

Software Technologies Distinguished Lecture Series 2011
Florida Gulf Coast University
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Error Handling in Multiuser Applications: A Software Engineer's Perspective

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Abstract. Any reasonably complex software, when exposed to the real world, will experience error conditions. How that software responds to error conditions is a significant determinant in the perceived quality and ultimate success of the product. Long-running multiuser processes such as web applications add an additional wrinkle to this already heavily-creased problem by layering stability and security concerns atop the traditional issues.

This talk will discuss identifying and detecting errors in a useful fashion, responding to those errors in a fashion that maximizes usability and maintainability, and various 'gotchas' that may arise during both development and execution. Expect anecdotes, abstruse metaphors, and multiple poor attempts at humor.

Speaker's Bio. Speaker's Bio. Sean Kerwin began work at INgage Networks (then Neighborhood America) during his junior year at FGCU and for the past two years has worked as a Web Software Architect. During his tenure he's been part of multiple high-profile social networking sites including the original launch of HGTV's Rate My Space, the first social networking site to become a basic cable television show, and the 2.0 version of the American Express OPEN Forum site for small businesses. His most recent project was a custom-built nonblocking web server for Comet-based instant messaging.