



Grad Atlas

IMT 542

Team8

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Information Story - User & Purpose



"New and current graduate students often find it hard to discover local events or communities outside of academic settings. They rely on word-of-mouth or scattered event platforms, missing out on enriching social experiences."

Our User: University of Washington Graduate Students

- Students seeking social, academic, and professional engagement opportunities
- Those looking for events aligned with their specific interests and location preferences
- Graduate students wanting to discover community events outside academic settings

Information Goal

- Centralize event discovery from multiple sources (Everout, Meetup, UW websites)
- Filter events by tags, location, name, and description
- Standardize event information for easy comparison
- Export selected events to CSV or JSON for offline analysis

Information Story - Requirements & Scope

Project Scope

- Search by tag, location, event name, and details via web interface
- Consistent JSON format with standardized fields for all events: name, host, details, location, attendees, tags.
- Export selected events to CSV and JSON formats
- Protected admin panel for adding/editing events
- Multiple access methods: web interface and REST API
- Flexible database support: SQLite for development, PostgreSQL for production
- Data validation through Flask-SQLAlchemy models

Out of Scope

- User registration
- Personalized recommendations
- Event RSVP
- Calendar integration
- Real-time updates

Existing Information Analysis



- Structure & Access



Source Platform	Structure	Access	Quality Issues	Performance
Everout	HTML-based event listings with inconsistent formatting	Web scraping required, no public API	Inconsistent date formats, mixed location specificity	Slow page loads, heavy graphics
Meetup	JSON via API, well-structured but generic	REST API available with rate limiting	Broad audience focus, not graduate-student specific	Good API response times (~200ms)
UW Websites	Scattered across department pages, inconsistent HTML	Manual collection required, no centralized feed	Often hidden in deep navigation, inconsistent formatting	Varies by department site

Existing Information Analysis

- Transformation Requirements

Time Normalization

From: "Friday evening", "5:30 PM PDT", "Next week"

To: ISO 8601 format "2025-05-16T17:30:00-07:00"

Categorization Enhancement

From: Generic tags like "social", "networking"

To: Graduate-specific tags: "academic",
"professional-development", "thesis-writing"

Access Method Unification

- Replace 3+ different access methods with unified REST API
- All events return same JSON schema regardless of source

New Features Required

- UUID generation for unique event identification across sources
- Mobile-responsive interface for on-the-go access
- Scalable data storage using SQLAlchemy models

New Portable Information Structure

Information Content

- **Added:** Graduate-relevant tagging ("Text mining", "Python", "Research", "workshop", "data")
- **Added:** Attendee count for group size planning (40 attendees for "Starting the Conversation")
- **Enhanced:** Host attribution with clear organizer identification (UW Libraries, Seattle Interactive M., etc.)
- **Standardized:** Event descriptions with consistent detail level and formatting

Structure Transformation

BEFORE:

```
<p><strong>Date:</strong> Friday, May 16, 2025</p>
<p><strong>Location:</strong> Rhein Haus, 912 12th
Ave, Seattle, WA</p>
```

AFTER:

```
{
  "name": "Starting the Conversation",
  "host": "Andrey",
  "details": "Let's practice starting low stakes
conversations in low pressure environments...",
  "location": "Ada's Technical Books, 425 15th Ave E,
Capitol Hill, Seattle, WA",
  "tags": ["Communication Skills", "Social", "Confidence
and Self-Esteem"],
  "attendees": 40
}
```

New Portable Information Structure

Format

Before: Various data formats and APIs from different platforms

After: Unified JSON format and served via Flask API

Export Options: CSV for spreadsheet analysis, JSON for developer integration

Access Methodology

```
@app.route('/meetups/search') # Multi-field search functionality
```

```
@app.route('/meetups/tag/<tag>') # Tag-based filtering
```

