



Little Ram Pantries

Fighting food insecurity with
newspaper boxes

Multi-24-620

Joshua Hayes, Jack Gurdin, Nick Gacek, Jose Rosario, David Hightower
Advised by Daniel Cranston and Supriyo Bandyopadhyay



Of **nearly 30,000** students at VCU,
35% go **hungry** every day.



A wide-angle photograph of a VCU campus plaza. In the foreground, large 3D letters spelling 'VCU' in yellow and black are visible on the left. A paved walkway with a red and grey brick pattern leads towards a large, modern, white building with a grid-like facade. Several people are walking and a person is riding a bicycle on the path. A yellow banner with black text is superimposed across the middle of the image.

VCU is not an outlier



Little Ram Pantries have been proven to help



Project has expanded from 5 pantries to 14



Over 7,000 interactions last year.



Challenge

How might we
streamline the
process of food?



No dedicated website,
students are unaware of
most pantries



Must be physically present to
see what's inside, inconvenient
for a busy student



Limited research analytics,
restricted to only the
interaction times

Solution



A mobile-optimized web app, built for the busy student on the go

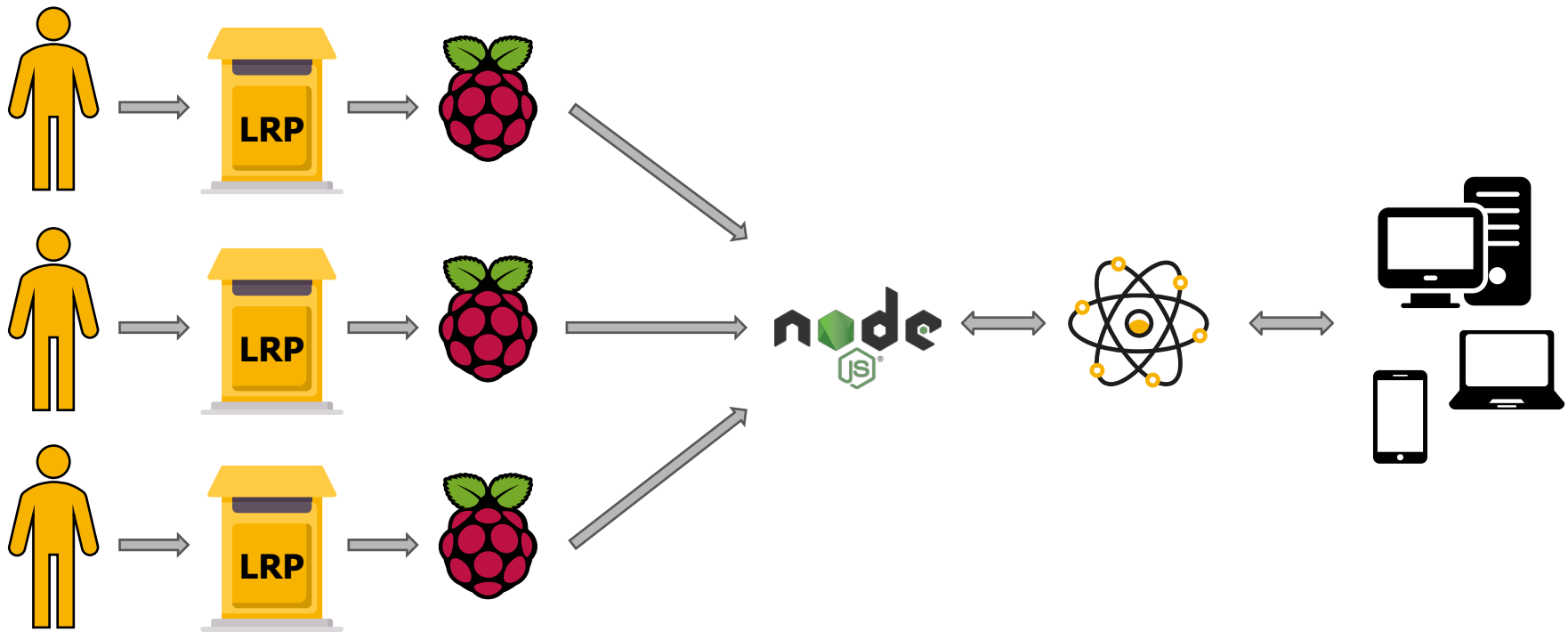


Webcams that activate on use, integrating with already present technology



A logic layer for data processing, amplifying the research potential

Create a tool that takes the guesswork out of finding a food pantry.



A student interacts with the pantry.

Raspberry Pi uploads new photo to web server.

Analytical data and photos are processed.

Contents can be viewed from any device

Positive Impact



By streamlining access to food, there will be fewer hungry students



Volunteers will be able to leverage the app, making it easy to maintain stock levels



This technology will be shared across the nation, compounding the impact



<http://LittleRamPantries.com>

