SI 543 Proposal
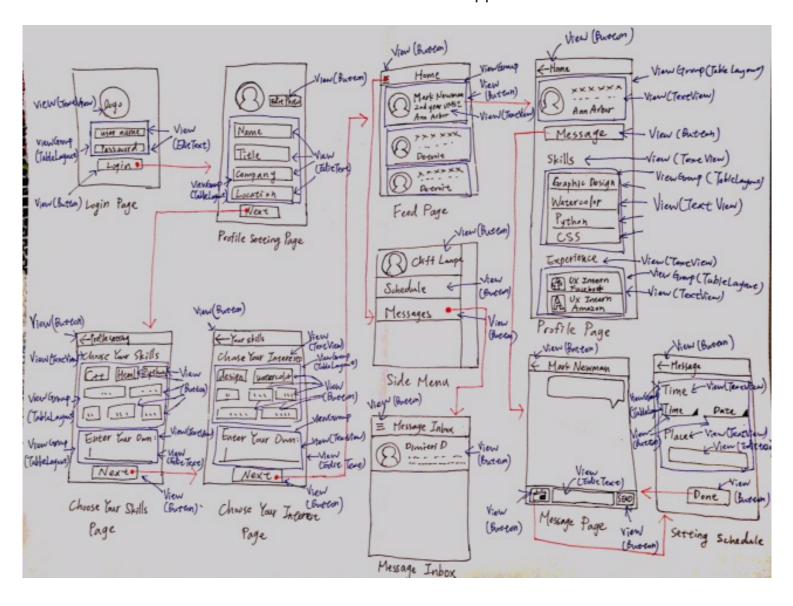Michelle Fiesta, Chia-Hui Hsieh, Alice Rhee, Stephanie Wooten

Have you ever wanted to connect with someone with a particular skill or area of interest, but had a hard time finding them? Have you ever yearned to connect with female engineers in your area, professional mixologists, a person with life experiences completely different from your own, or whose life has traveled a path you are interested in?

"What's your story?" is about one-on-one connection on your own terms. It's about real stories and life paths, and the chance to share your story with someone who is interested in *you*. It's about getting questions answered that Google can't and that LinkedIn freezes you out of. It's about facilitating the reaching out process, about sharing knowledge and sharing pieces of yourself, about "I wish someone had told me this," or "This isn't so important after all." It's about coffee, lunch, an after-work drink at the pub—"What's your story" is an app about connecting, giving, and growing!

Our user groups for this app will be young adults 18+ and people with an interest giving back. These are generative people (35-50+) who want to be able to share a piece of themselves and their stories. Our app's importance lies in bridging the connection of these two groups in meaningful and valuable ways. It's an informational interview without the formality, bringing together people of different backgrounds who wouldn't normally be able to connect.

Our two biggest competitors are LinkedIn and MeetUp, both sites used for connections and meetings aligned along specific interests. However, LinkedIn has a cold, professional ethos that can be impervious to those without pre-existing connections. MeetUps are group-based, not one-on-one, and still leave the step of further one-on-one meet up awkward. "What's your story?" fills the gaps these two leave open. It is an app that promotes warm, friendly, low-pressure connection solely intended for the sharing of knowledge, wisdom, and personal stories.

Different Activities of the App

Stacks of the app