Classroom Project

Cooperative Education Information Form Appointment and Site Visit Scheduler

Cooperative Education is a course in which students can earn academic credit for an approved job that supports student learning. Three requirements of a coop are as follows:

- The student must complete a Learning Agreement specifying her/his learning objectives for the semester, as well a plan to achieve and document each objective. The student must make at least one appointment with her faculty advisor to discuss a draft of her learning agreement.
- The student must schedule one or more visits of the faculty advisor to the worksite during the semester.
- The student must complete an Information Form with contact information and directions to the worksite.

These requirements are currently handled with a paper Information Form and scheduling of appointments and site visits via telephone and e-mail. In particular, for site visits, the coop advisor sends e-mail to all students specifying a list of “time slots” during which the student can schedule a visit. Each student selects a time slot and sends e-mail to the advisor requesting a visit during that slot. The advisor schedules appointments on a first-come/first-served basis, and keeps students informed of the remaining available time slots via e-mail.

The goal of this project is to automate these processes. In particular, the student should be able to complete the Information Form, schedule appointments, and arrange site visits on-line. For appointments, the faculty member should be able to specify blocks of times during which he is available for appointments, and the student should be able to schedule an appointment time within a time block. For site visits, he should be able to specify a list of time slots. Each student should be able to schedule a site visit during an available time slot. Of course, the system should insure that only one student schedules an appointment or a visit at any time. For site visits, the system should also insure that there is sufficient travel time between any two visits on the same day.