although this information is not the beginning of computers it is a monumental point in time that will lead to future advancements that lead us to where we are today. | Logic is the key component to figuring out problems via computers and technology in general. |
| Finance and  Accounting | Social Science | There has been trading of goods services from pre- B.C, and record keeping was a job assigned to people to keep track of what is owed and paid. | Goods and services with how they interact in society through means like distribution and production. |

The group members associated with IT being Billy, Kelly, and Mindy could have the most impact on the development or modification of a system. So, for this reason they must be checked by those such as Jean-Pierre or Juan because they may only see a logical path to the answer for the problem. Juan will bring up budgeting issues and how much the IT members are going to need to spend designing a system improvement, which will provide reasoning to proceed or change and rethink a different approach to the design. Jean-Pierre currently uses tools to innovate through his teaching methods but if the IT members decide that the best approach is “A” which includes a logical breakdown of what needs to be changed, this may not be good for Jean-Pierre.

Addie will have bias to best benefits for educational purpose which may not be included if the logical solutions provided do not match up well because the solutions are a better method according to design principles from Sid or IT members Billy, Kelly, and Mindy. They will disagree with Addie because her suggestions may include thought processes that do not make since in a normal workday for IT members such as workarounds or substitutions instead of the whole package. Juan could take Addie’s proposal and bring up a various unnecessary cost for extra benefit of the student for example versus spending less but still keeping the students’ resource availability in mind.

Jenny must take every point of view and suggestion with multiple approaches because she must see where each member is coming from and why they are finding the solutions in different ways. Charlotte will help with this process because she can help assess the psychology of reasoning behind each idea as well providing her own research that Jenny will have to take in consideration. Jenny ultimately will have to dissect each idea, figure out what is best, and then redistribute it the group for further processing on the best solutions.

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