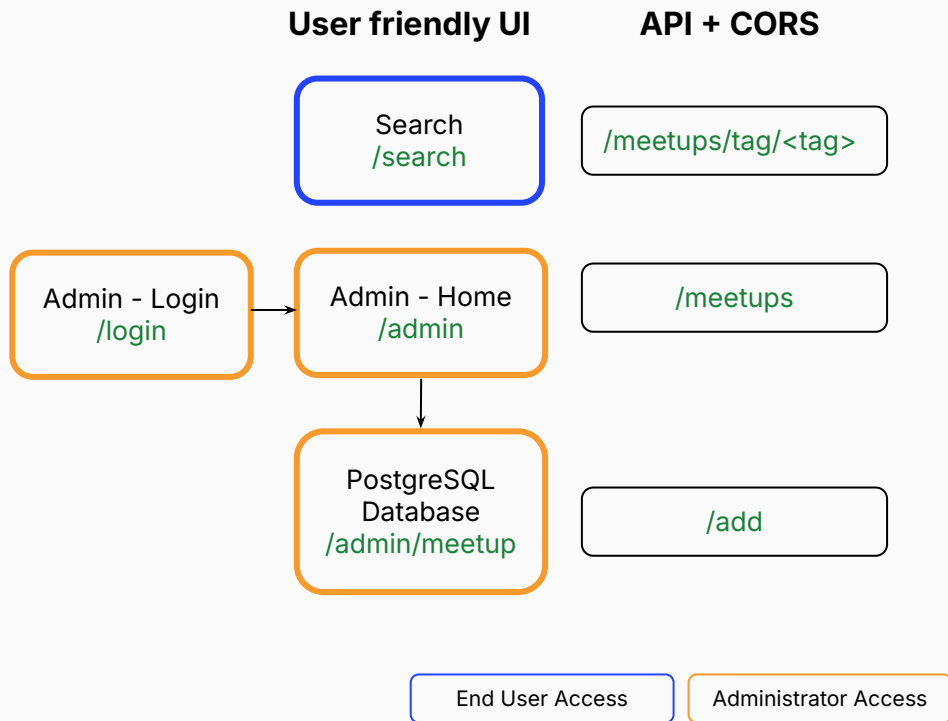
```
@app.route('/meetups/export-selected', methods=['POST']) # Export selected events
```

Same data structure accessible via web UI, REST API, and multiple export formats.

New Portable Information Structure

Web-browser, publicly hosted

- **Framework:** Flask (Python), RESTful API structure
- **Database:** PostgreSQL with SQLAlchemy ORM (hosted on Render)
- **Authentication:** Flask-Login for admin access
- **Admin UI:** Flask-Admin with secure model views
- **Frontend:** HTML/CSS single-page interface with real-time search + CSV export
- **Deployment:** Hosted on Render using `Procfile` + `requirements.txt`



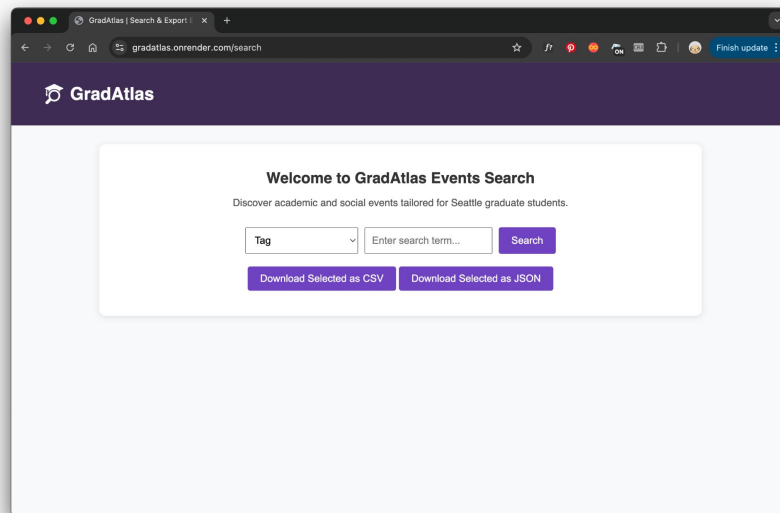
New Portable Information Structure

Search Function via Field & CSV/JSON Exportable



👉 **Scan QR code to it yourself!**

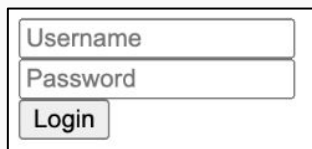
Search via 'Tag/Location/Event/Details'



New Portable Information Structure

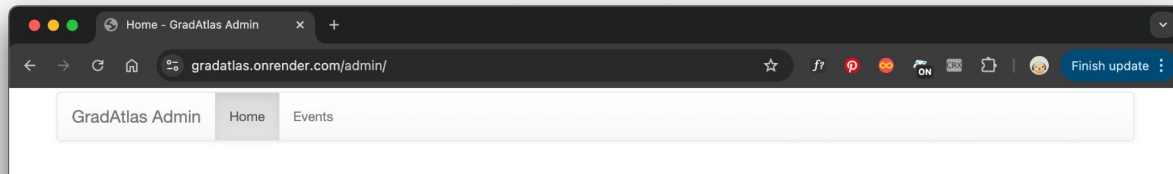
Login protected & Add/edit & Stored in PostgreSQL Database

