

ClubConnect

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What is the App?

- A social media app for BU clubs
- Students can scan through a database of active clubs
 - See full descriptions and contact info when tapped
 - Added to your favorites page when held down
- Club President or E-Boards can make a profile
- Provide:
 - Username
 - Name
 - Email
 - Description
- Can come back and edit later



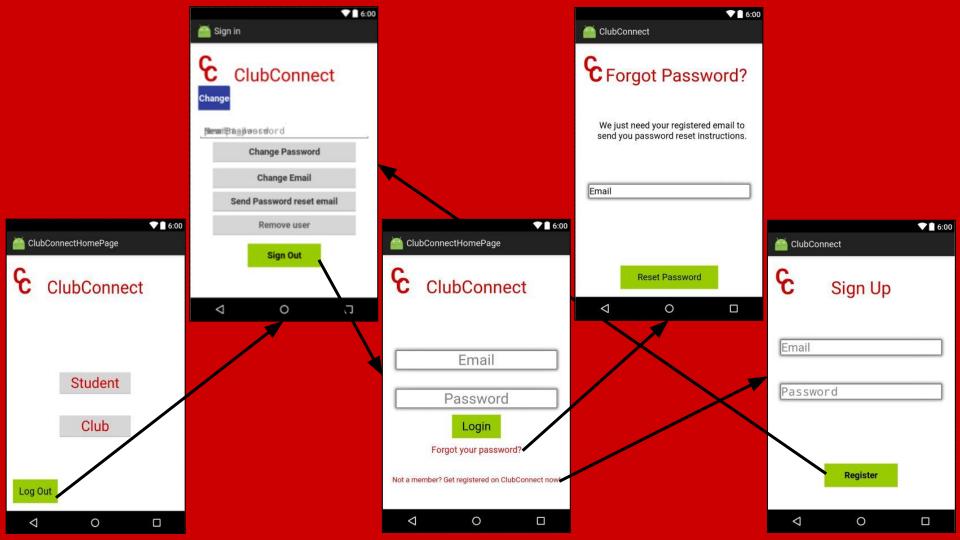
Why Build This App?

- ClubConnect seeks to fill a pressing need for BU students trying to engage in student activities on-campus.
- OrgSync, the current student activities website is not optimized for students, and both students and club leaders have complained about the interface.
- We are creating an accessible and easy-to-use app that puts powers into the students' hands to define their own club experience.
- ClubConnect centralizes club information that, up until now, has been scattered across layers of OrgSync pages.





Step 1: Authentication



Authentication

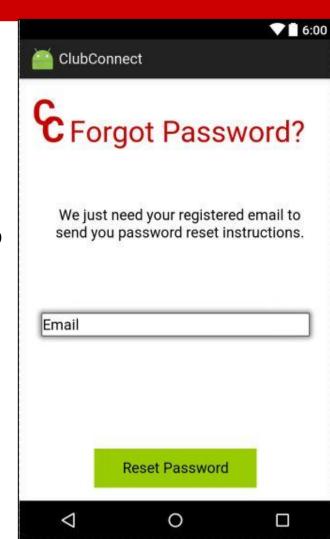
- Home page when you open app
- Directly links to Firebase authentication; stores user data remotely
- Provides security for the database





Reset Password

- User inputs email, then presses "Reset Password" button
- An email with password reset instructions is sent to the user's email





Registration

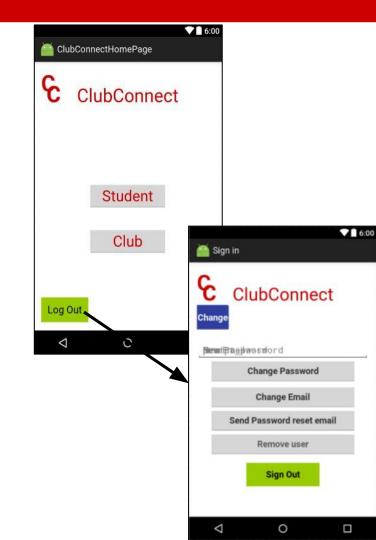
- Students must sign up to both access
 ClubConnect's active club database and create/edit new clubs
- Enter email and password to register
- Password must be six characters long
- Email and password are remotely stored onto Firebase





