

Vision and scope
of
“Post Office”— a forum chat-like message board

Version 1.0 approved

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Revision history

ver. 1.0	Initial draft	23/06/2019
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1 Business requirements

LNU Student Forums are forums widely used by students across Ivan Franko L'viv National University. Forums are a great format for communication between students if the topic is complex enough. The goal of this project is to create an embeddable chat-like message board for simple questions and reactive communication between students.

1.1 Background

LNU Student Forums were founded in 2016 by volunteering students across the university. They have been popular within the founding school, but more and more students drew in. The forums are sectioned on per-field basis and have private per-group sections as well.

1.2 Business opportunity

User bases of popular messenger platforms start to drop low. But as usual, students need a reactive messenger platform, be it a group in "Telegram" or "Messenger". Sometimes, groups stay on one platform just because that is the only line of communication they have. The goal of this project is to provide students with a good replacement embed in the forums, so each group of students has their own chat room, the only function of which is to keep the communication between groups of students, and that isn't dependant on social media platforms.

1.3 Business Objectives and Success Criteria

The primary objective is to draw in at least 75% of students that use the forums to also use the messageboard/chat for reactive communication. Secondary objective is to draw in more students to use the LNU Student Forums, even if just for the chatroom of their group. The main metrics for the two will be:

- Ratio of unique forum users and unique chatroom users over a month.
- LNU Student Forums statistics, that show the count of registered and active users.

1.4 Business risks

Issue	Probability	Impact
Very few students might find the chat platform convenient	40%	That would show that implementing the project does not bring high returns.

2 Vision of the project

2.1 Vision statement

2.2 Main features

- Register an account on the platform on per-group, per-room basis
- Log into the platform
- A logged-on student can leave a message on the board that everyone else on the same board can see.
- Can load the messages from the board.

2.3 Assumptions and dependencies

Assumptions:

- Student is also registered on the LNU Student Forums
- Most students using the platform would be located in Ukraine where servers are planned to be situated for low latency

Dependencies:

- For LNU Student Forums to filter who gets registered on a group or chatroom, they must restrict access to the page containing the chatroom.

3 Scope and limitations

Feature	Release 1	Release 2
Register	Not implemented	Fully implemented
Login	Fully Implemented	Fully implemented
Send message	No security, was just sending a pair of nickname-message	Fully implemented
Load messages	Fully implemented	Fully implemented

3.1 Limitations and exclusions

- There is no checking for whether a new registered user is a member of LNU Student Forums.
- The system only loads last 50 messages for user. It's not possible to load any further in the past, yet.

4 Business Context

4.1 Stakeholder profiles

Stakeholder	Major value	Attitudes	Major interests	Constraints
Forum owners	Lower load on servers, no need to maintain daily topics.	Chat moderation on forum's side	Forum is much cleaner across all boards and has more daily users.	None identified
Students of LNU	Efficient way to communicate with groupmates	Contributions to release 1	A certain way to communicate with the respective group, not bound to a social network	LNU Students Forum account required
University staff	More daily students on the forums, therefore advertising and announcements are much more effective	Provided servers to run LNU Students Forum, on which the project runs as well	Way to reactively communicate with students	None identified.