



Southern
New Hampshire
University

Blockchain-Based Digital Credentials

28 FEBRUARY 2018

Agenda

- Initial Conception for Blockchain Credentials
- Project Plan and Timeline
- Tactical Steps to Deliver
- Next Steps

Overview



Our Use Case

A compelling application of blockchain to higher education is the issuing and verification of digital credentials.

This pilot experiment seeks to explore what it takes to operationalize the distribution of blockchain-verified digital credentials, to test selected software, and to gather data on graduate behavior in claiming and sharing digital credentials.

Scope

- Using a 'push' model to issue blockchain credentials to a pilot population of SNHU graduates, which requires
 - Configuration of Learning Machine issuing environments
 - Visual design of a digital credential
 - Supporting metadata, with as much transcript-level data as possible
 - Issuance of at least one high-stakes, blockchain-verified digital credential to graduates
- Identification of recommendations & requirements for a full-scale implementation
- Collection of pilot data, including student adoption rate, sharing behavior, and satisfaction

Out-of-Scope

- Any custom software development or ITS integrations
- Student self-reporting/claiming of badges ('pull' model)
- Creation of an official transcript
- Use of additional vendors and other technology such as extended transcripts

Responsible Teams at SNHU

Workforce Partnerships Learning Solutions

Registrar

Institutional Advancement/Alumni

Marketing

Legal/Compliance

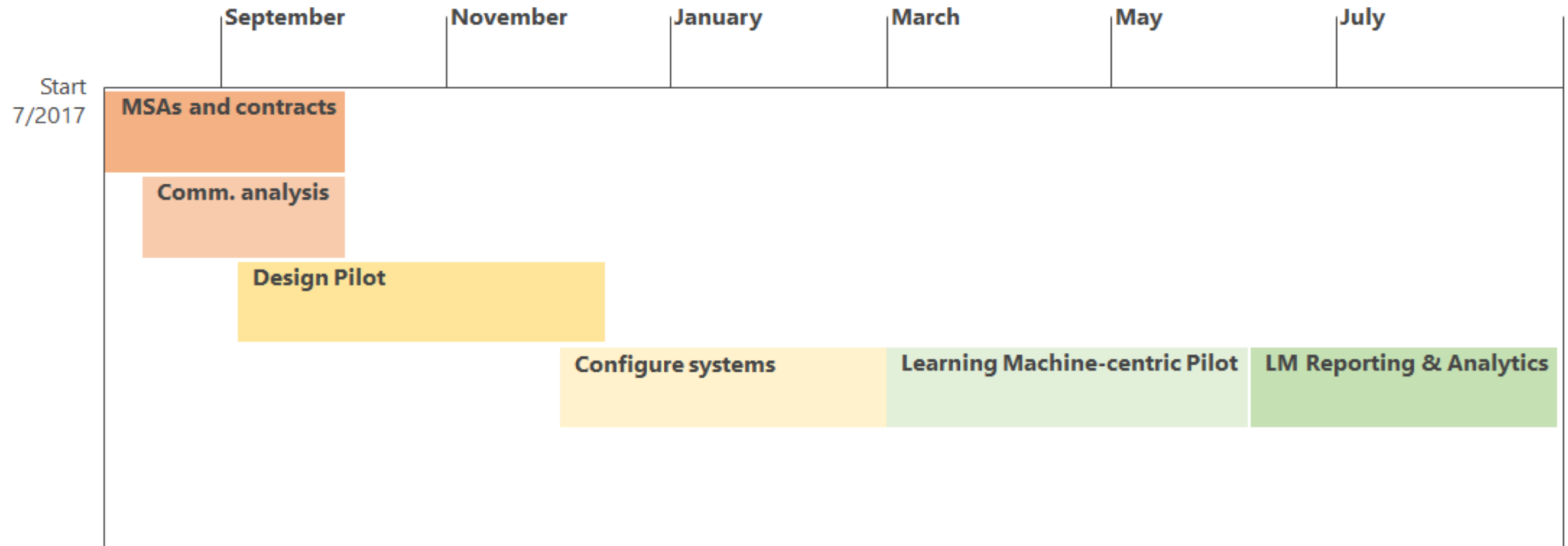
Communications/PR

Information Technology Systems

Getting Started

Determining Our “Partner”
Contract
Configuration

Project Timeline Overview



Our Project Configuration Milestones

Key Milestones*			
Milestone	Planned End	Actual End	Status
Learning Machine configured (<i>sub-domain</i>)	16-Feb-2018		Tracking
1st issuing event: <u>CfA BA (3) & AA GST (1)</u>	March 2018		Tracking
Target audience approved	Nov 2017	13-Nov-2017	Completed
Communication plan created	30-Nov 2017	15-Dec-2017	Completed
Alumni file extracted	05-Dec-2017	19-Dec-2017	Completed
Metadata file extracted, scrubbed, & QA'd	19-Jan-2018	24-Jan-2018	Completed
Emails-to-students approved	31-Dec 2017	27-Dec-2017	Completed
Emails & FAQs approved for use	16-Feb-2018		Tracking
Virtual Diplomas approved for use	16-Feb-2018		Tracking
Metadata presentation approved for use	16-Feb-2018		Tracking
Final testing within Learning Machine	19-Feb-2018		Not started
Issue credentials	March 2018		Not started

