

CMPT 363 - GROUP PROJECT TEAM 18 PART 2

Manav Patel – mjpatel@sfu.ca – 301368020
Dhruv Patel – djpatel@sfu.ca – 301385233
Vraj Patel – vrajp@sfu.ca – 301384968
Jordan Lembong – lembongj@sfu.ca – 301354072
Young Been Lee – ybl3@sfu.ca – 301244854

Context identification

Every university student needs an application to find up-to-date information on a regular basis such as course or campus related information. There are different reasons to use SFU snap, for example, either to search for your classrooms on the first day of a semester, to find assignment deadlines or exam schedules without having to open canvas all the time. Additionally, it helps search for other campus related information such as latest weather conditions, dining places with timings and exact location, library services that allows booking a room or library timings, contact information based on each department, and transit information that shows bus timings from the campus. The application may be used by other general users as well that do not require to login to find campus information. There are some rules they should comply with. Users typically want a faster and reliable way to get information in a timely manner. They may use the app at any time of the day from any location with their smartphones, either with an IOS or Android operating system.

User identification

The online application is designed mainly for students who are currently studying at SFU. Their courses schedules are integrated into the app when logged in and has various other activities for students to find hangout places.

Functional and non-functional Requirements

Functional Requirement #1: The social aspect in the application should not be complicated, having only simple functions commonly used in social media. When appropriate they must be clearly visible.

Functional Requirement #2: Check what my followed programs/clubs at SFU have posted. A solution is to add a specific button that shows your favorite/followed programs/clubs recent posts.

Functional Requirement #3: Social features should be navigated through the use of icons as buttons

Non-Functional Requirement #1: Most features related to socializing should be separated from the rest of the app.

Non-Functional Requirement #2: Should remove the activity log on Facebook. Privacy matters.

Non-Functional Requirement #3: Icon buttons should be easily accessible and clearly identify the function it represents

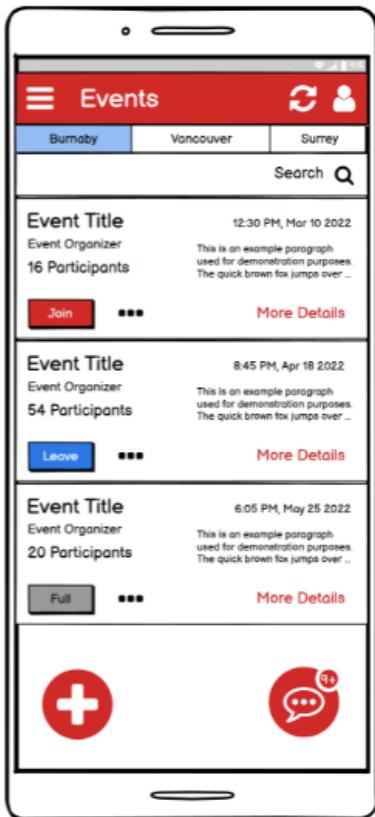
Low-Fidelity Prototypes

Design 1

This prototype utilizes a minimalistic design while still following the original app's theme. The social tab mainly shows posts which contain appropriate information such as the title, author, date/time, and actual post content. The content itself may only contain text, videos, and/or images. On the other hand, the Events tab shows only features related to events. Although it is a similarly minimalistic design, it also gives the user the ability to join and leave events, select campus filters, and search for events.

The social page also includes two subtabs to filter between all content; and only favorite and friend's content. Through this, it is clear to the user what kind of posts they are viewing.

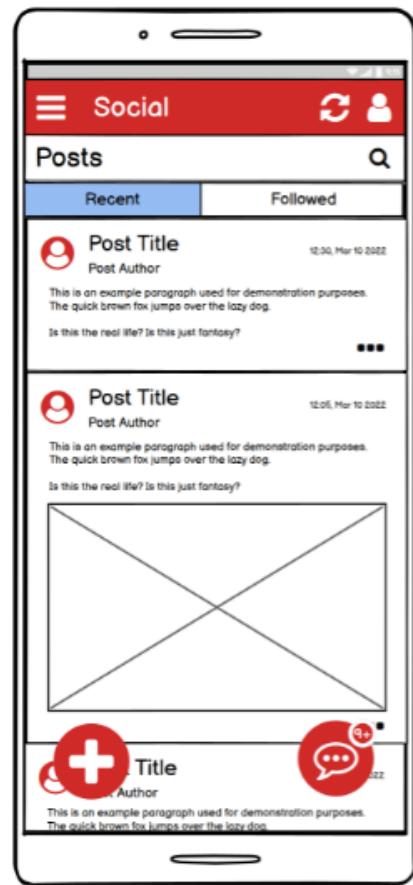
Appropriate features are accessible by buttons which are depicted by simple icons. This includes creating a post, notifications, searching, refresh, and profile.



