Workshop 1: Team of Daniel Gatica-Perez

The "Migros Message Board" (MMB) at the Learning Center

Goal: to facilitate spontaneous tutoring and mentoring in a socially acceptable setting using peripheral displays and mobile devices.

Scenario:

Step 1. User "a" enters the Learning Center with the idea of spending some time there, and with an assignment or topic she/he has questions about. The user asks the Help Desk for a portable device (e.g. a PDA) that is used to post messages on the MMB.

User "a" chooses a place, and a RFID reader on the table/lounge where he/she sits detects the device.

The user write a short message asking for help on a specific topic and posts it to the MMB, which is a series of peripheral displays that are distributed throughout the Center at key places (e.g. with large attendance, like the entrance of the Learning Center, etc).

The MMB is equipped with text processing algorithms that analyze the post and does two things: (1) it returns to the user any active similar posts via the portable device (in case the user wants to get in touch with the corresponding people); and (2) it helps organizing the information displayed on the MMB e.g. organizing all the active posts by topic. The MMB is attactive to look at in itself (e.g. it has a cool lounge feel.)

At the table, an embedded sensor in the table's lamp might display that the person sitting there is in the 'question' mode.

Step 2. User "b" arrives at the Learning Center and sees the MMB, reviews some messages, and decides to provide help to one of them. The MMB displays enough information (message location) so user "b" can quickly locate user "a".

Step 3. User "b" helps user "a" and the embedded sensor on the table turns to 'tutoring' mode. The message is removed from the MMB

Note: If user "a" does not receive help and/or decides to leave the Center, it returns the mobile device and the MMB is updated accordingly.

Technologies

- Text processing
- RFID Reader (p.e PDA ...)
- Peripheral display of Messages (Central/per area)

Concept