

SI 543 Proposal

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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.

The diagram illustrates a mobile application's user interface and navigation flow. The screens and their components are as follows:

- Login Page:** Includes a logo, user name field, password field, and a login button.
- Profile Setting Page:** Includes a profile picture, name, title, company, location, and a next button.
- Profile Viewing Page:** Includes a profile picture, name, title, company, location, and a next button.
- Feed Page:** Includes a home button, a list of posts (each with a profile picture, name, and content), and a view button.
- Side Menu:** Includes a home button, a list of menu items (Schedule, Messages), and a view button.
- Message Inbox:** Includes a home button, a list of messages (each with a profile picture, name, and content), and a view button.
- Choose Your Skills Page:** Includes a home button, a list of skills (C++, Java, Python, etc.), and a next button.
- Choose Your Interest Page:** Includes a home button, a list of interests (Design, Watercolor, etc.), and a next button.
- Profile Page:** Includes a home button, a profile picture, a name, a title, a company, a location, and a next button.
- Message Page:** Includes a home button, a list of messages (each with a profile picture, name, and content), and a view button.
- Setting Schedule:** Includes a home button, a list of schedule items (each with a time, date, and place), and a view button.

Red arrows indicate the flow between these screens, showing a typical user journey from login to profile setting, feed viewing, side menu navigation, message inbox, skill/interest selection, profile viewing, message viewing, and schedule setting.

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