

UI/UX Design for UniConnect

A Modern University Experience

UniConnect



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2. Abstract

UniConnect is a mobile-based digital platform designed to centralize and enhance event discovery, participation, and engagement within NSBM Green University. The project focuses on addressing usability, accessibility, and engagement issues found in existing university event-sharing systems. Through user-centered design, inclusive principles, and iterative prototyping using Figma, UniConnect delivers a streamlined, visually engaging, and accessible experience for students, organizations, and administrators.

Figma Link: <https://www.figma.com/design/pQxbOFghCmHrgWB7FcSpkO/Untitled?node-id=0-1&t=woRyJnFpNnzujieD-1>

Context of the Project

Introduction

University students often miss important campus events due to fragmented communication channels such as WhatsApp groups, posters, and social media pages. UniConnect solves this problem by offering a single, reliable platform where students can discover, register, and manage campus events efficiently.

Aim and Objectives

Aim: To design an inclusive, user-friendly mobile application that improves student engagement with university events.

Objectives:

- Improve discoverability of campus events
- Reduce information overload
- Support accessibility and inclusive design
- Enable easy event registration and management

Inclusive Design in Digital Learning

UniConnect follows inclusive design principles ensuring usability for students with diverse abilities, devices, and digital literacy levels.

Accessibility Standards

- WCAG 2.1 guidelines
- High contrast text
- Scalable typography
- Touch-friendly UI components

Challenges in Existing LMS / Event Platforms

- Poor navigation
- Information duplication
- Lack of personalization
- No centralized event hub

3. Literature Review

Research Approach

A mixed-method research approach was used, including:

- User interviews (students & organizers)
- Competitive analysis of event apps
- Review of HCI and UX best practices

Key Findings

- Students prefer visual-first event cards
- Quick registration is critical
- Personalized event feeds increase engagement

4. User Personas

PERSONA 01-Student



Dilshan Perera - The Student

Age: 21

Bio

Dilshan is a busy 3rd-year undergraduate balancing studies and social life. He's active on campus but struggles to keep track of all the events, often finding out about them too late. He relies heavily on his phone for information.

Demographics

- Location: Colombo, Sri Lanka
- Education: Undergraduate, University of Colombo
- Occupation: Student

Goals & Needs

- Easy event discovery on campus
- One-tap registration & reminders
- See friends' attendance
- Centralized calendar

Frustrations & Pain Points

- Missing events due to cluttered emails
- Confusing registration processes
- Fragmented info across multiple platforms
- Fear of missing out (FOMO)

Personality

Introvert	[Progress Bar]
Extrovert	[Progress Bar]
Analytical	[Progress Bar]
Creative	[Progress Bar]

Technology

Mobile	[Progress Bar]
Social Media	[Progress Bar]
Desktop	[Progress Bar]
Software	[Progress Bar]

PERSONA 02-The Club Parton



Dr. Anjali Silva - The Club Patron

Age: 45

Bio

Dr. Silva is a dedicated Senior Lecturer and faculty advisor for multiple student clubs. She is passionate about mentorship but struggles with the administrative burden of managing club activities and ensuring student engagement amidst her busy academic schedule.

Demographics

- Location: Kandy, Sri Lanka
- Education: Ph.D., University of Peradeniya
- Occupation: Senior Lecturer

Goals & Needs

- Simplified event creation & promotion
- Direct communication channel with members
- Real-time attendance tracking & analytics
- Centralized member management

Frustrations & Pain Points

- Complex and disjointed administrative tools
- Low student engagement & turnout
- Difficulty maintaining up-to-date member lists
- Time-consuming manual processes

Personality

Introvert	[Progress Bar]
Extrovert	[Progress Bar]
Analytical	[Progress Bar]
Creative	[Progress Bar]

Technology

Mobile	[Progress Bar]
Social Media	[Progress Bar]
Desktop	[Progress Bar]
Software	[Progress Bar]

PERSONA 03-The Campus Admin



Demographics

-  Location: Colombo, Sri Lanka
-  Education: M.Sc. in IT Management, University of Moratuwa
-  Occupation: Campus Digital Experience Manager

Goals & Needs

- Global platform oversight & control dashboard
- Robust moderation tools for content & users
- Comprehensive engagement analytics & reporting
- Seamless integration with existing university systems

Frustrations & Pain Points

- Dealing with spam and inappropriate content
- Lack of centralized and consistent data
- Managing disjointed legacy systems
- acting as tech support for basic issues

Mr. Rohan Fernando - The Campus Admin

Age: 38

Bio

Mr. Fernando is the Campus Digital Experience Manager, responsible for the oversight and smooth operation of all university-wide digital platforms. He is highly analytical and systems-oriented, prioritizing data integrity, security, and efficient policy enforcement.