Other User Functions

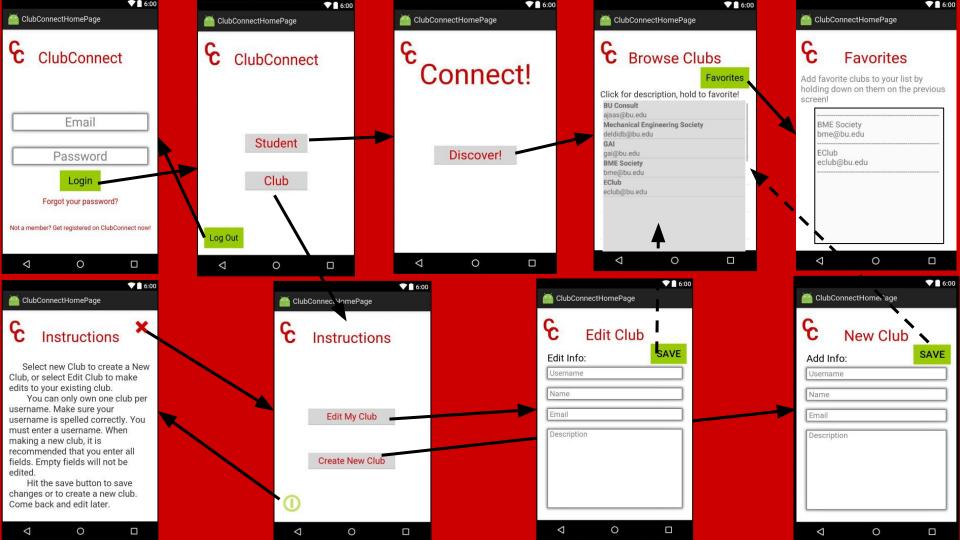
- Press "Log Out" button to access other user functions
 - Change Password
 - Change Email
 - Send Password Reset Email
 - Remove User
 - Sign Out
- Enables users to reset/alter their information in firebase





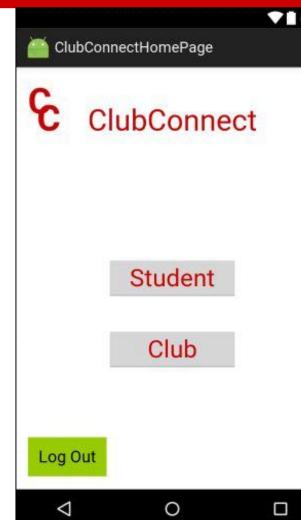


Step 2: Setting Up Clubs



Initial Screen: Who Is the User?

- Users select buttons that indicate their role
- Each button leads to a different pathway
 - Students will be able to search and interact with database
 - Club tab is for eboard members to create and edit clubs
- Exit via logout button
 - Allows you to change info if necessary





First Step for Club Users

- Simple Buttons
- Select to go to different screens:
 - Edit existing club; Security added so we only update filled in areas
 - Create new club; each club linked to unique username so you can only own one club

Info button directs to new page with instructions





"How To" for Club Creation

 Provides instructions for creating or editing clubs



ClubConnectHomePage



C Instructions



Select new Club to create a New Club, or select Edit Club to make edits to your existing club.

You can only own one club per username. Make sure your username is spelled correctly. You must enter a username. When making a new club, it is recommended that you enter all fields. Empty fields will not be edited.

Hit the save button to save changes or to create a new club. Come back and edit later.









New Club Creation

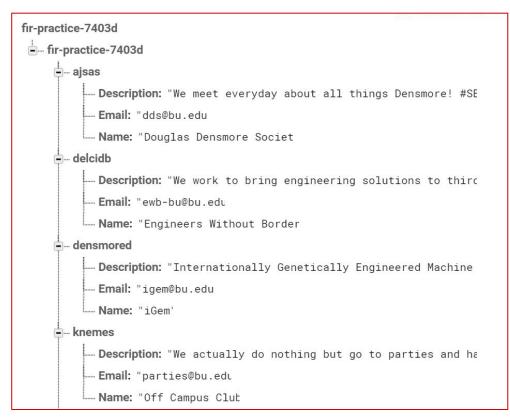
- "Hint" fields in TextEdits to guide users
- All inputs linked to username
- One club per username
- All data written to Firebase remotely and updated in realtime (see next!)





Firebase for New Club

- Data organization to store clubs at unique username nodes
- Adds security for club edits
- Relevant info about email, name and description stored at nodes
- Updates real-time and persists offline to be sure users are able to CONNECT ALWAYS





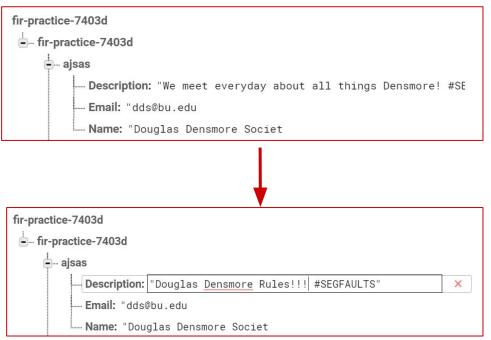
Club Editing

- Can enter/edit same fields as with new creation
- Don't have to edit all fields
- Changed fields updated in Firebase
- Designed to give user a dynamic experience, and
- Allow them to update their club with Firebase real-time to keep users updated





Firebase for Edited Club



- When fields are changed from the app, they are also edited in the Firebase
- Only updates entered fields for information security

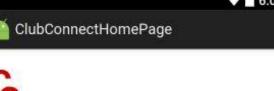




Step 3: Acting as a Student



- Intermediate screen indicated user will enter new portion of the app to discover new clubs
- Used to inform user that they will be able to connect through this avenue of the app



Connect!

