University Lost and Found Portal Report

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Project Overview

The University Lost and Found Portal is a full-stack web application developed using PHP and MySQL that facilitates the reporting and recovery of lost items within a university campus. The system supports both guest and registered user interactions, with an administrative backend for moderation and user management.

Technology Stack

- **Backend:** PHP 7.4+ (Procedural MySQLi)
- **Database:** MySQL 5.7+
- **Frontend:** HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript
- **Server:** Apache 2.4+ (XAMPP/WAMP)

Key Features

User Management System
- User registration with email verification
- Secure login with password hashing using bcrypt
- Session-based authentication
- Role-based access control with admin privileges

Item Reporting System
- Report lost items with required image uploads
- Report found items with privacy guidelines
- Image upload functionality with security validation
- Form validation on both client and server sides

Search and Browse System
- Dynamic filtering by item type (lost/found)
- Real-time search across title, description, and location
- Responsive grid layout for item display
- Image modal viewer for detailed item images

Admin Management System
- Role-based admin access using database-stored credentials
- Dashboard with system statistics
- Item management (view/delete any item)
- User management (view/delete users, grant/revoke admin rights)
- Automatic image cleanup when items are deleted

Database Schema

The system uses two main tables:

1. **users** - Stores user accounts with authentication details
2. **items** - Stores lost and found item reports with foreign key relationship to users

Security Features
- Password hashing with bcrypt
- SQL injection prevention via mysqli_real_escape_string()
- XSS protection with htmlspecialchars()
- File upload security with type validation
- Session management for authentication
- Access control for protected pages

Responsive Design

The portal features a mobile-responsive design using CSS Grid and Flexbox, ensuring optimal viewing experience across all device sizes.