

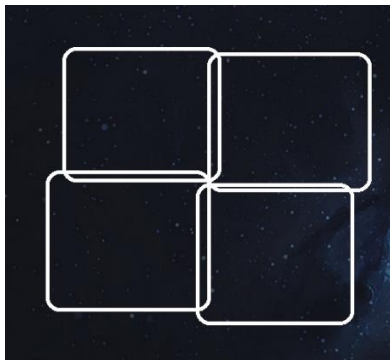
Student Engagement App

Sponsored by: Dawn Edwards
kde2072@kennesaw.edu

Team

Zachery Cox
Kyle McLendon
Farah Obaidullah
Mohini Patel

September 9, 2016



Logo - TBD

Executive Summary

Currently, the way Student Engagement events are presented make it difficult for students and faculty to effectively attend and/or volunteer at the many events presented from the Department of Student Engagement at Kennesaw State University. The purpose of this report is to describe a solution for this problem that will allow those who wish to sign up and attend these events, an effective way to go about doing so. To better organize the myriad of events, something similar to a Google Calendar app specifically tailored to Student Engagement events. All of the events would be seen in a way similar to a physical calendar that you would have on your wall. This calendar would be accessible via an application for mobile devices. Using this application will allow students and faculty to see the current and future events, register for volunteer opportunities like blood drives, and a myriad of other events. Furthermore, this will alleviate some of the stress and workload that a non-centralized solution provides. For example, signing up for the blood drive can become a hassle as people will sometimes call to get information that could easily be posted right where the event is listed. What if that person wasn't that interested in attending the blood drive and since all the information needed wasn't readily available, he or she do not want to waste the time getting the information let alone attend? With our solution, information is presented all in one place; providing answers and information to those interested will retroactively encourage more people to attend. With the inclusion of a calendar for all these events adding new ones to the list and making last minute changes will become much simpler and allow individuals to see these changes in an effective manner. Our evaluation leads to believe that the creation of the Student Engagement App will not only be possible but will also be a viable solution to the problem.

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	2
Statement of the Problem	4
Objectives	4
Technical Approach.....	4
Project Schedule	4
Deliverables.....	5
Communication and Coordination with Sponsor	5
Special Topics	5

Statement of the Problem

With all the different events put forth by the Kennesaw State University Department of Student Engagement, the current method does not effectively display this information in an organized and easy to access fashion. With the current method, this information is more spread out and not located in a centralized location that can be easily accessed by those wishing to volunteer or attend the many events the department provides. We are trying to solve the problem of a non-centralized event listing in order to increase turnout at these events, make it easier for students and faculty to view and sign up for these events, and increase the overall professional appearance.

Objectives

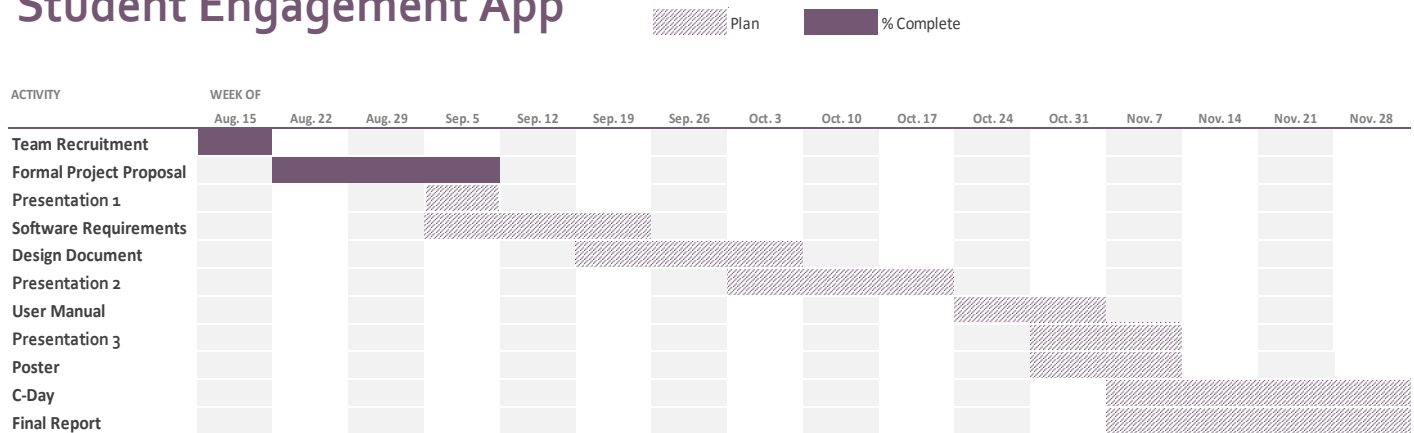
We are creating a mobile application that will aid students and faculty to see current and future events within the Student Engagement Department. We want to provide a way for students to view all the events, to sign up for volunteer opportunities, and to contact the department. We want to make it as convenient as possible.

Technical Approach

We are debating about the idea of using Meteor to create an app utilizing JavaScript as the main language in creating the backend of the application. We will use a Cascading Style Sheet (CSS) to alter the appearance when necessary. After developing the backend, we will use Cordova to convert the JavaScript program to the correct format for both Android and iOS devices. If we to pursue a web interface, we would possibly use Meteor along with HTML and CSS to design a webpage. For links, we will offer a configuration file to update links to correct sites. As for data input, we are planning on using the Rich Site Summary (RSS) feed provided by the Event Management System (EMS) to populate the master calendar.

Project Schedule

Student Engagement App



Deliverables

- Main Functionality
 - Mobile App that contain the following
 - A “Master Calendar” that will display all future and present events that are listed within multiple sub-organization’s calendar’s via RSS feed.
 - Multiple redirect links to special event web pages
 - Blood Drive
 - Volunteering
 - Display contact information for the major organizations within department
 - Personalization of application such as themes, event filter, etc.
- Additional
 - Mobile App
 - Add events to calendar as a personal event.
 - Appointment/event request feature
 - Importing events to/from pre-existing calendar
 - Website
 - Website representation of calendar

Communication and Coordination with Sponsor

At this point in the project we have spoken to our sponsor, Dawn Edwards, face-to-face and via email. Mostly, we have discussed what the mobile app should include; for example, the master calendar is the most important aspect of the app. Ms. Edwards has been extremely helpful, and she responds to our emails promptly; this enables us to work better and faster.

Special Topics

Because UITS will not be maintaining or updating this mobile app, we will just be creating a prototype, and if the department chooses to publish this app, they may do so.