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CS 97 Winter 2021

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Group: Scrambled Eggerts

Final Project Report

App Purpose

For this quarter, I worked alongside Austyn Adams and Elle Feuerstein in order to create a web application called “What’s Happening at UCLA?” Our web application would ideally be a site where students could both find events happening on campus as well post new events to share with other students. Hopefully students would be able to go on on the website and find new things to do things to do around campus.

Overview of App Architecture and Technologies Used

For this app, my group used Mongodb as our noSQL database. We also used other Mongodb tools as Mongodb Atlas and Compass in order to access our database and see the collections stored in. To code our project, we used codesandbox to share our code online and have a live domain. We also used git in order to order to store and update our code that could help us run our code locally. In our project, we used Node.js, specifically the express library, in order to connect to our database and we used Embedded Javascript and CSS in order to render our work.

Description of Features Supported on App

Our app features a list of current events, a section to add events, and a search bar. Firstly, we have a section on the right hand side of the page that displays all the current events in a list format. Then we have a section in the upper right side where users can input new

events with details such as the name, date, time, etc. Then in the bottom right side we have a section where we can search for an event by name and then the event(s) with that name will be displayed under the Events section.

Individual Contributions

As my group was small with just three members, I worked heavily on both the frontend and backend of the web application. To begin the project, I went through a tutorial on how to use CRUD operations. With this tutorial and a basic understanding of CRUD, I was able to create the foundation for our project. In my foundation, I coded a server.js file that had functional app.get, app.use, app.post, and app.listen routers that were connected to our database on Mongodb (created by Austyn), an index.ejs file that would render on the website domain, as well as a css file. At this point, the index.ejs file was connected to the server.js file and it had 4 sections that were eventually upgraded to our final version. There was a title for the page, a section to take in text input by a user which was sent to the database, a nonfunctional sectional mean to delete text, and a section that displayed all the inputted user data from our database. These were transformed into our title, add events, search events, and events sections respectively. I also have to credit Elle with this as well as we worked through the CRUD tutorial together and we troubleshot issues with this foundational code together. I then imported this code to codesandbox using codesandbox's CLI. I also contributed heavily to the front end. I worked in the ejs file to give the event details names as well as managed their spacing and alignment. I coded and connected a rudimentary css file that used grid in order to organize the different data sections and change their background color and size. Moving forward, I worked with Elle as we both worked to make stylistic choices in the layout and choice of displayed text. However as time went on, Elle continued to vastly improve the css file and index.ejs as I wrote the readme file and worked to troubleshoot differences between our project that runs locally (which is cloned from github) and our live domain (from codesandbox).

Notable Difficulties

The most challenging aspect of the project was learning how to use express, Mongodb, and ejs files. All technologies were brand new to my whole group and we had a hard time learning how to use them. My biggest issue was that I attempted a lot of tasks but was unable to complete them due to my lack of understanding. For example, with the search events bar, Elle, Austyn and I all explored different options to have a functional search bar. However, we ended up using Austyn's search bar because he was the only one able to get it to work without any errors. Another example of this is adding unique features. I know we discussed adding profiles, but we were unable to due to the time constraint. I personally felt that I had a hard time working on a timeline with classmates. For example, we were going to research how to put our website online and create a database. I had some ideas of where to get started, but by the time we got together to share, Austyn had already started a codesandbox and made a mongodb database. However, this problem fortunately lessened as we ended up increasing our amount of the time we worked together over discord and we simply were working on the similar tasks on codesandbox. I also had a hard time figuring out how to use git, but I was lucky to have groupmates who were able to upload my code, such as the foundational code, to git from codesandbox until I successfully learned how to make proper commits. My group also did face issues with members dropping out. One member dropped out due to medical reasons, another had administrative issues, and a member who was added late ended up having medical issues.

Possible Improvements or Additional Features

Of course my group regrets being unable to add unique features. Had we had more time, we would have loved to add an upvote for each post, a chat bot, and user profiles. I personally really would have liked a random corny quote in the corner of the webpage that changes daily to keep a light hearted energy on the webpage.