The social aspects are separate from the rest of the application through the use of new tabs or pages. It may not be apparent from the prototype, but these tabs are separated in the same way "Dashboard", "Parking", "Transit", etc. have their own pages accessible from the sidebar.

The prototype does not include any activity feeds, nor does utilize any feature that saves user data

The two buttons on the bottom of the screen allow the user to create a post (signified by a '+' symbol), or view their notifications (signified by a speech bubble used universally to symbolize messages). The notifications button also includes a number on the top-right to indicate how many notifications the user has left unread.



Design 2

For functional requirement 1, we have a minimalistic design as seen on the dashboard, we just added 3 buttons namely: favorite button (star shape), social button and events button. And in the social page there is enough white space for better visual aid and to reduce congestion.

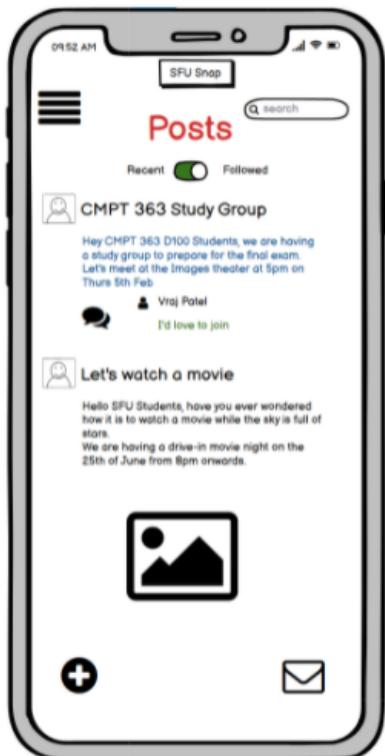
For functional requirement 2, we have added a favorites button (star shape) which will lead to the users favorite events pages or social posts.

For functional requirement 3, we proposed having symbols that intently relate to its usefulness with its genuine world/normally utilized partner. To make sense of it in more detail, we used a group of users for a social logo, to make it seem that it's regarding everyone's involvement and for the events we used a calendar logo, as a reference to mark a particular activity.



To handle the primary non-functional requirement of minimalistic design we have separate pages for social interactions and events activity.

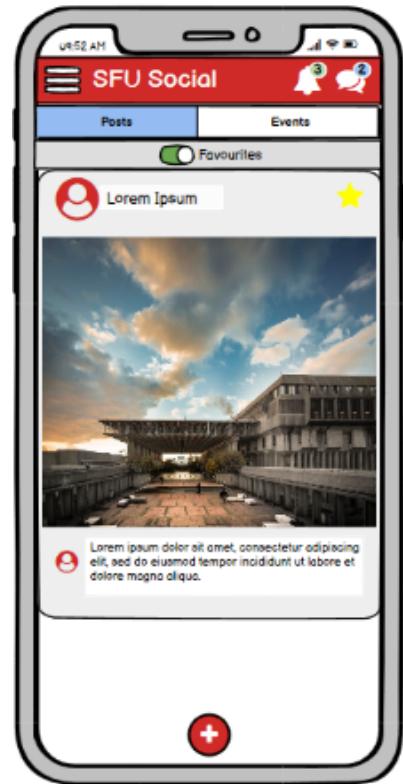
To handle the privacy matters, we decided to not show users activity log, as we believe users privacy matters.



Design 3

The design accomplishes the requirement for being minimalist in form of the post and event pages having a certain amount of white spacing to reduce congestion. To help with the minimalistic design concept, there are no options to comment/like the posts. The option to not have any likes and comments follows the pledging for mental health awareness. Research shows how social media apps negatively impact students' mental health in the form of negative comments and dislikes, etc, therefore, we completely removed them from our designs. This will help with congestion of text on the screen. To tackle the associated non-functional requirement, the design includes separate pages for users to post pictures/thoughts and check out different events on the campuses.

To tackle the second functional requirement, there is a star on the post which internally adds the post to your favorites and a switch to toggle between all the posts and favorite/followed posts. This in turn helped us tackle the non-functional requirement of not having an activity log to protect student privacy. Therefore, we have completely ignored the prospect of having a page where the user can see their overall activity. This means SFU doesn't store the activity log for the user and there will be no privacy concern for the user.



