CampusConnect Project Report

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April 24th, 2016

# Project Description

For our project, we wanted to create a way for CampusConnect is a mobile web application that will be functional on both IOS and Android platforms. Campus Connect is a universal application targeted towards college campuses. It is the medium for student organizations and the school to post events happening around campus for students to see.

# Tasks

Here is a list of the tasks we assigned to our team in order to complete the main features of our application:

* Design the user interface
* Implement Google Maps API
* Connect our app with Backand
* Create our tables/objects in Backand
* Show the created events in the event feed and the map
* Code the “Add Event” function
* Add User profiles with profile image upload, name, and bios
* Implement search by tags/category function
* Verified Users
  + Create an Action that sends an email to the Admin(s) requesting to become a Verified User when the user submits a “Get Verified” request
* Create the Event Detail page that shows the specific details of each event
  + Displays the Event information (Event Description, Location, Date/Time, Event Image, etc.)
  + User Comment function
  + Checked-In Users
* Check-In function
* Implement the Side Navigation Menu with Tabs
* Login/Sign-in function

# Team

Our Team function very well. We all contributed to the project. Taylor helped with the design and development of the app. Miko helped with the database as well as the development. And Lauren helped with whatever else was needed such as the development and the development of the app.

# Our Accomplishments

For the most part, we accomplished most of the things we initially planned on completing. We implemented the following features/functions:

* Verified Users
* GPS Map
* Event Information
  + Start/end Times
  + Descriptions
  + Contact info
  + Location
* Tags/Filters
* User Populated Events
* User Check-In
* User Profiles
* User rankings
* Comments on Events

There were, however, some things we were not able to accomplish. But, these were features that we categorized as medium-low level priority. Here are some of those features that, if we were to continue develop our app, we would include:

* User Subscribed feed
  + Users can subscribe to certain organization in order for those events to appear on their personalized event feed
* Sponsored Feed Items
* School Login Requirement
* RSVP to Future Events
* Push Notifications of nearby or relevant events
* Food Trucks

# Our Problems

Our biggest problem that we ran into was connected our application to the database. At first, we tried to connect our app with the SoIC servers but we had a hard time getting that to work with our platform. So, we decided to use a Backend-as-a-Service called Backand. Backand worked very well with Ionic/Angularjs. We didn’t have to use PHP, which was something that none of our team knew very well. Therefore, using Backand saved us a lot of time and effort that allowed us to focus more on the functionality and design of our application as opposed to the database.

We also had issues with AngularJs. For our team, AngularJs was a new language. So, when developing our application, we had to learn Angular as we went along because we just didn’t have enough time to learn it before we started development. The fact that the resources for AngularJs were scarce alos made it very difficult to develop our app.

# What We Would’ve Done Differently

Looking back, there are a few things we would’ve done differently if given the opportunity to do so. Even though we got our app done before the Capstone Fair, it would have been less stressful if we would’ve started the development process earlier in the semester. Then, we might have been able to deploy a more polished product.

We also would’ve focused more on learning AngularJS before we started development so we wouldn’t have had to learn it as we developed.

Despite our small problems, overall, our project turned out very well.