Focus: Prototype Peer Review

The purpose of this activity is to give your group a chance to refine their direction coming into Phase Four. Peer review is a common component in almost any design, and it is always beneficial to get an outside look on your work--especially when you’ve been stuck in it for months.

Before Class:
Please be prepared to discuss and pitch your plans for prototyping and a formative evaluation. This does not need to be anything formal, but the success of this activity will ride on your ability to defend and support your ideas in a forum setting.

Assignment:
In your project groups, pair with another group. Elect one person to be the spokesperson and pitch your status with Phase 4 to the other group. The other group should then provide feedback and criticism based on the validity of the other group’s process. Repeat for the other group.

Deliverables:
Each group should draft a list of 3-5 positive comments and 3-5 criticisms for the group they are evaluating. You are not required to turn this paper in (and in fact you shouldn’t given its usefulness). Use these comments as a way to refine and focus your efforts in Phase 4.

Evaluation Guidelines:
The following should serve as some things to think about as the other group is pitching themselves.

► How feasible is their method? Does it feel like they’re leaving anything out? Does it feel like they’re cheating anything?
► How do they address the user throughout their evaluation? Is it idealistic?
► Are they evaluating the right metrics?
► How can they improve the preciseness and relevancy of their method?
► Is there anything deficient in their current prototype instantiations?

Again, these are just some suggestions to guide your critique--feel free to comment on whatever you see appropriate.