

# 15-440 Recitation 2

## Project 1 & Style

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CMU CS Spring 2010

# Announcements

- Your first project is due February 10th!
- Email staff-440 with questions!
- Get started if you haven't!
- Today: Project 1 Questions, left over time - random stuff

# Project 1

Questions?

# Style

- Commenting
- Modularity
- Design
- Error Checking

# Commenting

- Comment every function that you write, including what arguments it accepts and returns and what it does
- Do **not** comment every line
- Comment on parts of your code that are not obvious

# Modularity

- Don't repeat yourself! If you find yourself writing the same code over and over again, perhaps it should go in a separate function
- An example for Project 1 would be the code you use to send messages
- Or the code that marshals and constructs a message

# Design

- Pick a coding style and stick with it
- Use either tabs or spaces, but not both
- Places your braces on the same line or on the next line but not both
- Free anything you allocate!!
- Memory leaks make your TAs sad

# More design

- Make good decisions about what variables should be private and which ones should be public

- Why make things private?

So that you can change details later without worrying about who cares about them



# Error Checking

- Detect errors at a low level, handle at a high level

- Bad:

```
malloc() {...if (NULL) abort(); }
```

- the appropriate action depends on the program

- Be consistent in return codes and consistent about who handles errors