

# Intro to Computer Programming: week 6

This week's homework:

Synopsis:

- Write a Perl program that creates a web page with input from your fill-in form web page
- Read HTML pages on 'if' statement and how to use CGI.pm's query object to retrieve values of form elements in a program

Details:

1. Write a Perl program that creates a web page using input from your fill-in form
  - a. Create a file in your cgi-bin that will be called by your fill-in form created in test\_CGI.cgi
  - b. Change test\_CGI.cgi to call this program instead of the display\_posted\_data.cgi
  - c. Example:
    - i. New program: process\_form.cgi
    - ii. URL to new program for me:
      - [http://prof.ohsu.net/cgi-bin/process\\_form.cgi](http://prof.ohsu.net/cgi-bin/process_form.cgi)
    - iii. Change to test\_CGI.cgi needed:
      - OLD:

```
print CGI::start_form( -action => 'http://ohsu.net/cgi-bin/display_posted_data.cgi', -method => 'post' );
```

- NEW:

```
print CGI::start_form( -action => 'http://prof.ohsu.net/cgi-bin/process_form.cgi', -method => 'post' );
```

- d. In the new program create a scalar variable for selected value of each form element in your form:
  - i. The text area
  - ii. The pop-up menu
  - iii. The radio button
  - iv. The submit button
- e. Use CGI param function to retrieve the value of each form. This is done base on the name you gave each form element
  - i. Example:
    - If you created the text area in test\_CGI.cgi with:

```
print textfield( -name=>'prof_text_area', -size=>50, -maxlength=>80);
```

- Then the value of the value of the text field can be retrieved in the new program with:

```
$query = CGI->new;  
$my_txt = $query->param( 'prof_text_area'
```

- f. Use the value of the text area to create an html paragraph
  - g. Use the 'if' statement with the selected value of the pop-up menu and the radio-button value to do something different for each possible different value.
    - i. This could be to show a different image, or print a different paragraph.
    - ii. Use your creativity in this area. This is your web page.
2. Read the following sections on PerlIntro (http links)
- a. Perl syntax
    - i. [Conditional and looping constructs](#) –
      - <http://perldoc.perl.org/perlintro.html#Conditional-and-looping-constructs>
    - ii. Just on the section on the 'if' statment
  - b. Perl CGI
    - i. Read on how to create a CGI object that has the values of your fill-in form
      - <http://perldoc.perl.org/CGI.html>
    - ii. Some important sections:

## CREATING A NEW QUERY OBJECT (OBJECT-ORIENTED STYLE):

```
1. $query = CGI->new;
```

This will parse the input (from both POST and GET methods) and store it into a perl5 object called \$query.