1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

- Identify the product to be produced by its name.
  - ResearchLink

- Describe the purpose of the Product
  - Streamline the dissemination of research opportunities available to undergraduate
  - Provide a system to showcase student/departmental successes
  - Help increase recruitment new students and encourage the transition of graduate students

- Specify how it will be used and/or who the intended user community is
  - Used as:
    - a research opportunity portal
    - portal to advertise student/departmental success (internally and to the public)
  - Intended user community: Computer Science Department at Old Dominion University

- Explain at a very high level what the product will do and what it won’t do
  - Will do:
    - Provides interface for searching available research opportunities.
    - Send notifications about new and ending research opportunities.
    - Archive expired research opportunities
    - Allow students to post stories about past research experiences
    - Allow student/faculty profile searches
    - Allow research opportunity search in the desired discipline
    - Allow to search a student with GPA
  - Won’t do:
    - Automatically create research opportunities.
    - Delete users after a certain time
    - Automatically create profiles for every student/faculty member
    - Allow users to apply to opportunity within Research Link
1.2 Scope

- Summary
  - Live stream, up-to-date research news components for both public (on product launch page) and university community
  - Convenient
  - Intuitive
  - Consolidation
  - Link research companies to grad students
  - Promote research/co-op positions.

- Goals
  - Up-to-date information
  - Highlight department and student successes
  - Intuitive organization or process
  - Promotion of communication
  - Enhance opportunity exposure

- Objectives
  - Increase research program affinity
  - Attract more Undergraduate & Graduate students to ODU
  - Increase ODU Undergraduate transition to Graduate program

1.3 Definitions, Acronyms, and Abbreviations

- Banner - Old Dominion University’s Administration System that provides controlled access to financial, student and personnel data. This system is only available to Faculty and Staff.
- Laravel Framework - A powerful MVC PHP framework, designed for developers who need a simple and elegant toolkit to create full-featured web applications.
- PHP - Server scripting language for making dynamic and interactive Web pages.
- HTML - HyperText Markup Language is the standard language for creating web pages and applications.
- CSS - Cascading Style Sheets is a style sheet language used for describing the presentation of a document written in a markup language.
- MySQL - Open-source relational database management system.
- Apache2 Server - Web server software.

1.4 References

- CS 410 documents (as applicable)
- Lab 1
1.5 Overview

- This product specification provides the hardware and software configuration, external interfaces, capabilities and features of ResearchLink. The information provided in the remaining sections of this document includes a detailed description of the hardware, software, and external interface architecture of the ResearchLink prototype; the key features of the prototype; the parameters that will be used to control, manage, or establish that feature; and the performance characteristics of that feature in terms of outputs, displays, and user interaction.