Discover!







Club Browse Interface

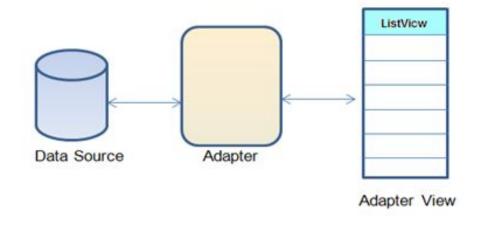
- Scroll through a "newsfeed"
- Find the description of all clubs listed in the app
- Clubs from Firebase are synced in realtime to the ListView for optimal search and connect feature
- Tap on list item to display description
- Hold on list item to add to favorites and locally store





Populating ListView

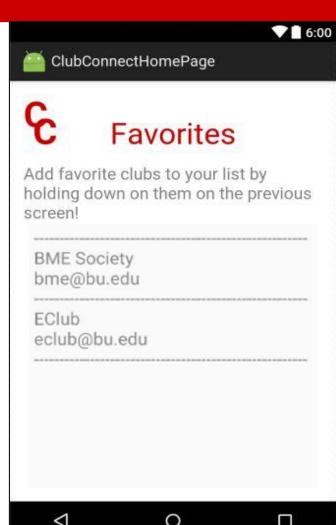
- Adapter object serves as medium
- Translates database to format in List
- Adapter stores data as a JSON, with getter functions to return data such as email, name, and description for later display





Favorites

- Activity that displays locally stored favorites
- Shows Name and email for club
- Email hyperlinks
- Can scroll through list
- Allows for each user to view their personal unique favorites on their own phone





Overall Data Transfer

Club Writing/Editing → Firebase Database → Adapter → Student ListView → Local Favorites Storage



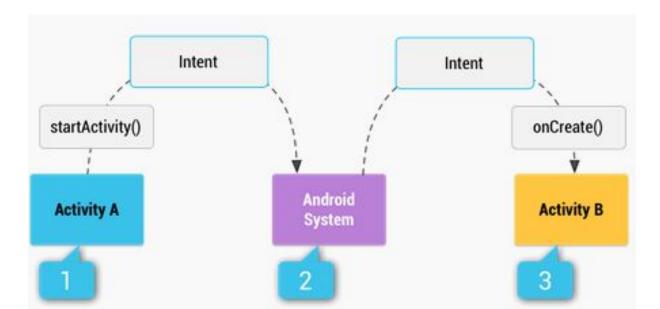
Future Additional Functionality

- Ability to remove favorites or clubs
- Interactive Calendar view
- Keyword Search Capability by implementing SQLite storage
- Add image icons for clubs to identify clubs



Populating Favorites Page

- When item is held, it stores the object in a an ArrayList
- Pass the ArrayList to the favorites page via intents
- Use getter functions to get and display data in the favorites page



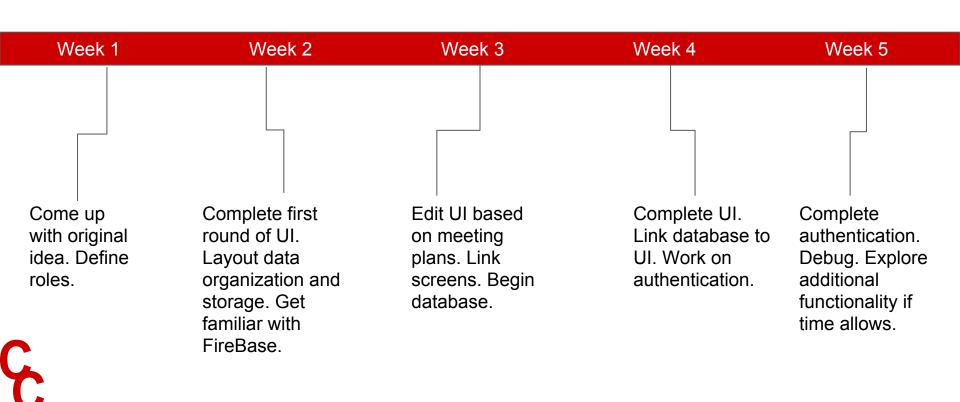


Technological Challenges Faced

- Firebase not good for searching features; had to scrap that feature (NoSQL)
- Combining authentication later on into project
- Consistency between screens
- Error-checking user input



Timeline for App Development



Roles

- Josh Project Lead, backend
- Abbey UI development, documentation
- Ben Interfacing, backend
- Rahul Backend
- Katrina Backend, documentation
- Lots of crosstalk between roles





Thank You!

https://github.com/delcidb/EC327-App

Image References

Android Intents Diagram. Digital image. *Stackoverflow*. N.p., 1 Apr. 2014. Web. Firebase Adapter. Digital image. *Careerride.com*. CareerRide, 2016. Web.