For the third and final functional requirement the design has buttons in the form of icons that helps the user navigate to either add a post using the "+" icon on the bottom of the screen and importantly access the notifications/chats with the bell/message icons on the toolbar of the app. To tackle the associated non-functional requirement of having icons that clearly identify the functions they represent, the design has minimal icons together with use of text where suitable icons couldn't be found, e.g for the events and posts tab under the toolbar, there are no universal icons to represent these and so we made use of text to not confuse the user and still keep a minimalistic design.

Medium-Fidelity Prototypes

For the Medium-Fidelity Prototype design, we decided to combine our 3 Low-Fidelity Prototypes:

The navbar design is based on LFP 3 with two notification buttons on the top of the screen alongside the page name and sidebar as users are more accustomed to associating notifications in that area.

The “Social” and “Events” buttons on SFU Snap’s home screen are based on LFP 2. It made sense to not only add the tabs to the sidebar, but also the dashboard in the original SFU Snap.

The layout for the “Events” tab uses the design from LFP 1 and elements such as the “favorite” switch are from LFPs 2 and 3. Each event post is specific, and using a switch to toggle favorites is simpler than using tabs.

The layout for the “Posts” tab combines the color coding and ‘+’ button of LFP 3 and the general layout of LFP 1. Using color made the app more visually appealing and since the notification buttons were on the top, the new post button moved to the center for symmetry.

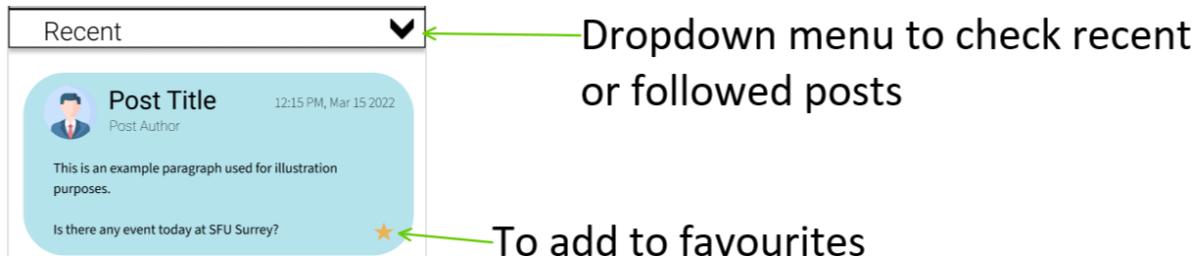
Horizontal MFP

The horizontal MFP focuses on three aspects; the first one being the homepage from where we may navigate to other parts of the app, such as social and events, the second one is the social page where users may post, look for posts, and may add posts to favorites as well, and the third one is the events page where users are allowed to create their own events or look at events created by other users, with an option of joining new events, leaving for a registered events or adding an event to favorites.

This part makes use of minimalistic design through reducing the use of icons or texts in appropriate pages and keeping the focus on user needs without any extra features that appear across other platforms. Both of our social and events pages make use of interactive buttons in terms of a drop-down menu to perform more operations of selection.

Firstly, the “dashboard” page has a variety of options to choose from including the added options of “social” and “events”. Both the “social” and “events” page have a variety of features to start with. The top of the social page has two icons, the first one for “notifications” and the second one for “messages”. This helps the users to directly navigate to “Notifications” and “Messages”. This part allows us to remove options from the dashboard for minimalism.

Unlike our LPF's, we designed to keep the posts simple on the "social" page. Unlike other applications, we decided to remove the comments, and like options to remove the icons for a better design. Our posts have two main features, either they can be sorted out using the drop-down menu by most recent, or by followed.. Additionally, each post has a "star" icon. When clicked, the icon will turn yellow and the post will automatically be saved in your favourites.



The events page provides the users with latest information on the events that have been added by various users. Users are also allowed to creat an event according to their preferences.



On top of the events page, we have an option to choose the campus to find campus-related events through a drop-down menu. This interactive feature allows our users to navigation with a minimalist design.

Further, the events on the page show a variety of details such as the organizer and how many participants. The buttons "Join" allows a users to attend the event and "leave" allows the user to opt-out of the event. Additionally, if the seats are all taken, it shows "full".



The "add" button on both the "social" and "events" page allows us to create a new post or event respectively.

Further when we add a toggle on top of the page, it has an option to navigate to our favorites page on both the "social" and "events" page.



Vertical MFP

The Vertical MFP focuses on the notification aspect of the application, highlighting features and capabilities when something is sent to the user.

