

Abstract

Our goal is to create an efficient system for students to find groups in the Grand Challenges Initiative (GCI) program in the STEM department at Chapman University. GCI suffers from an enrollment problem. The problem arises in the transition from the First Year Focus Course (FFC) of GCI to the Grand Challenges Initiative seminars (SCI) classes. Our solution to this problem is to create an app that helps match together groups using gamification. So far, our team has a completed wireframe of the application, as well a prototype of the website. We have completed the home screen and the logins screen of the site. We are also hosting the site on a Chapman server. We are currently working on the matching system and the chat system.

Introduction

A need for a new enrollment system:

- Issues with enrollment from FFC 100 to SCI 150
- There were 17 incomplete groups. Only 3 groups specified their specific challenge
- Problem is due to a poor medium to find desirable groups to join
- Current system is a google sheet where people post their groups if they are looking for members
- Communication is difficult and people often forget to take their names off when a group is found

Methods

- Learn Javascript, HTML/CSS
- Create a platform (app/website) that allows for groups and members to easily communicate
- Have a system where groups can post what their project is about and students can search for desired topics
- Have a chat system where students can easily communicate with each other instantly
- Use the action of swiping/selecting on students as a gamification feature
- Research the effectiveness of gamification to keep the user engaged

Improving Group Finding in the GCI Programs

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Results

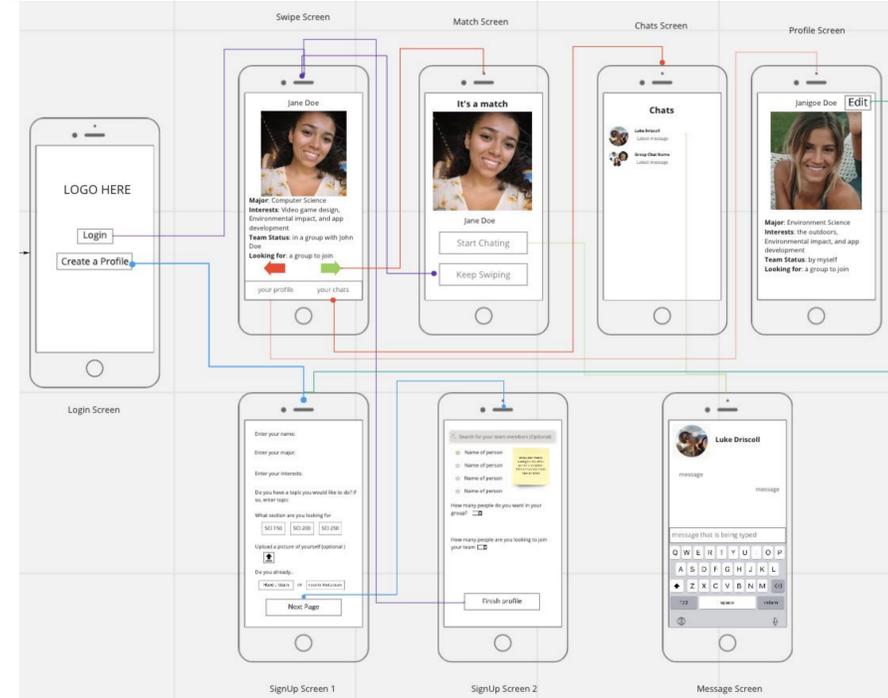


Figure 1: Wireframe for the mobile application that translates well to the site

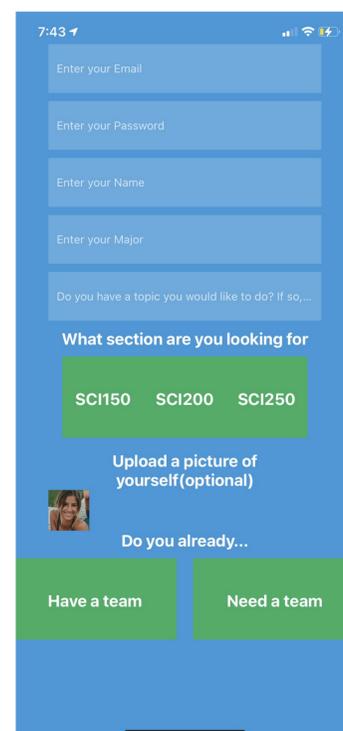


Figure 2: The login/create account screen

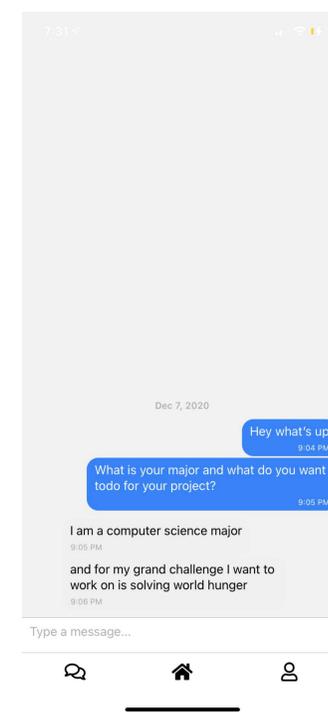


Figure 3: The chat system

Conclusion

- Using gamification is an effective technique with apps
- We would have liked to utilize this to make a swiping system
- Instead we combined the original system and added a messaging section where you can message the group you want to join
- We did not have the opportunity to test out our website with testers.
- The big picture impact of our findings is: using this website is a way for people without groups to decrease, since both the messaging and group finding sections are combined in one location.

References

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