Personality

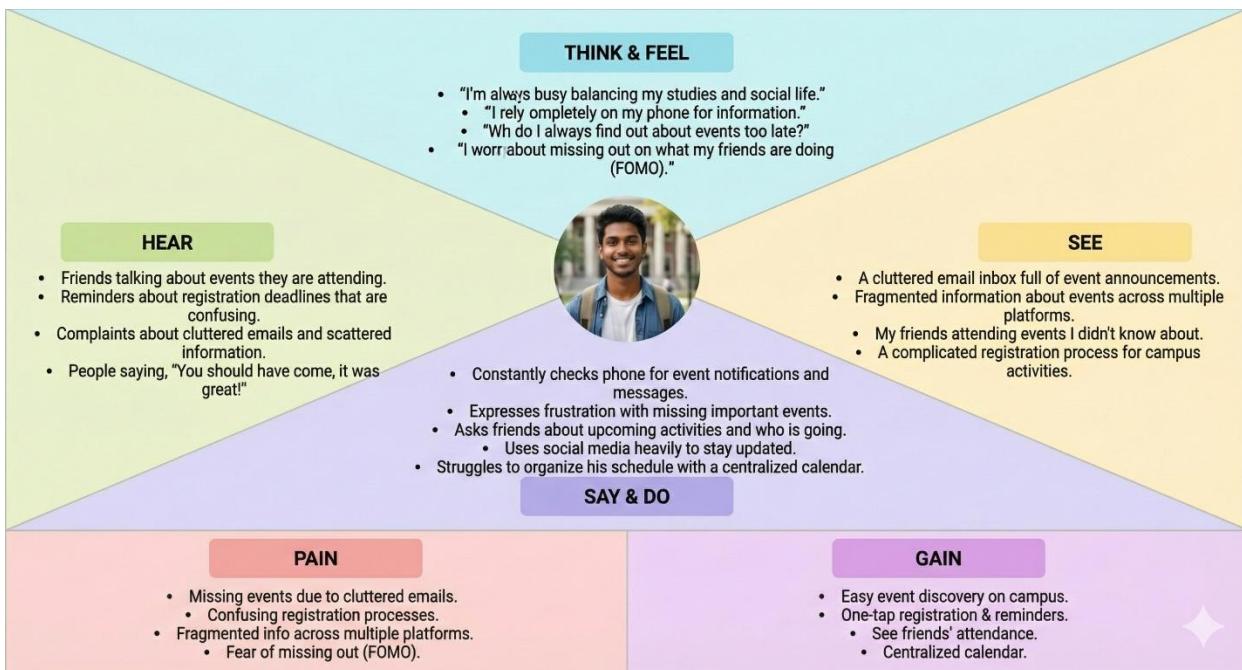
Introvert		
Extrovert		
Analytical		
Creative		

