HW2: Heuristic Evaluation – Timmy Galvin

1. Severity: Minor

Category: Aesthetic and minimalist design/Match between system and the real world Description: The button icons for the different actions and events aren't the clearest representations and don't provide additional support to the user. It's bad that you need written text (maybe change to tooltip?) and an icon to get the functions across to the user.



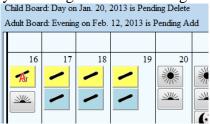
Screenshot: Remove Shift

2. Severity: Major

Category: Visibility of system status

Description: When you make a change to the calendar, the text above the calendar that

summarizes your changes does not change.



Screenshot:

3. Severity: Catastrophic

Category: Consistency and standards

Description: The elements on the calendar are buttons, but clicking them does nothing. Are they supposed to do something or should they not be buttons? This easily confused me for at least 5 minutes.



Screenshot:

4. Severity: Good

Category: Error Prevention

Description: It is good that you have an eraser button that allows users to undo a calendar change that they may have accidently made without going through extended dialogs or clicking.



Screenshot: Shift

5. Severity: Good

Category: Visibility of system status

Description: The mouse cursor changes to the icon of the discipline that you select. This allows the user to know what mode they are in.

Screenshot: (Sorry, for some reason it wouldn't take a screenshot of my modified cursor)

6. Severity: Minor

Category: Consistency and standards

Description: Even when the mouse leaves the calendar after an event selection has been made, the mouse icon is still modified and may cause the user confusion.

Screenshot: (Sorry, for some reason it wouldn't take a screenshot of my modified cursor)

7. Severity: Minor

Category: Visibility

Description: Some icons have blue text on a black image/text with a yellow background, which is very difficult to read because of the contrast.



Screenshot:

8. Severity: Minor

Category: Flexibility and efficiency of use

Description: The home page has no content and requires the user to do additional clicking to get to the content, the calendar. You may want to consider having the calendar page be the homepage.

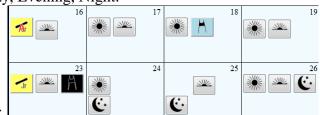


Screenshot: Welcome sseaborn

9. Severity: Minor

Category: Recognition rather than recall

Description: It is unclear to a novice user what the colored buttons represent. After some playing around it becomes clear that they represent the time of day, but there is no key for this like Day, Evening, Night.



Screenshot:

10. Severity: Minor

Category: Consistency and standards

Description: Clicking the submit button takes the user to the homepage. Wouldn't it

make more sense to reload the calendar page with the inputs 'saved'?

Screenshot: N/A

11. Severity: Minor

Category: Help users recognize, diagnose, and recover from errors

Description: When the user enters an invalid username and a random password and click login, he/she is told that the password is invalid. If the username/password combination doesn't match, it should alert the user that the error could be in the username box.

Screenshot: Invalid Password
Username asdfasfasfd Password Invalid Passwor

12. Severity: Minor

Category: Consistency and standards

Description: On an admin's calendar, the display of the different time possibilities is different than on the calendars for the instructors. This is confusing, is it supposed to represent something?



Screenshot:

13. Severity: Minor

Category: User control and freedom

Description: On the admin calendar page, once the user selects either accept or reject, there is no way to unselect both options. This prevents the user from submitting and saving the form without saving some choice even if they wanted to undo it. Also, users would expect accept and reject to be essentially instantaneous actions.

		Accept	Reject
	Adult Board: Day on Feb. 20, 2013 is Pending Delete	•	0
	Child Board: Evening on Feb. 9, 2013 is Pending Add		
Screenshot:	Adult Ski: Day on Dec. 18, 2012 is Pending Add		0

14. Severity: Good(ish)

Category: Visibility of system status

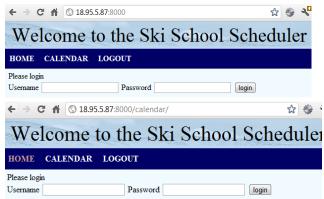
Description: It provides the user feedback when he/she has logged in successfully and lets him/her know which account they are logged into. When the user logs out, it prompts the user to log in again, but some users may be looking for a successfully logged out message.



15. Severity: Minor

Category: Visibility of system status/Help users recognize, diagnose, and recover from errors

Description: When a user who is not logged in tries to access the calendar page, they are provided the same prompt to log in as the homepage. There is no feedback (besides the URL) that the calendar page attempted to load but was inaccessible because the user was not logged in.



Screenshot:

16. Severity: Minor

Category: Match between system and real world

Description: While the calendar months are labeled with months, there is no indication of year on the calendars. This is not consistent with most paper or online calendars.



Screenshot:

17. Severity: Major

Category: Error prevention/user control and freedom

Description: While there is an eraser tool to undo shift additions, if you accidently delete a shift, there is no easy way to recover it. Also, on the admin calendar, I initially tried to use the eraser to erase a misplaced excused which ended up deleted the shift without a recovery method.

Screenshot: N/A; Need a method to redo undos