Scarabee

The NextGen Study Course Portal

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Data in study trajectory - Student Research

- Interviewees:

Bart	University	Age: 27
Jort	University of Applied Sciences	Age: 25
Linus	University of Applied Sciences	Age: 30
+ My own experience University		Age: 27

- In general the interviewees found data in the education system to be largely intransparant in the way it is used. In terms of examples, all of us directly thought of the assignments, i.e. papers and documents, handed in that are saved for future plagiarism checks. Next to that saved data included, personal information, the grades achieved, and courses finished. Mainly to check if a person did obtain a degree. So in general the refered to insights all carry a direct usecase of functionality.

- Bart mentioned how these usecases do not carry the idea of optimalisation. This is in line with the experience of the other interviewees, how they could not recount a moment where data optimized an aspect of their direct study experience. Jort states how indirectly, with for example schedule making algorithms the impact was there, yet it was not visible. In the case of Linus he was a bit more negative in his opinion. He sees the developments in the market have a quicker pace than that of public organizations. There is in his eyes so much more posibility to optimize en personalize a study experience. He would be sure that it would have benefited him in his study trajectory if implemented smartly.

Optimizing quality - Student Research

- Optimizing the quality and availability of education is in the eyes of all the interviewees a potentially valuable development. In their study trajectories they would have seen a value in being more linked with their co-students, the teachers and have more insights in their course and study material.

- In terms of opinions, Bart states how the use of data in the current digital development is a tool. It should never be seen as an endgoal. And ethically, one should never forget about the opinions and human input that are interwoven with design affordances. It is therefore in his eyes neither solely a positive or negative development to use data in a form of optimizing. The human factor should however be held in view.

- Jort en Linus state that over the past period of mostly digital education they missed the personal and real life experience of human contact. It is in their eyes important that the future of education is not solely digital. The human interaction is the basic value in education, digital optimalization should be used to improve the human experience, and not turn us into numbers for which efficiancy is the only need.

- Together they agreed the human centred aproach is the only way data can enrich a study experience.

Student Research

- My opinion: The use of student data should never result in an aproach were the computer decides what is the best situation or best option for a student. Data creates the availability for an enriched scope, of otherwise potentially unseen insights. It does not however reveal an uncovered absolute truth. As a tool, we can use it in the study course of students and lecturers to help them make decisions, but it should never make the decisions. It should be transparant, and enriching. Aspects the interviewees didn't directly experiences up untill now.

Leading to the problem statement of Scarabee.

Problem Statement

- Difficult to navigate through available course portal
  – Requirement of course number
  – Search engine ineffective

- Challenging to decide which course to choose that fits with your learning style, study program, personal conditions and future career ambitions

- Limited course information and overview of complete landscape of course options

- Volume of amount of studies, minors & courses exponentially growing with novel emergent research fields, making it challenging to profile courses outside of a faculty

- Collaboration between research institutes are not leveraged to full potential for study program options for students across The Netherlands

What is Scarabee?

- Scarabee is the next generation student course portal

- It allows:
  - Easy course catalog navigation
  - Personalized suggestions
  - Study program planning
  - Transparency of relevant course characteristics

- Scarabee leverages available student data sources, and creates a course portal that is the direct interface to define your study trajectory as optimized as possible.

Evolving from a static portal to a personalized student course portal

What is Scarabee?

- Recommendations based on:
  - My Grades
  - My course evaluation
  - Learning Style
  - Study program
  - Course deliverables
  - What's new?

