Developers: James-Ryan Stampley,

Zachary Chambers,

David Pratt Jr

07/14/2018

CST-126

Lisa Hebert

User Guide

A user is first brought to the main homepage of our site where they have the option to select Login, or register as a new user. For registration, the user will enter First name, Last name, a Username of at least 10 characters, a password, which must be confirmed again, their email address, and finally the age of the user. Then a message will display alerting the user they’ve been successfully registered, and a link will be available to take the new user directly to the Login Page.

Once the user reaches the blog login page they must enter the following:

* Username
* Password

If the user enters a username that does not match any information in our database, it will show an error on the login page. If the user enters a username that matches the information in our database inform the user that they have successfully logged in. In the event that the user reaches the login page before registering to the site they will be able to redirect themselves to the registration page. Once the user has successfully logged in they will be taken to the members personalized blog page. There is an administrative page created so a user with ADMIN level access can log in and manage posts as they need to without restriction, except for editing another users post. There is a link for ADMIN in the navigation bar which displays a page for the ADMIN to read/monitor and delete posts if necessary.

Next, on the blog page the user can view important news and explore various features of the site, including posting a blog page and seeing important site updates. When you click on the Create a blog post button in the navigation bar, you are directed to a page when you can enter blog information into the database ‘blog\_post’. Here you will enter a title for you Blog, your name, and the content of your blog in the post body. The date will be automatically filled in. After hitting submit, the information is stored in the database. The user can then view the posts in the main Forum home page

Once a post is showing, a user can click the edit or delete button. When clicking the edit button, the user is taken to a page with form fields for editing the Title, Username and Body of the post. Upon clicking ‘update’, the page refreshes and the user is brought back to the main homepage where they can see their new post. When clicking delete, a post is automatically removed from the page and database. Constraints were added so a user can only delete and edit their own posts.

The navigation page leads to the Main Form Post page (if you are on another page and need to access Forum). You can also click the ‘New Post’ in the navigation to create new blog post. Inside of the navigation bar, there is now a search option. You enter a term that matches the post title and after clicking, the search bar will pull all information from the database that matches the term entered, to the title of the post. Example, if you search for BAR, it will pull all blog post titles that contain the term BAR.

There is an administrative page created so a user with ADMIN level access can log in and manage posts as they need to without restriction, except for editing another users post. There is a new link for ADMIN in the navigation bar which displays a page for the ADMIN to read/monitor and delete posts if necessary.

Most recently added was the functionality to comment on a blog post, and view the comments corresponding to the blog post. You can also add a rating to the post from 1 to 5 that averages out. For example, if you have a first rating of 5, and a second rating of 3, the average displayed rating will be 4.