Admin - Login

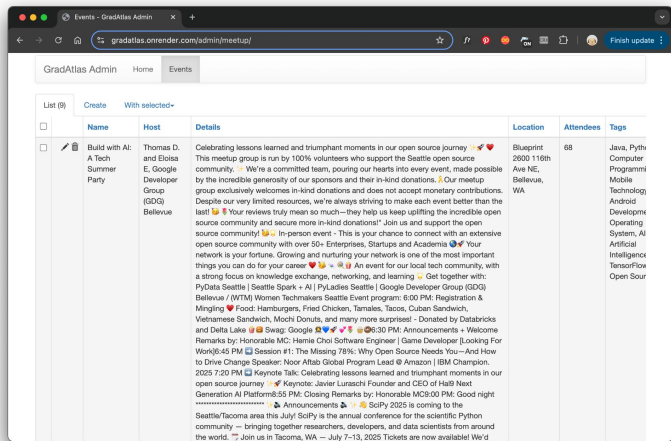


A login form with two input fields: 'Username' and 'Password', and a 'Login' button below them.

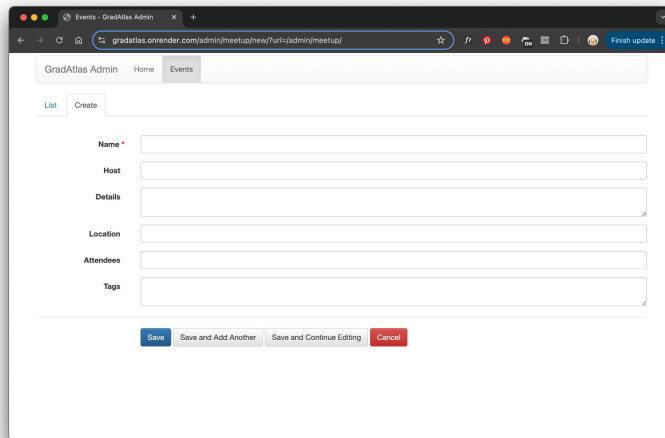
Admin - Home



Event List - Edit & Delete



Add New Events



A form to add a new event. It includes input fields for Name, Host, Details, Location, Attendees, and Tags. At the bottom, there are buttons: 'Save', 'Save and Add Another', 'Save and Continue Editing', and 'Cancel'.

FAIR Assessment of New Structure

FAIR Principle	Score	Assessment Details
Findable	★★★★☆	Standardized taxonomic structure, rich metadata, graduate student-specific categorization
Accessible	★★★★☆	Web interface with filtering, responsive design, multiple access methods
Interoperable	★★★★☆	Standard data structures for cross-platform compatibility, CSV & JSON export
Reusable	★★★★☆	Source tracking (UW Library, Meetup), accurate descriptions, CSV & JSON export capabilities

Quality, Reliability & Performance

Quality Controls

- JSON schema validation at input level (e.g., tag format, attendee count)
- Feedback loop: community-flagged events → admin validators (email)
- Weekly QA audit of filters, search, export features

Performance Metrics

- Target API response: < 500ms; Page load: < 2s
- Monitoring tools: Render's DevTools

Security

- Admin panel login protection (/login for admin only)
- HTTPS, token-restricted endpoints for backend security

Next Steps & Implementation

First Phase

- **Create User Login & RSVP Function:** Allow users to register/login and RSVP to events
- **Add Contact Admin Function:** Provide a simple form or email trigger so users can report issues or request event additions.
- **Add Subscription Option:** Allow users to subscribe to event updates by tag or location (via email or RSS).
- **Custom Domain & HTTPS:** Custom domain on Render and enforce HTTPS for production readiness.

Second Phase

- **Expand Testing with Benchmarks:**
 - Write unit/integration tests using `pytest`
 - Use Postman benchmark response times and validate API performance.

Third Phase

- **Build Automated Event Crawler:** Create a scheduled script or background task to fetch and update event listings from Meetup and UW sites.

Thank you!

Questions?