CSE/ISE 312 Fall 2023
 Final Project

SBU Career Closet Website

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Link to Project:
https://www.figma.com/file/667Z4ba0lGPHTXTcCKMwrH/CSE-312-Final

Introduction:

It is well known in professional settings that first impressions matter, and dressing nicely is a key part of making a good impression. As such, students who cannot afford to dress well at professional networking events will have a much harder time finding a job compared to those who can buy professional clothes. To help with this problem, Stony Brook University's Career Center currently provides an in-person service, known as the Career Closet, to help economically disadvantaged students borrow professional clothing at no cost. However, the lack of technological integration with this service hinders its effectiveness for several reasons.

Background:

Studies show that the term "dress for success" actually has real-world implications. A study conducted by Yale in 2014 split 128 men into 3 groups - poorly dressed, neutrally dressed, and professionally dressed - and then held mock negotiations for buying and selling. In all cases, the men who were more professionally dressed had massively more success in their negotiations[1]. This phenomenon affects job searching as well - those with better appearances will leave a positive impression on the employer, leading to higher chances of getting a job regardless of their actual qualifications. In order to even out the playing field and give economically disadvantaged students an equal chance at employment, we can employ technology to assist them in finding fitting professional clothes through the Career Closet.

Prototype Description:

Our prototype app will be hosted on the internet. The service our app provides makes the most sense being hosted online. Some benefits include ease of access, high availability, and convenience. To accomplish this, we will use Stony Brook University's OmniCMS integration to host and serve content[2]. OmniCMS is a content management system which provides easy website creation and management tools. Once hosted, the website will be available on all platforms with

internet access, allowing for students to browse available items and schedule appointments at all times.

The intent is that all services provided by the Career Closet can be accessed online. For students, this includes browsing which clothing items are available to borrow, scheduling drop off/pick up, making appointments to come in-person. For administrators and others who run the Career Closet, this includes keeping inventory of available items, viewing and managing appointments, and scheduling deliveries.

Implementation Plan:

To implement our solution, we will be using OmniCMS provided by Stony Brook University as mentioned previously. To start, we need to submit a New Site Request on Stony Brook's OmniCMS support site. Once approved, we can use the tools provided by this content management system to build the site itself. Once completed, the site can be tested before being deployed publicly.

Once it's ready for deployment, we can add links from other SBU Career Center sites to our new website so that it can be found and easily accessed. Long term hosting is managed entirely by the University, and since OmniCMS itself is a service upon which apps are built, it can be easily maintained by other site administrators as they'll already be familiar with how to create and maintain websites.

Software Maintenance Plan:

Updating the project is as simple as logging into OmniCMS, which the site is built on, and adding/modifying components. New functionality can be built out using the provided tools. Scaling the project depends on Stony Brook's internal network. For example, accounts will be set up to use SBU SSO login (NetID + Password + Duo Authentication), and as such it is not up to us to maintain an account management system. Further scaling, such as increasing the amount of clothes we manage, can be serviced by upgrading the backing database. Such a job would be fulfilled by submitting a request to the SBU IT department. As is evident from these scenarios, integrating closely with Stony Brook's existing network

infrastructure has numerous benefits, including ease of maintenance, sustainability, and scaling.

References:

[1]: https://academicminute.org/2016/01/michael-kraus-yale-clothing-behavior/

[2]: https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/ousupport/contact-us.php#NewSiteRequest