

Initialization



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Author

Message

01/13/2011 07:24:11 PM

Subject: Initialization



Pam Strehl

Messages: 11

Location: Granite Bay, CA

Once I've read the department file and created the drop down menu, I go out to get the courses for the selected department using a statement like:

```
selectNode.setAttribute("onchange", "getCourses()");
```

The problem that I run into is that if the user selects the first entry, no courses are displayed. I'm guessing that it's because the onchange event isn't triggered. Should I be capturing a different event? Should I be initializing something to ensure that selecting the first array element is actually triggering an onchange?

I'm at a loss...

Pam Strehl



01/14/2011 08:23:17 AM

Subject: Re: Initialization



Elaine Haight



Messages: 70

Location: Palo Alto, CA

Good job noticing that bug when there is still time to fix it. I would solve it in this way:

Once I've read the department file and created the drop down menu, I explicitly call the function to set the courses menu with:

```
getCourses();
```

Note that your message said: I go out to get the courses for the selected department using a statement like:

```
selectNode.setAttribute("onchange", "getCourses()");
```

But this statement does NOT go out to get the courses; it sets up the `getCourses()` function call to be the callback, so that JavaScript will automatically call that function when the onchange event is triggered.

The trick is to call `getCourses()` explicitly just once, when the page is first loaded, and let JavaScript call it after that when the onchange event is triggered.



01/14/2011 09:54:09 AM

Subject: Re: Initialization



Pam Strehl

Messages: 11

Location: Granite Bay, CA

This solution worked brilliantly; thank you!

Pam Strehl





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