

CS 30700: Project Backlog

Project Name: FilmedIn

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Problem Statement

There is a need for a coordinated service in Purdue for students interested in film to connect. Students who produce films, are unable to find talent based on their requirements. The film club wants to manage a website with which students who are developing a production can approach other students who are enthusiastic and qualified to participate. This site will also have a news feed for events and will serve to manage inventory to facilitate smooth rental of film equipment by students. backstage.com will be a reference to our project.

Background Information

Audience

Students attending Purdue University or anyone affiliated with the University with an @purdue.edu email address will have access to this website. This service will enable students to connect and share opportunities with anyone interested in film production. They will be given substantial information about events held by the Film Club and about the availability of equipment. In the future we plan to expand this service to other universities as well.

Similar Platforms

The site we will be referencing while creating this website is backstage.com. This site provides similar services but has a wider audience. Our website will be created to only serve students attending Purdue University.

Limitations

The main limitation with existing platforms is that the users are charged to be able to use it. Most current platforms cannot be customized to a specific audience type. We aim to provide the same services to our audience for no charge. Our site will also be exclusively designed for the students of Purdue University in regards to the newsletters and the equipment inventory.

Functional Requirements

1. As a user, I would like to login to the website.
2. As a user, I would like to reset my password (if forgotten) by sending an email to the user.
3. As a user, I would not like my password to be displayed.
4. As a user, I would want my password to be safely stored.
5. As a user, I would like the server to be able to perform account verification during login.
6. As a job seeker, I would like to create a profile.
7. As a user, I would like to edit my profile.
8. As a user, I would like to post a job opportunity and provide a brief description of the role that is required, and the production.
9. As a job seeker, I would like to search through all the jobs/opportunities posted.
10. As a user, I would like to search through all the available profiles based on age.

11. As a user, I would like to search through all the available profiles based on gender.
12. As a user, I would like to search through all the available profiles based on name.
13. As a user, I would like to view the news page.
14. (If time permits) As a user, I would like to view posts relevant to me.
15. As a user, I would like to view the available equipment to the rented.
16. As a user, I would like to view when the equipment will be available on a calendar.
17. As a user, I would like to rent equipment.
18. As an admin, I would like to be able to add and remove users.
19. As an admin, I would like to be able to add and remove posts on the news feed.
20. As an admin, I would like to be able to add and remove equipment available in the inventory.
21. As an admin, I would like to be able to change the color scheme of the site.
22. As an admin, I would like to be able to take the site offline when needed.
23. As an admin, I would like to be able to make changes to the orientation of the website.
24. As a user, I would like to be able to instant message people of interest via the website.
25. As a user, I would like to report inappropriate posts.
26. As a user, I would like to be able to send feedback to the maintainers of the website.
27. As a user, I would like the resume of the applicant to be sent to the person who has posted the job.
28. As a user, I would like to have links to every actor's social media.
29. As a user, I would like to search for profiles faster.
30. As a user I would like to cancel my reservation for equipment at least 24 hours in advance.
31. As a user, I would like to use a website which is accessible to disabled individuals.

Non-Functional Requirements

Architecture and Performance

We plan to develop a web app with a completely different backend consisting of the Web API and a frontend service. Our backend will be a RESTful API (Representational State Transfer) service written in JavaScript using the Node.js framework. Node.js is a Javascript runtime built on Chrome's V8 JavaScript Engine. Node.js uses an event-driven, non-blocking I/O model that makes it lightweight and efficient.

The frontend will be developed using AngularJS, and it will call for the data from the backend by sending requests to the API services.

Scalability

We want to develop a networking platform for actors and film producers. To achieve this goal we plan on initially building a web application for the PC. As we have separated our backend and frontend, it becomes easier for FilmedIn to scale to different platforms such as mobile by just calling our web API. We also plan to reach out to different film related organizations on campus to grow the number of user profiles in our database. We will ideally expand to other universities and maintain exclusivity between them.

Security

We will need to implement various methods to prevent sensitive information from being accessible to the general public. The web application will need to store passwords as well as user profiles/information safely. We will need to encrypt our user's passwords and store them into our database. We would also store the user's profiles safely. We plan to prompt a visitor to sign in to view information that is confidential in nature such as meeting times and venues and other important data.

Usability

FilmedIn should be a user friendly web application. The UI will have simple component and self-explanatory labels and not just symbols. There will be a simple flow to the application, and candidates should be able to search for jobs easily. Our inventory page must also be simple to use and we intend to implement a calendar and timeline feature for users to see what days and time certain equipment are available for them to reserve. Our website will also comply with USA law Section 508 which states about making the website accessible to people with disabilities.

Hosting/Deployment

We will be hosting our backend services on Heroku. It is a powerful platform to host modern architectures and it handles security, build systems, failovers and more. Provisionally, we are thinking about hosting the frontend service on GitHub pages but we will be exploring other options until deployment stage comes.