

Project Proposal: Campus Secondhand Marketplace (AI-Powered)

4th September 2025

Problem Statement

While popular secondhand platforms (e.g., Carrot, Bungaejangter) are widely used in Korea, they do not fully meet the needs of university students. Students face issues related to trust, convenience, and finding student-specific items when using open platforms.

1. Trust and Safety
 - Problem: Anyone can sign up on public platforms, leading to risks of scams and unreliable sellers.
 - Solution: Limit sign-ups to verified university email addresses (e.g., @sunykorea.ac.kr) to ensure a safe trading environment within the student community.
2. Convenient Trading Environment
 - Problem: Off-campus meetups are inconvenient and often time-consuming.
 - Solution: Restrict trading to campus and nearby areas, enabling quick and practical meetups that align with the academic calendar (e.g., semester start/end).
3. Student-Specific Items
 - Problem: Existing platforms are not optimized for items students typically need (e.g., textbooks, dorm supplies, lab equipment).
 - Solution: Provide categories tailored to students' needs, such as textbooks, notes, electronics, and dorm essentials.
4. Community Building
 - Problem: General marketplaces do not encourage meaningful connections among students.
 - Solution: Enable peer-to-peer trading that fosters interaction, helping freshmen, exchange students, and seniors connect while exchanging useful items.

Proposed Solution

We propose building an AI-powered secondhand marketplace web application designed specifically for SUNY Korea students.

- AI-Powered Features
 - Smart Recommendations: Personalized suggestions based on user browsing and transaction history.
 - Automatic Categorization: AI image recognition to classify uploaded items into categories (e.g., “textbook,” “electronics,” “furniture”).
- Core Features
 - Secure login system with university email authentication.
 - Separate user roles (standard users and admin accounts for management).
 - Media uploads for item listings (images, descriptions).
 - Responsive design (mobile + desktop).
 - Localized trading environment restricted to campus.

This system ensures trustworthy, efficient, and relevant trading experiences for students while promoting stronger community ties.

Expected Impact

- Safety & Trust: Prevent scams by limiting access to verified students.
 - Efficiency: Simplify meetups by focusing on the campus environment.
 - Relevance: Tailored categories make it easy to find student-related items.
 - Community: Encourages collaboration and social interaction through peer-to-peer exchanges.
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Team Members

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