- Available filters:
  - Block
  - Timeslot
  - Field
  - Faculty
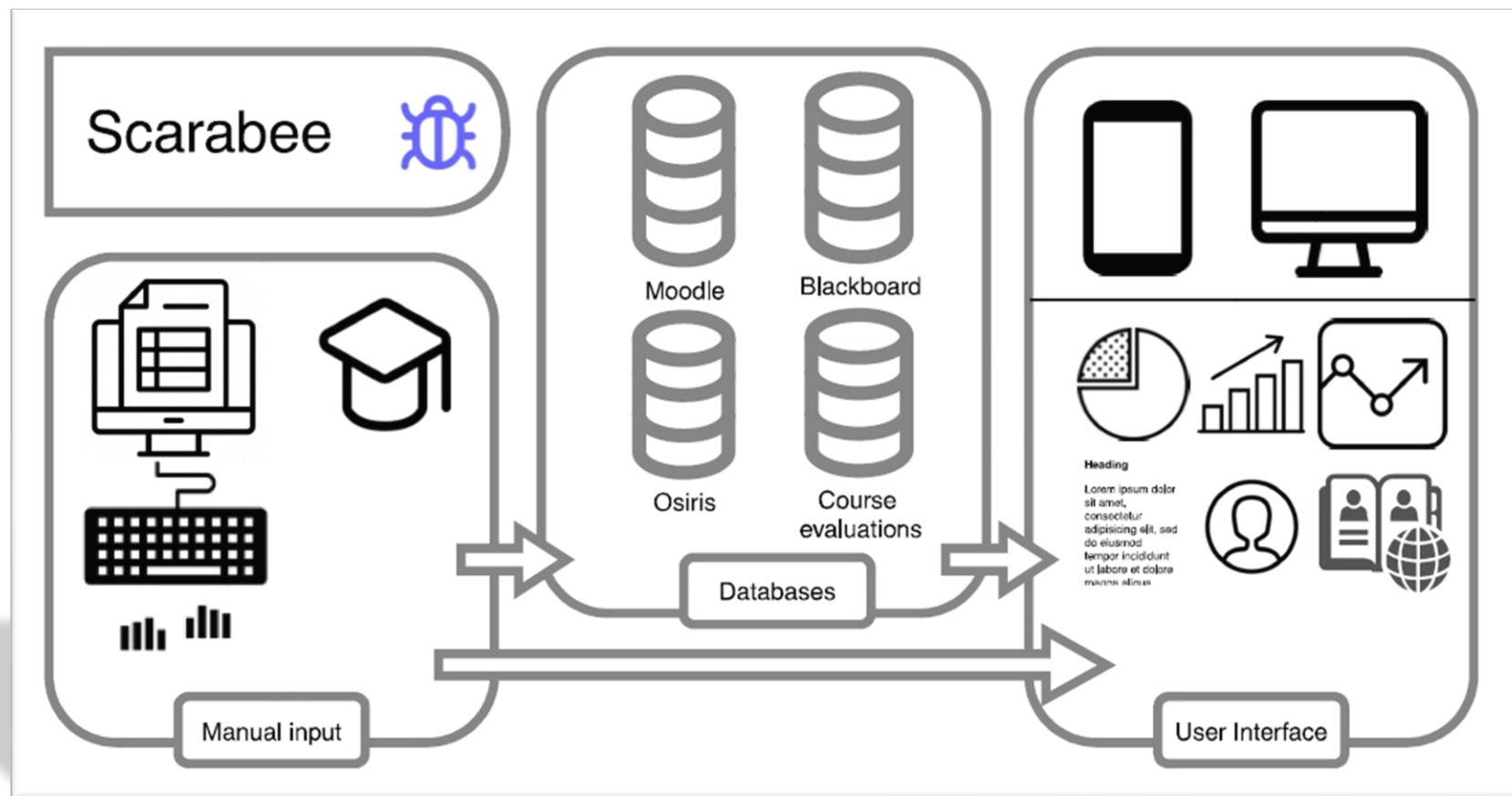 - Level
  - Lecturer
  - Language

