<u>Scalability</u> How capable is the recommended solution of multiplying in size? Can this be used for multiple universities and a diverse dataset of students? How has the solution taken into account security ramifications? Could this be a product that could be sold to or used by other companies?

<u>Completeness of Solution</u> How did the solution solve the problem statement as a whole? How many features or capabilities have been considered as part of this solution?

<u>Working Prototype</u> Is the team able to give a live demonstration of the tool? Are wireframes used to demonstrate the solution?

**10 Points: Uniqueness of Solution -->** How creative is this solution based on what is on the market today?

**10 Points: Wow Factor -->** How did this team go above and beyond the problem solving expectation? Did they add details that were impressionable and surprising? Did their presentation stand out?

# EduConnect

FIS 2020 Hackathon Project

By: Team Name

# What is EduConnct?

EduConnect is student-orientated professional network. The purpose of EduConnect is for students to connect with recruiter and for recruiters to gain feedback from students.

# MEET THE TEAM!

**Charles Buffington - Backend** *Kettering University* 

**Zeus Polanco - Backend** *Kettering University* 

Twisha Anshu
University of Cincinnati

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#### **OUR SOLUTION**

- The problem statement detailed that the goal of this challenge is to create a tool that will allow FIS to collect valuable information about a student's experiences and interests in order to partner with them through various opportunities such as internships, co-ops, and more.
- We believe our solution, creating a webapp, solved this problem efficiently and effectively. We created a student oriented social network were company representatives and students can share their ideas and experiences. This eliminated distractions and focuses on the matter at hand, student to recruiter interaction.
- Features in this web app include:
  - Student portfolio. Here students can share their experiences at co-ops or internships and ideas for projects; this allowing representatives to gain feedback from students who have participated in their companies.
  - Representative portfolio. Here representatives can share opportunities that students can become engaged in!
  - Feed. The feed is a personalized feed of posts (other student ideas, experiences at companies and opportunities from employer representatives). This allows students to build their network and connect with other students and companies!

#### **FUNCTIONALITY**

#### Flask Framework

With Flask, we are able to write our backend with Python. We chose this because of the availability of open source tools and APIs written for Python that could later implemented into the project.

## **SQLAlchemy**

When choosing our data storage system, we decided that SQLAlchemy would be the best tool for the job for two main reasons:

- 1. The table orientated features allow us to easily fetch and store information
- 2. The easy to use-ish API that is available for Python

## Blueprints

Each blueprint stores functions that are used that drive the app.

#### Auth Blueprint

The auth blueprint stores functions that are used to authenticate users. This means registering new users, login-in, and signing out.

### Social Blueprint

The social blueprint stores functions incharge of the media side of the webapp. This means rendering feeds, portfolio pages, and creating new posts.

#### **SCALABILITY**

#### Can it be used for multiple universities and a diverse dataset of students?

- Our webapp can be easily downloaded and deployed into a public web server allowing almost anyone with access to the internet, access to your webapp
- Currently our webapp is open for college students and company representatives to use. In the future, the web app could potentially be available for highschool students, graduate students and other professionals from all industries.
- Scaling our webapp in terms of audience is very easy. The biggest challenge would be on the technical side (managing requests, increasing database storage, creating new blueprints)

#### **DATA SECURITY**

- Each employer and college associated are binded to a legal contract with our web application, which ensures that the data collected in our server from the clients is to be stored securely. This will ensure that the data isn't exposed and there is no security vulnerability.
- Addition of multi-factor authentication will further keep intact the verified accounts and provide an extra layer of security.

#### **MARKET IMPLEMENTATION**

- Given the current corona pandemic, networking in person has become a challenge. Our web application gives college students the opportunity to connect through our virtual platform.
- Although there are other applications in the current market today, our application makes sure that only legitimate verified students from universities are able the take advantage of our networking features. Being student focused, the listings here are made sure to best match the qualifications of the college students.
- The simple UI also makes navigation smooth and fast that saves a lot of time and efforts of our clients.

# Similar Web Apps

#### LinkedIn

LinkedIn and EduConnect are similar in a way that they are both professional networking WebApps with similar goals. EduConnect is different from LinkedIn because it focuses on bridging the gaps between students and recruiters. Limiting the information that is shared to ideas, experiences, and opportunities.

#### StackOverflow

StackOverflow and EduConnect are similar in a way that they both help share ideas for professional environments, they are also similar because they focus on limiting casual chit-chat for efficient usage. EduConnect, however, is unique because it allows user to interact with each other regardless of their professional status.

# Ready to look at the our WebApp?

We hope you're excited!!

## POSSIBLE IMPROVEMENTS

- Multiple Factor Authentication for a tighter security.
- Expanded UI for a more seamless experience and troubleshooting.
- Partnerships with organizations that can provide a diverse database of opportunities and experiences
- API integration can provide additional data for user location and other information.
- Standout feature that helps engage young people.

# Thank you FIS for this opportunity!

Questions?