

Project Idea:

SkedjoolMi: Automating Google Calendar Event Entry

Google Calendar is one of the most ubiquitous scheduling tools available today. Users all over the world use Google Calendar to keep track of their commitments, schedule meetings, and remind themselves of tasks to complete. Many 3rd party applications exist that allow users to set up reminders and organize their time, but thus far all of these tools involve manually entering the commitments into some sort of interface – whether it be their own appointment book on their local machine, an e-mail sign-up, or something else.

SkedjoolMi allows users to automatically check their availability as per their Google Calendar, notifies users if they're available or not, and offers to schedule the event into their calendar. Here's how it works:

1. The event planner/host of the event fills out a SkedjoolMi event form, specifying event date(s), time(s), location, and any other details (much like the standard Google Calendar event form). After doing so, they are presented with a unique link/small toolkit to present to users
2. Users receive the link (whether it be a button on their site, an email message, or other means (i.e. Facebook or Twitter)), and the link automatically logs into a user's Google Calendar and checks to see if they are available.
 - a. If users are not available, they receive a message notifying them of the issue, and what the conflicting event is, giving the option to delete/re-schedule that event in favor of the current event

- b. If users are available, they receive a message notifying them of their availability, and giving the offer of scheduling the event into their calendar.
 - c. Users can set priority levels to events as they come in, as well, so the system can recommend whether or not an event can be re-scheduled in lieu of the incoming event.
- 3. From here, a message is sent back to the planner of the event, letting them know who has RSVP'd to the event, and what their status is.

Finally, event planning made simple. Skip the unneeded labor of double-checking your schedule every time somebody asks if you're available. With SkedjoolMi, all it takes is a few quick clicks and you'll be told if you're in trouble or if you're ready to roll.

Evaluation:

This project would be evaluated mostly based on if it the project succeeds or not. A lot of the message passing could be a secondary concern – I'm personally more interested in something that will tell me if I'm free or not so I don't have to pull up my calendar, navigate to said date and time, and determine if I have an event there or if I can skip whatever commitment I have. Also, priorities levels aren't as important to the core functionality.

Giving users a specialized link to check their Google Calendar is the core of this project. The agent will need to gain access to a user's Google account, be able to interface with gCal's API, and report back to the user with the status of the system. Being able to add message passing or other things would be accessory.