Data Preparations

Decisions

Unofficial
Transcript

Include Courses
and Competencies
Mastered in the
College for America
Program

Collection

✂ Navigate Data
Sources

Use current data
sources and
transpose to meet
platform
requirements

“This will take over
100 hours to pull”

Testing

Solve Problems

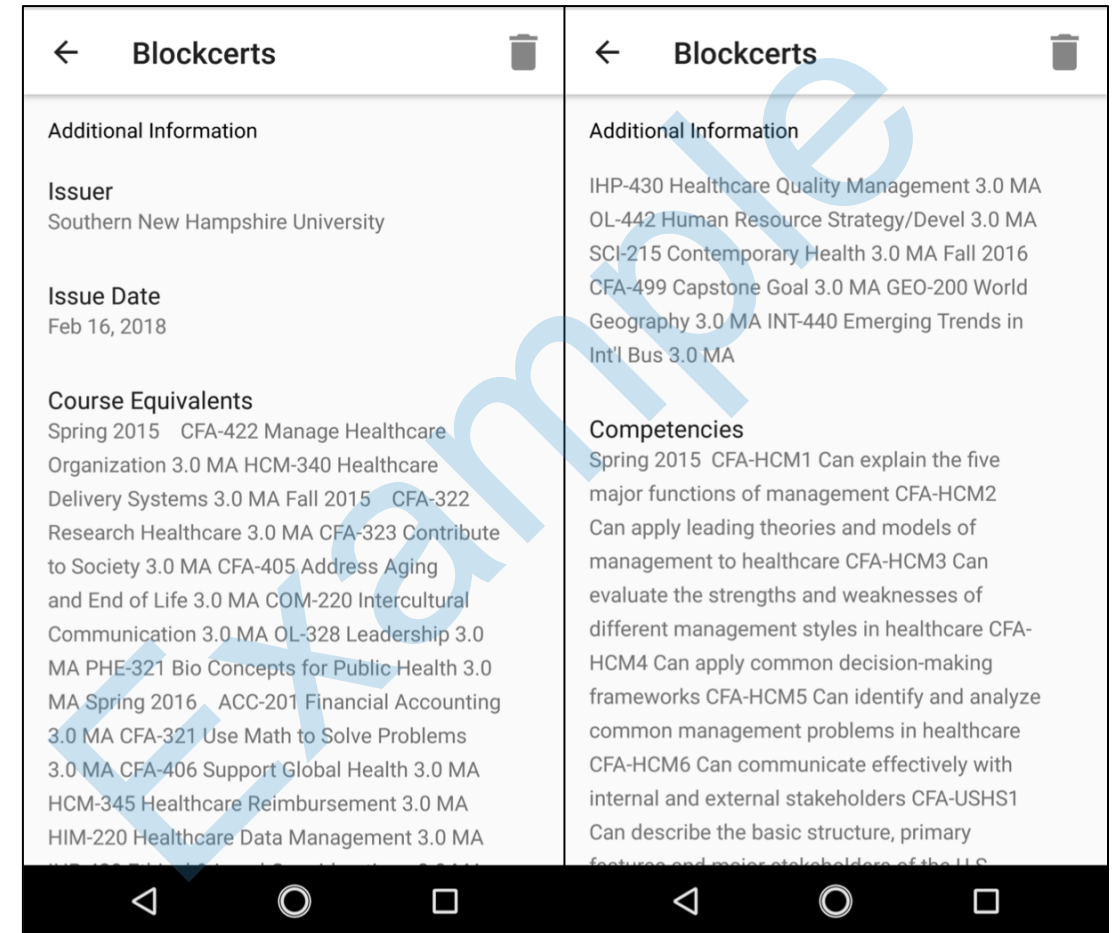
Identify atypical
student records and
create systematic
solutions

Digital Credentials in the Mobile App

Credential



Metadata



Lessons Learned

Importance of communications plan

Late stage stakeholders - find the right people early

Accessibility (University Policy Requires ADA/508 Compliance for all vendors)

Privacy Policy

Large Scale Rollout will require Significant ITS Time and Resource Investment in Systems Integration

Lessons We Enthusiastically Await

What will people do with these?

Is there demand?

What will the data tell us?

How to use this to support additional projects?

- Blockchain verified badges
- Microcredentials

What's Next

Targeting Mid-March Issuance

~1000 Graduates

Success through metrics

Claiming, Sharing, Satisfaction