Requirements

This prototype follows the minimalist design through reducing the amount of text in appropriate pages and choosing to put detailed descriptions in pages such as Security Notifications, which users may click to view in detail. We have also opted to use a dropdown menu as a way to filter notifications by type (event invitations, friend requests, and security notifications), which allows for more white space on the page for minimalism.

Since a “favorites” toggle may not be appropriate for notifications, we have not included this feature in the Vertical MFP. However, the previously mentioned dropdown menu accomplishes a similar goal in filtering notifications.

The main pages related to notifications, namely the “Notifications” and “Messages” tabs are accessible through buttons on the top right of the screen through icons. If the user is currently in the “Notifications” page, the notifications button does not appear. This is also the case for the messages button in the “Messages” page.

As notifications were already implemented previously, we have added the button on the top of the dashboard. However, the messages button is not shown except in the “Social”, “Events”, or “Notifications” tabs because it is not appropriate in other pages such as “Parking” or “Transit”.

Similarly to our LFPs, the application does not include an activity log, using account history sparingly for features such as “favorites”.

Several buttons which redirect to key features are represented by icons which clearly indicate its purpose. The bell for notifications, speech bubbles for messaging, arrow pointing down for the dropdown menu are all universally recognized icons used by many applications.

Directions

The interactive presentation begins in the SFU Snap dashboard, showing the application's different pages including the new "Social" and "Events" buttons.

Upon clicking the notifications button on the top right, you will see a variety of clickable notifications. Each type functions differently upon click. The dropdown menu allows filtering of certain notification types.

Accepting or rejecting friend requests will remove it from your notifications, viewing an event invitation will redirect you to the events page with an event highlighted in red borders, and security notifications will take you to a page with the full message

While exploring the functionality of notifications, you may have noticed the messaging button on certain pages. Clicking on this will show a list of users who can also be clicked on to open a chat (you may pull up the keyboard, but not type). There will also be a green bar notifying that you have new message requests.

The message requests page allows users to accept or reject message requests. Clicking either button will remove the request from the list. Upon returning to the "Messages" page, you will see that the green bar is gone.

Learning to Design MFPs

While Figma is a powerful tool for prototyping, there were certain difficulties we came across.

One example in the Vertical MFP is that you are able to click on the search bar, but not type into it, as it was not possible for us to implement the search function.

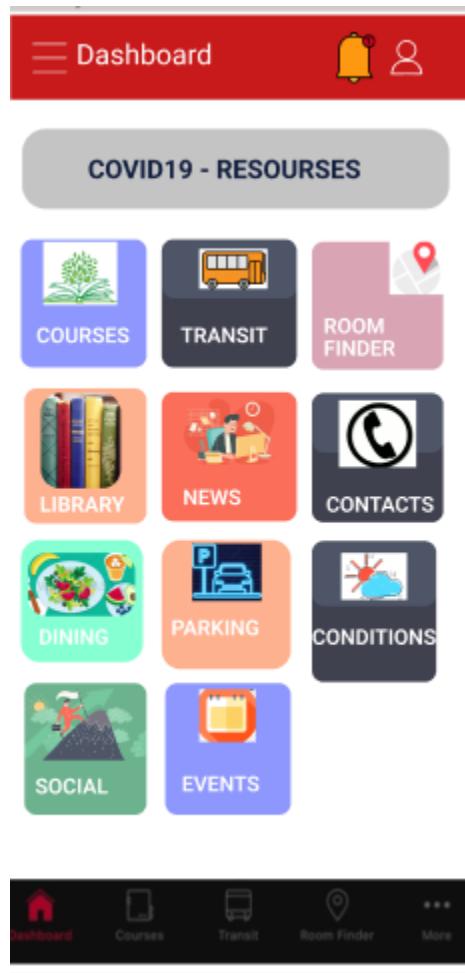
A friends list is another feature we could have added, but opted not to include given its complexity in Figma and our limited experience.

Another challenge we found was difficulty in using icons and images. Figma does not include built-in images apart from simple shapes, which meant we needed to manually import files from our devices. This led to certain icons such as the bell and speech bubbles appearing out of place as they were the best images we could use without creating our own.

We were also unsure about differences based on the specific device. We noticed that the iOS version of SFU Snap was different to the Android version, and we did not choose to show these subtle details.

