***TUSConnected Report***

***5 W’s***

**Who** – This Application was designed with the students at the Technological University of Shannon Midwest so that they would be able to have a “Hub” application which would allow them to check varies things like, Timetable, Campus Map, News, About Us and Contact Us (email or by ringing the phone number) so that their college life on Campus would be as easy and manageable as possible.

**Why –** The primary motivation behind designing this application was to simplify the college experience for students at the Technological University of Shannon Midwest. Considering that college life can be hard and challenging, the aim was to create a simple, user-friendly application that would make various aspects of campus life as simple and digestive as possible, especially if new students were just coming out of secondary school.

**What -** The application is a thorough digital “Hub” that integrates several key features to assist students at the Technological University of Shannon Midwest.

Here’s what it does -

**Timetable:** Provides an easy-to-understand page that allows students (only ISD because of lack of time) to keep track of their start and end times on certain days while also displaying the Campus name.

**Campus Map:** Provides an easy-to-understand page that displays the college map (using Google Maps) with a marker so that students from all years (but mainly aimed at first year students as they would be unfamiliar with the layout of the college).

**News Feed:** This provides all students with a simple to understand page that displays the current news (that someone ([K00273673@student.tus.ie](mailto:K00273673@student.tus.ie)) can add because I have set that account up as an Admin/Master that has all permissions) of the college. This page makes sure that students are never left out of the loop and are as up to date as they possibly can for any information that the college might want the students to be aware of.

**About Us:** This provides all students with a paragraph about the college that displays some key information that every student should be aware of from before they even set foot on the campus.

**Contact Us**: This provides all students with a form where they can enter in their Name, Email and Message which can then be sent off (which only someone with the email [K00273673@student.tus.ie](mailto:K00273673@student.tus.ie) can view as every user but them is restricted. Once they have submitted that form successfully, the form data will be stored in the collection called “contact”. They also have the option to press the phone icon which will allow them to contact the phone number “087-345-6726” (my phone number) just so students have the option to use whichever they would prefer.

**Where –** TUSConnected will be strictly only available to students who have a KNumber email as this application was designed to only be used for current college students. Some areas from my application like the Contact Us Page and Adding News could be applied to other applications that might be similar but this application won’t ever have the idea of expanding outside of students.

**When –** TUSConnected will be available to current students as soon as Spring 2024, the release date was originally scheduled for Autumn 2023, however there have been many unexpected bugs along with wanting to add more functionality to make the app as seamless as possible along with giving the best performance to our students.

***App Features***

1. **Registration –** TUSConnected uses Firebase for the registration, once a user has navigated to the sign-up page and enters in a valid Name, Email (KNumber with @student.tus.ie) and Password (> 5 characters) they will successfully have created an account which can then be used to login to the TUSHubPage.
2. **Login –** TUSConnected uses Firebase for the login, once a user has successfully completed task 1 (registration) they will be able to login and access the TUSHubPage and have the ability to enter any page besides the add news and view contact details/messages unless they are [K00273673@student.tus.ie](mailto:K00273673@student.tus.ie)
3. **News –** TUSConnected uses Firebase Firestore to retrieve data from a collection called “news” which is then displayed in the NewsFeed Page, this page allows users to see the news that has been added by [K00273673@student.tus.ie](mailto:K00273673@student.tus.ie) which they can see the Title, Timestamp and Description.
4. **About Us –** TUSConnected uses Firestore yet again to retrieve data from a collection called “about” which is then displayed to the About Us Page which the admin user has added.
5. **Add News –** TUSConnected has a page that only [K00273673@student.tus.ie](mailto:K00273673@student.tus.ie) has access to and that is the Add News page. This allows news to be added by Title and Description with the Timestamp being the current time.
6. **Timetable –** TUSConnected has a timetable which ISD users can use to figure out what classes they have on certain days along with checking what campus they are on, what time they finish, etc.
7. **Campus Map –** TUSConnected displays a page with a Campus Map that will allow students to navigate through the college with no worries. This is mainly aimed at new first years students as they wouldn’t be very familiar with the college.
8. **Contact Us –** TUSConnected has a contact us page which displays a form that requires a Name, Email and Message. Once those are entered and submitted, they will be added to a collection called “contact” which [K00273673@student.tus.ie](mailto:K00273673@student.tus.ie) can view once logged in.
9. **View Contacted Messages -** [K00273673@student.tus.ie](mailto:K00273673@student.tus.ie) is able to view a page which will display the collection “contact”, same as the other pages like News and About Us but this time, if you aren’t the admin you can’t view the page

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Description automatically generatedA cell phone screen showing a building

Description automatically generatedA cell phone screen showing a college

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***Material Design Principles***

The first place I used Material Design was in the Login Page, I used multiple things like a TopAppBar which was used for putting the TUS logo along with the account Image, there was usage of Clickable Text, Typography and OutlinedTextField

The second place where I used Material Design was the addNews page. The Material Design that was used was again, a TopAppBar which included usage of the TUS logo along with an account Image, typography was used and a BottomAppBar.

***Future Work***

The major functionality that I would have loved to incorporate into my application would have been setting up notifications. I feel this would have made TUSConnected feel a lot more developed along with looking more professional with a user got a notification once they have submitted a Contact Us Message for example, or if the admin user added some news. Something would pop up on the top of their phone telling them that what they added was sent. If that was added along with maybe getting a phone to vibrate would have been very ideal to get done.

The other major functionality I would have loved to incorporate into TUSConnected would have been Forgot Password. Originally this was what I was going to do for my additional feature instead of doing Add News/Contact, but I decided against it as I found I wouldn’t have the time and I already had Firestore retrieving data from collections, so I just had to modify it which worked. If I didn’t have a time constraint, I would have been actively working on both of these functions.

I feel both functions listed above would have improved the overall feel of TUSConnected to make it something I could be immensely proud of.