Technology

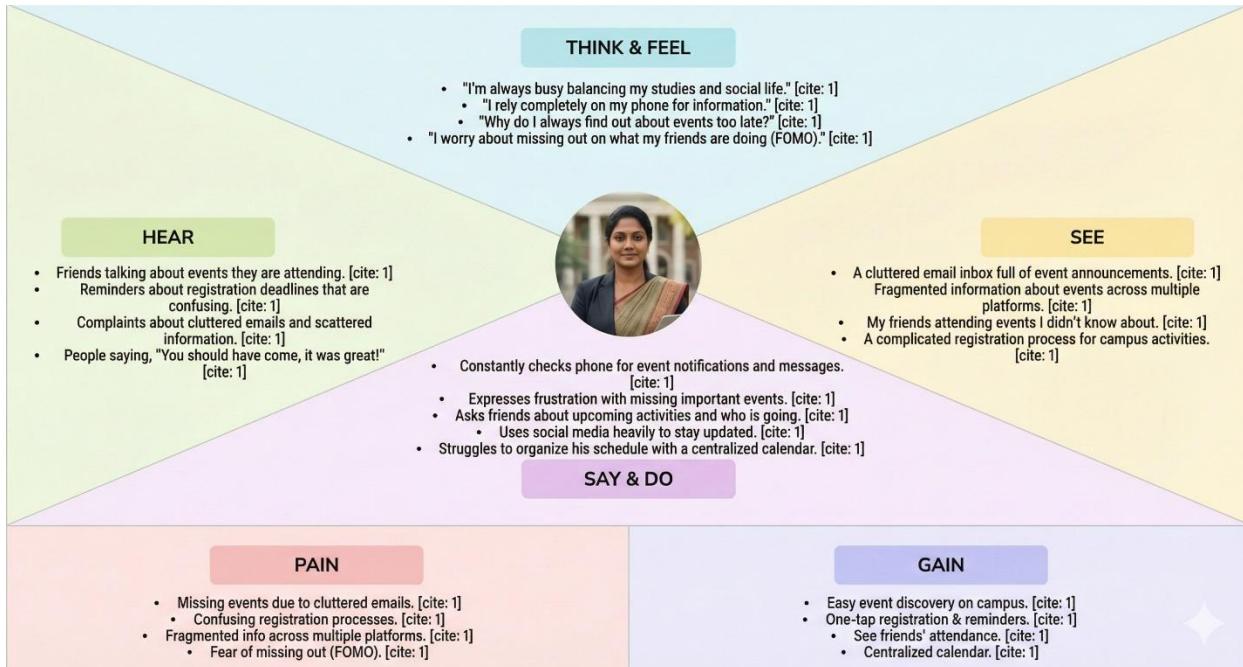
Mobile		
Social Media		
Desktop		
Software		