Appendix

Horizontal MFP



← Social

Favourites

Recent

Post Title Post Author 12:15 PM, Mar 15 2022
This is an example paragraph used for illustration purposes.
Is there any event today at SFU Surrey? ★

Post Title Post Author 1:10 PM, Mar 22 2022
This is an example paragraph to illustrate how we may post a picture of Social


Post Title Post Author 5:15 AM, Apr 15 2022
+ 

← Events

Favourites

Select Campus

Event Title Event organizer 16 Participants 12:30 PM, Mar 10, 2022
This is a sample example paragraph used for demonstration purposes!
Join Click for more details! ★

Event Title Event organizer 65 Participants 8:30 PM, Apr 12, 2022
This is a sample example paragraph used for demonstration purposes!
Full Click for more details! ★

Event Title Event organizer 30 Participants 10:30 PM, Apr 20, 2022
This is a sample example paragraph used for demonstration purposes!
Leave Click for more details! ★

Event Title Event organizer 45 Participants 6:30 AM, Apr 25, 2022
This is a sample example paragraph used for demonstration purposes!
Full Click for more details! ★ 

← Social

Favourites

Recent

Post Title Post Author 12:15 PM, Mar 15 2022
This is an example paragraph used for illustration purposes.
Is there any event today at SFU Surrey? ★

Post Title Post Author 1:10 PM, Mar 22 2022
This is an example paragraph to illustrate how we may post a picture on Social


Post Title Post Author 5:15 AM, Apr 15 2022
+ 

← Events

Favourites

Select Campus

Event Title Event organizer 16 Participants 12:30 PM, Mar 10, 2022
This is a sample example paragraph used for demonstration purposes!
Join Click for more details! ★

Event Title Event organizer 30 Participants 10:30 PM, Apr 20, 2022
This is a sample example paragraph used for demonstration purposes!
Leave Click for more details! ★

Event Title Event organizer 45 Participants 6:30 AM, Apr 25, 2022
This is a sample example paragraph used for demonstration purposes!
Full Click for more details! ★ 

Event Title Event organizer 45 Participants 6:30 AM, Apr 25, 2022
This is a sample example paragraph used for demonstration purposes!
Full Click for more details! ★

Vertical MFPs

Social

Favourites

Recent

Post Title Post Author 12:15 PM, Mar 15 2022
This is an example paragraph used for illustration purposes.
Is there any event today at SFU Surrey? ★

Post Title Post Author 1:10 PM, Mar 22 2022
This is an example paragraph to illustrate how we may post a picture of Social

Post Title Post Author 5:15 AM, Apr 15 2022
+ (red plus sign)

Events

Vancouver

Event Title Event organizer 16 Participants 12:30 PM, Mar 10, 2022
This is a sample example paragraph used for demonstration purposes!
Join ★

Event Title Event organizer 65 Participants 8:30 PM, Apr 12, 2022
This is a sample example paragraph used for demonstration purposes!
Full ★

Event Title Event organizer 30 Participants 10:30 PM, Apr 20, 2022
This is a sample example paragraph used for demonstration purposes!
Leave ★

Event Title Event organizer 45 Participants 6:30 AM, Apr 25, 2022
This is a sample example paragraph used for demonstration purposes!
Full ★

+

Notifications

Filter by Type

Event Invitation 12:00 Sender

Friend Request 12:00 Sender

Friend Request 12:00 Sender

Security Notification 12:00 Sender

Event Invitation 12:00 Sender

Event Invitation 12:00 Sender

Friend Request 12:00 Sender

Notifications

No new Notification

← Notifications 

Filter by Type 

Event Invitation	12:00
Sender	
Friend Request	
Sender	12:00
ACCEPT	
REJECT	
Friend Request	12:00
Sender	
Security Notification	12:00
Sender	
Event Invitation	12:00
Sender	
Event Invitation	12:00
Sender	
Friend Request	12:00
Sender	

Title

Description

← Notifications 

Filter by Type 

Events
Friend Requests
Security Issues

← Notifications 

Event Invitation 

Event Invitation	12:00
Sender	
Event Invitation	12:00
Sender	
Event Invitation	12:00
Sender	
Event Invitation	12:00
Sender	
Event Invitation	12:00
Sender	

← Notifications



Friend Request

Friend Request 12:00
Sender

Friend Request 12:00
Sender

Friend Request 12:00
Sender

Friend Request 12:00
Sender

Security Notification

Security Notification 12:00
Sender

Security Notification 12:00
Sender

Security Notification 12:00
Sender

← Messages



Search

New Message Requests

Firstname Lastname 12:00
This is an example message ...

Firstname Lastname 12:00
This is an example message ...

← Message Requests

Firstname Lastname 12:00



Accept

Reject

