Redesigning the Present IUTians Community into a Dedicated Forum Platform

# Slide 1: Project Introduction

* Overview of 'Present IUTians', a Facebook-based community for IUT students.
* Purpose: Peer support, question resolution, and social updates.
* Key Idea: Shift to a purpose-built, university-exclusive forum platform.

# Slide 2: Organizational Context

* Entity Type: Informal digital platform managed by student admins.
* Stakeholders: Current students, alumni, moderators, university offices (indirectly).
* Environment: High user engagement, informal structure, no direct IT governance.

# Slide 3: Problem Identification

* Posts often buried by Facebook’s algorithm
* No categorization, no advanced search
* Repetition of questions due to lack of archival structure
* Limited control over features, moderation, and UI
* Comment-based discussion
* Distracts users from relevant subjects

# Slide 4: Opportunity and Proposed System

* Proposed Solution: Build a standalone Reddit-style forum for IUT.
* Core Features:
* - Threaded discussions organized into categories/subforums (e.g., Academics, Internships, Events).
* - Voting system (upvotes/downvotes).
* - Role-based access (student, alumni, moderator).
* - IUT email verification.
* - Push notifications for general + preferred threads.
* Value Addition: Structured, searchable, customizable platform under student control.

# Slide 5: Need for a Systems Analyst

* No pre-existing IT system backing the Facebook group.
* Analyst needed for:
* - Stakeholder requirement gathering.
* - Designing the system architecture.
* - Ensuring user-friendly design.
* - Driving platform adoption.
* Relevant Roles (from textbook):
* - Agent of Change – lead shift from Facebook to forum.
* - Supporting Expert – provide technical planning and system flow.

# Slide 6: Personal Qualities Needed in Analyst

* Strong communication and stakeholder empathy.
* Solid grasp of user experience (UX) design.
* Problem-solving and critical thinking.
* Adaptability to student culture and workflow.

# Slide 7: Methodology Evaluation

* SDLC (Systems Development Life Cycle): Too rigid, not ideal for evolving needs ❌
* Agile: Feedback-driven, supports iterations ✅ Best Fit
* O-O: Good for design, not full methodology ➖ Supportive only

# Slide 8: Justification for Agile

* Frequent feedback from student users is crucial.
* Agile supports MVP → feedback → iteration loop.
* Allows flexible adaptation to community behavior.
* Enables faster deployment and continuous improvement.

# Slide 9: Next Steps

* Conduct surveys or interviews with IUT students to gather core requirements.
* Choose development stack (e.g., React + Firebase, or Discourse for forums).
* Build MVP with:
* - Signup/login with IUT email.
* - Thread posting, commenting, upvoting.
* - Mobile notifications for selected categories.
* Test with early users and iterate based on feedback.

# Slide 10: Conclusion

* Transforming Present IUTians into a student-first, Reddit-style platform addresses current limitations.
* Aligns with real-world needs and modern system design principles.
* Agile methodology ensures a flexible and student-driven development cycle.

# Slide 11: Questions & Discussion

* Open the floor for feedback, suggestions, and improvements.
* Encourage constructive critique and potential feature ideas.