Mobile Application Architecture Initiative

Background
Mobile technology is transforming the way people work, deliver healthcare, and perform research. In light of the increasing demand for mobile applications, OIT has prioritized a project for FY2013 to document Emory mobile application architectures in detail for discussion and refinement just as its done for web application development, integration, and service-oriented architectures.

Goals
1. Design and develop a number of mobile applications
2. Write a mobile application reference guide similar in scope and detail to guides prepared for EAI/SOA and web application frameworks
3. Review, expand and amend the reference guide with review and input from units that develop, support, and implement mobile applications
4. Implement the recommendations of the reference guide in the architecture review checklists and technical design review processes as appropriate

Method
Over the past two years we have designed, developed, and/or deployed and integrated the following mobile applications:

- BioCatalogue Mobile
- EdUnify Mobile
- Emory Mobile
- PKU Mobile*
- WebEase Mobile
- Mass Transfusion Protocol (MTP) Mobile*
- WebEase Mobile for Kids*

Based on this experience and building on our integration, service-oriented architecture, and web application frameworks we will write a mobile application reference guide that provides both a high-level overview and low-level detail (microarchitectures) for developing mobile applications at Emory. The guide will serve as both an instructional guide and architecture compliance reference. It will be implemented as a wiki so everyone working on mobile applications can provide feedback and contribute future enhancements and modifications to the text. The purpose of this guide is to facilitate communication in details. The engineering of contemporary software requires written documentation and schematics to facilitate intelligent design discussion. We will review, expand, and amend the document based on the review of other units developing and deploying mobile applications, train technical leads in these architectures, and implement the recommendations of the reference guide in our architecture review processes.

Current Status
The appended presentation covers the current status, method, and recommendations to date.

MobileApplicationArchitectures.pptx

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