Empathy Maps

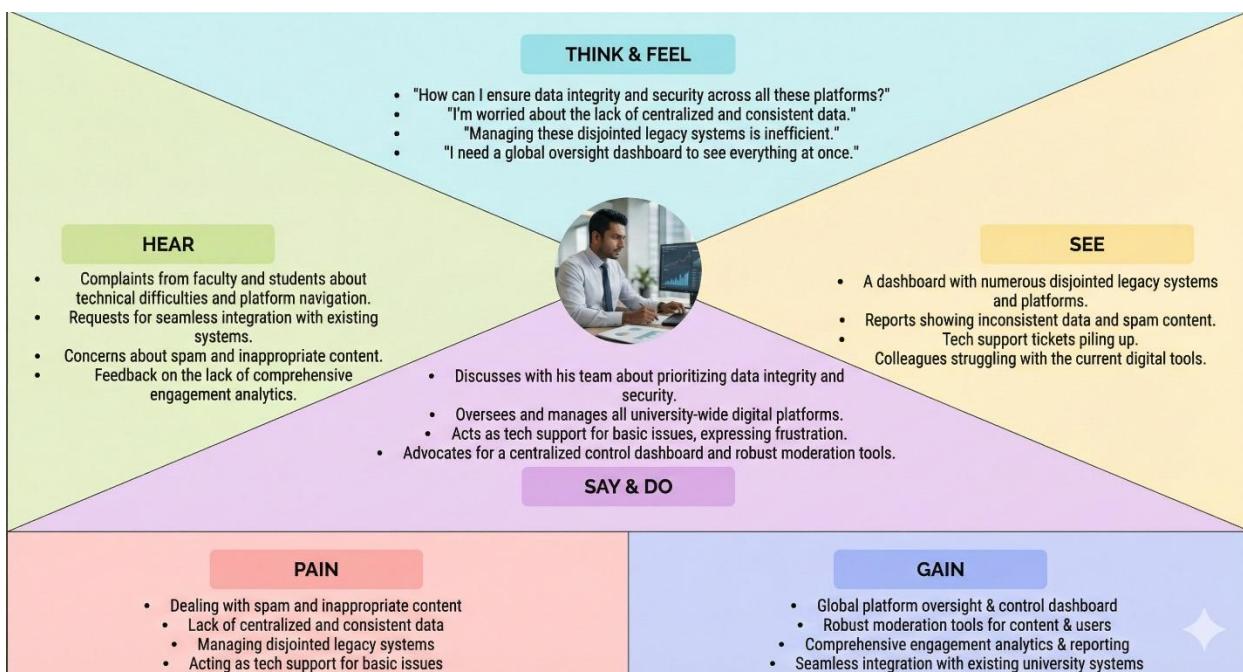
Student Empathy Map



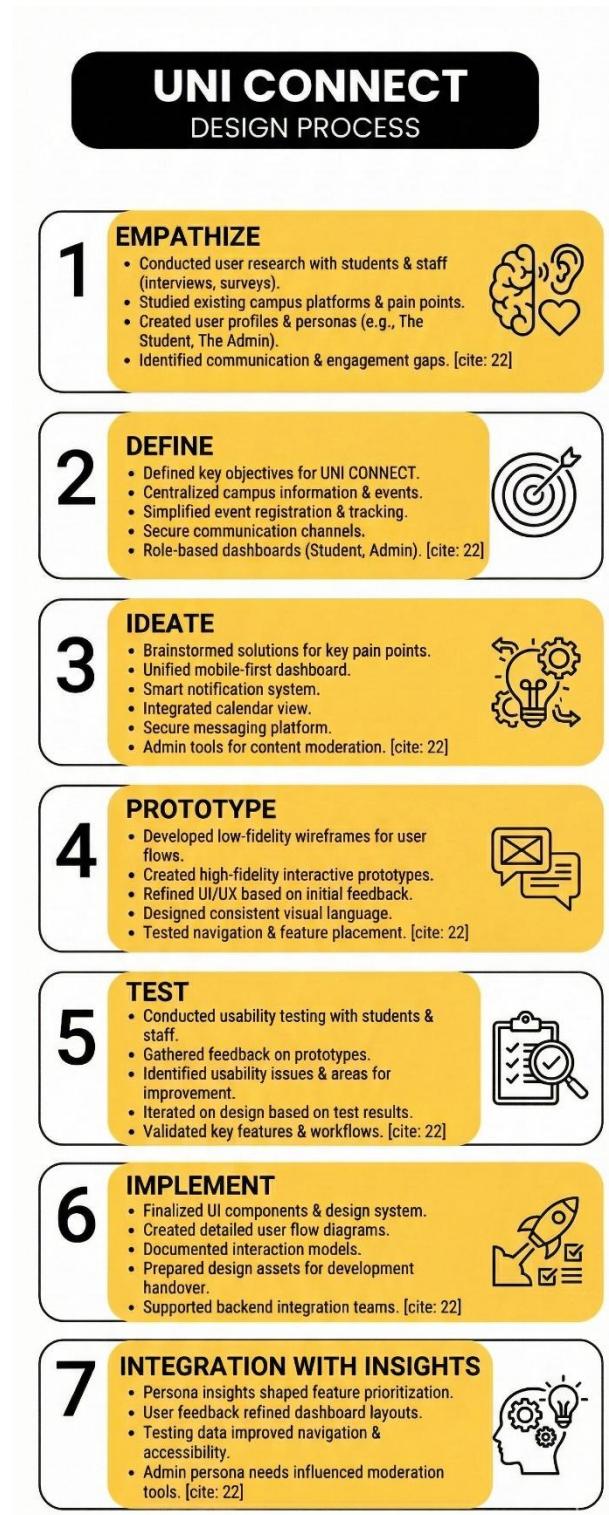
Lecturer / The Club Parton Empathy Map



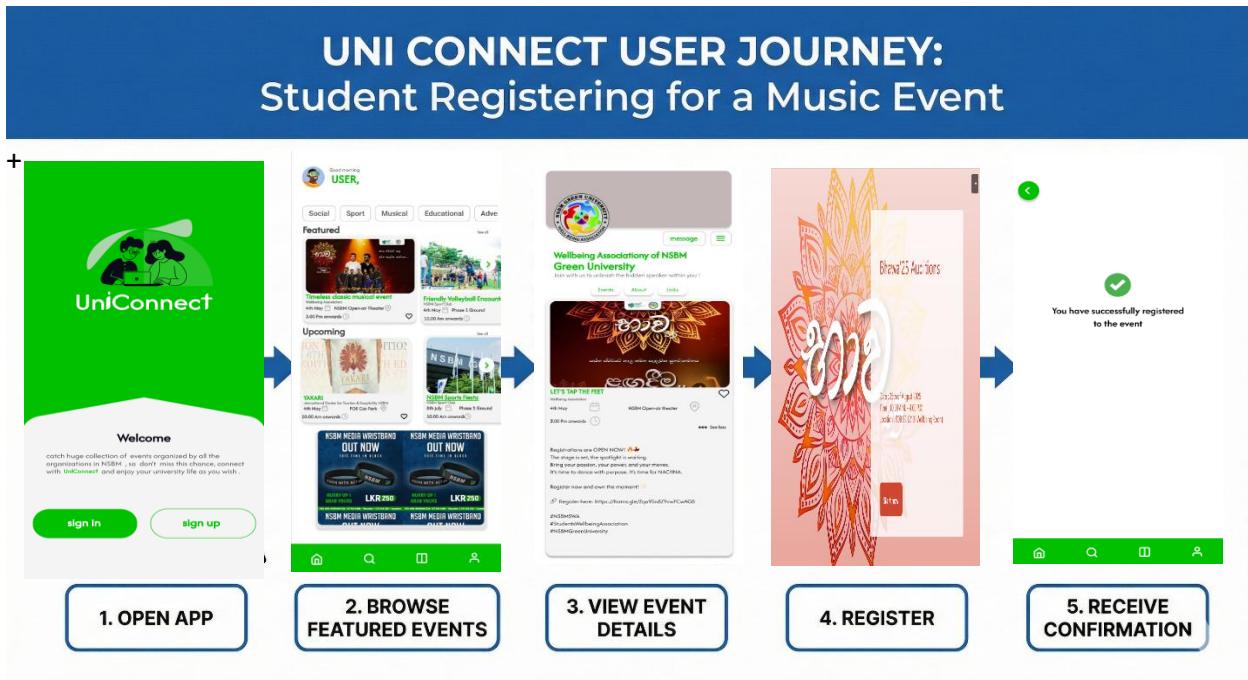
Administrator Empathy Map



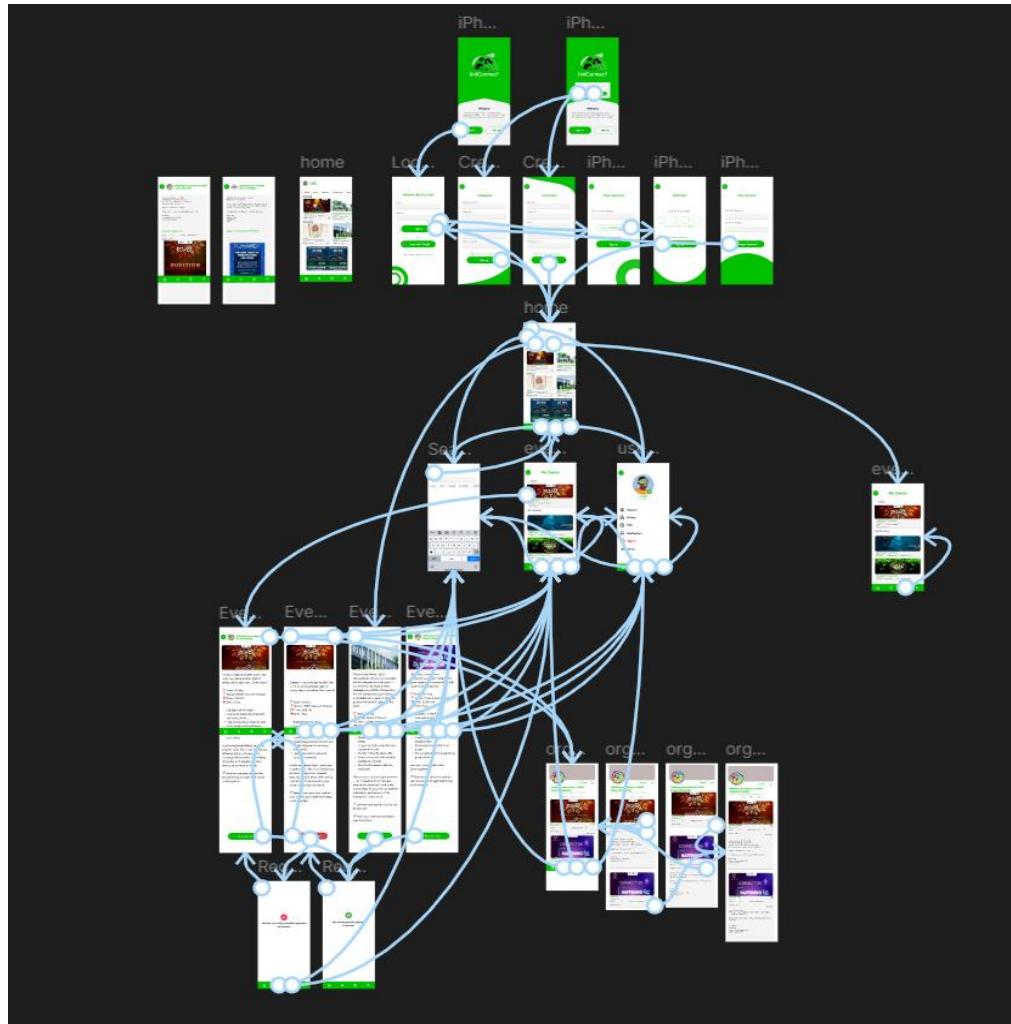
Design Process



User Journey



Wireframes and Prototypes

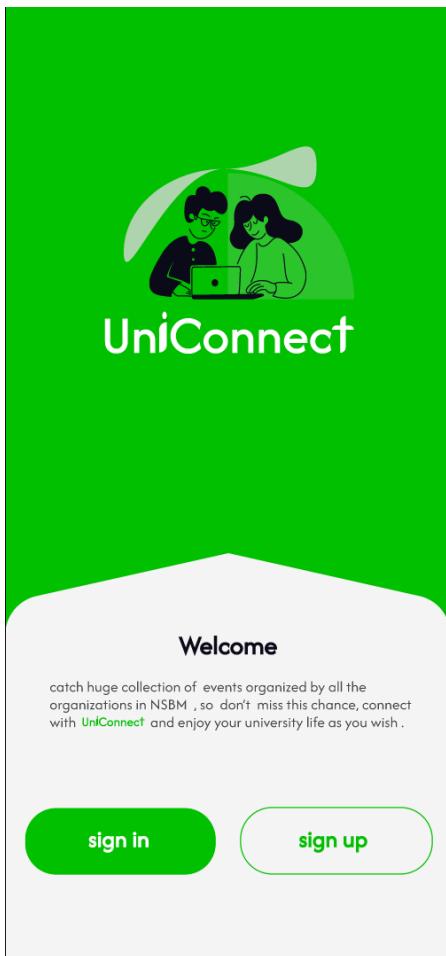


High-Fidelity Prototypes

High-fidelity prototypes refined the interface using consistent typography, spacing, and color usage. Interactive elements provide immediate feedback, guiding users through each step of the process.

Link: <https://www.figma.com/design/pQxbOFghCmHrgWB7FcSpkO/Untitled?node-id=0-1&t=woRyJnFpNnzujieD-1>

Sample screens



The home screen displays a "Good morning USER," greeting. It includes a navigation bar with categories: Social, Sport, Musical, Educational, and Advertising. A "Featured" section shows thumbnails for "Timeless classic musical event" and "Friendly Volleyball Encount". A "Upcoming" section shows thumbnails for "YAKARI" and "NSBM Sports Fiesta". A promotional banner at the bottom advertises NSBM Media Wristbands.

The event screen shows a "My Events" section with a "Today" card for a "Timeless classic musical event". It also features a "Up Coming" section with cards for "DAY LEFT TO JOIN!" and "GREEN FIESTA 2025". A green footer bar is visible at the bottom.