Students interests and affinities
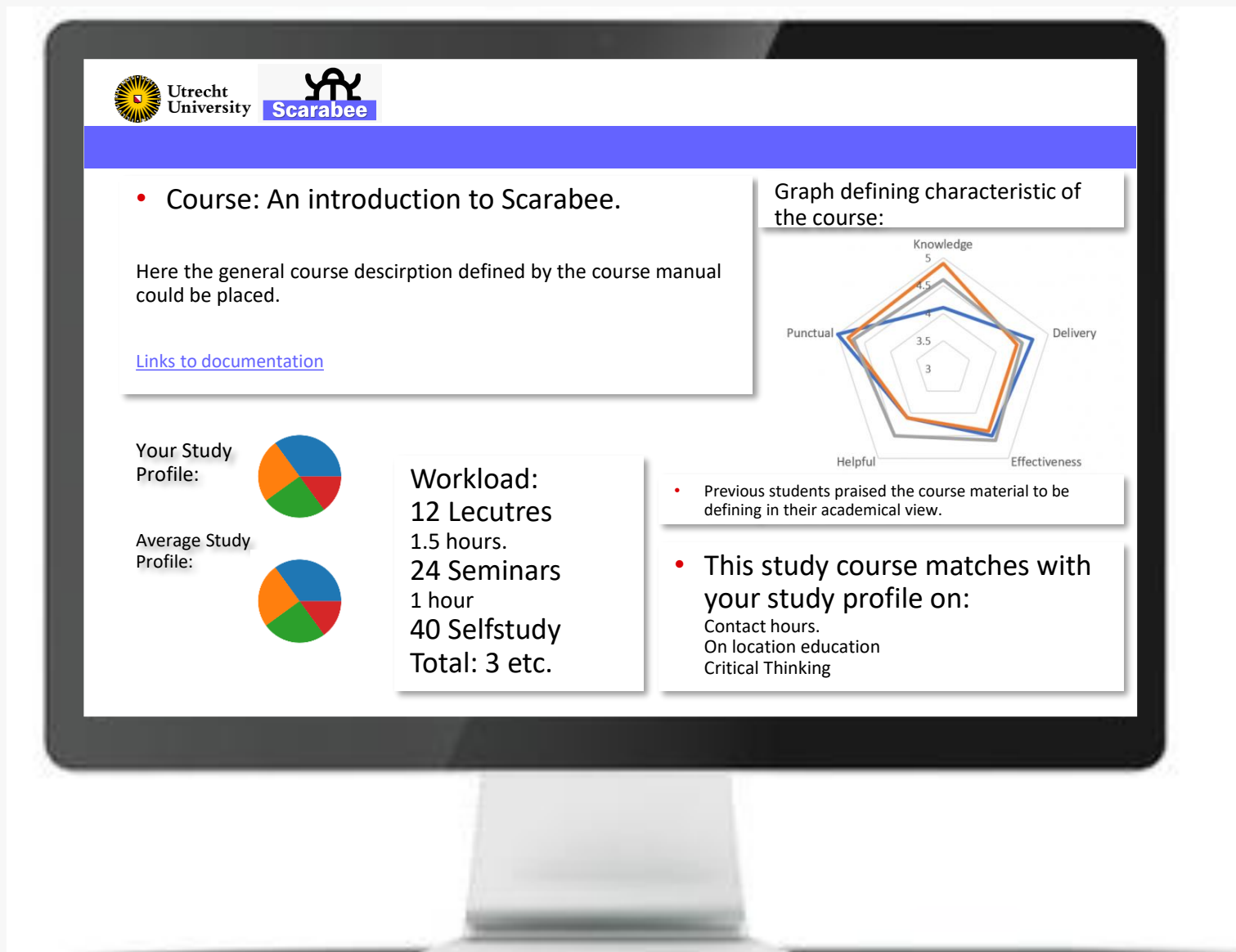General course charactistics
      Contact hours
      Digital vs real life
      Language spoken

The Scarabee Portal Wire Frame

Why Scarabee

Scarabee combines practical information about the needs of students, with their wants in their academic trajectory.

It gathers the offering of universities in a dynamic and vibrant space where navigating your trajectory of study is entertaining.

It enforces cross faculty and inter university exchanges.

It does not only optimize, Scarabee places the students trajectory in the center and offers direct interaction. The student does not feel like signing up for courses is an impractical task, but a service of the university that is directed to make sure you enjoy the best education program for your wishes in life.

Scarabee the future of the Course Portal

Scarabee

Thanks for your time.

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