Good morning
USER,

Social Sport Musical Educational Adve

Featured

Timeless classic musical event
Wellbeing Association
4th May NSBM Open-air Theater 3.00 Pm onwards

Friendly Volleyball Encount
NSBM Sport Club
4th May Phase 1 Ground 10.00 Am onwards

Upcoming

YAKARI International Center for Tourism & Hospitality NSBM
4th May FOE Car Park 10.00 Am onwards

NSBM MEDIA WRISTBAND OUT NOW
THIS TIME IN BLOCK
HURRY UP! GRAB YOURS LKR 250

NSBM MEDIA WRISTBAND OUT NOW
THIS TIME IN BLOCK
HURRY UP! GRAB YOURS LKR 250



Campus is open to get involved! Join us for an unforgettable night of music, talent, and vibes. Don't miss it!

Date: 4th May
Venue: NSBM Open-air Theater
Time: 3.00 PM
Entry: Free

Highlights of the Night:

- Live performances by talented university artists
- High-energy band and solo acts
- A mix of genres to suit every



Where Speed Meets Spirit!
Get ready for the most anticipated athletic showdown of the year — the Inter-Faculty Track & Field Championship 2025! Witness the fiercest competition, raw talent, and unshakable team spirit as faculties go head-to-head for glory on the field.

Date: 8th July
Venue: Phase 2 Ground
Time: 10 AM Onwards
Entry: Free

NSBM GREEN UNIVERSITY • WELL-BEING ASSOCIATION

message

Events About Links

Wellbeing Association of NSBM Green University
Join with us to unleash the hidden speaker within you !

LET'S TAP THE FEET

Wellbeing Association
4th May NSBM Open-air theater 3.00 Pm onwards

Registrations are OPEN NOW! 🔥
The stage is set, the spotlight is waiting.
Bring your passion, your power, and your moves.
It's time to dance with purpose. It's time for NACHNA.

Register now and own the moment! 🎉

Register here: <https://forms.gle/Zqo9Sn6ZYwvFCwAG6>

#NSBMSWA
#StudentsWellbeingAssociation
#NSBMDGreenUniversity



You have successfully registered to the event



You have successfully cancelled registration for the event

5. Visual Design

Research Approach

Inspired by modern event and social platforms.

Color Palette

- Primary Green (NSBM identity)
- Dark backgrounds for contrast
- Accent highlights

The image displays the UniConnect application interface. On the left, the login screen features a large green header "Welcome, To UniConnect". Below it are fields for "E-mail" and "Password", followed by a "forgot password?" link and a prominent green "sign in" button. An alternative "Login with Google" option is shown below. At the bottom, a link "Don't have an account, Create one" is visible next to a large green circular icon. On the right, the main feed screen shows a user profile with the text "Good morning USER," and a navigation bar with categories: Social, Sport, Musical, Educational, and Advertising. Below this are sections for "Featured" events (e.g., "Timeless classic musical event" on May 4th) and "Upcoming" events (e.g., "YAKARI" on May 4th and "NSBM Sports Fiesta" on July 8th). A final section at the bottom shows "NSBM MEDIA WRISTBAND OUT NOW" offers for LKR 250.

6. Accessibility, Security and Inclusivity

Visual Accessibility

- High contrast
- Large tap targets

Interaction Accessibility

- Keyboard support
- Error feedback

Assistive Technology Support

- Screen reader compatibility

Inclusivity

- Gender-neutral language
- Multiple event categories

7. Feedback

Introduction

User testing was conducted with NSBM students.

Participants

- 10 students
- 3 organizers

Improvements from Feedback

- Improved navigation labels
- Faster registration flow

8. Future Roadmap

- Push notifications
- AI-based event recommendations
- Calendar integration
- Analytics dashboard for organizers

9. Critical Evaluation and Reflection

The project successfully applied HCI principles, though future iterations can further optimize performance and personalization.

10. Conclusion

UniConnect provides an effective solution for improving student engagement and campus connectivity. Through thoughtful UX design, accessibility, and iterative feedback, the platform demonstrates how digital solutions can enhance university life

Student Name	Student ID
H.W.G.G.N Weerasekara	32773
W.G.S.H Premachandra	32775
H.R.P.M Wickramanayake	32553
J.M.T Bandara	32729
H.A.N Sandunsara	32280
N.W.G.G.C Sandakemu	32664
W.M.J.N Gunathilaka	33084
A.G.I.H Vijeveera	32878

