FSU's CCI Mobile Application

Functional Spec #1

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This is a functional specification for the creation of FSU's College of Communication and Information (hereinafter CCI) iOS application. This spec is not complete. The graphics and layout of the screens are shown here to merely illustrate the underlying functionality. The actual look and feel will be developed over time with the input of graphics and designers and interactive user feedback.

Project Overview:
Goals, Audience, and Tools

CCI's Info Board is an iOS universal application that runs on an iPad or iPhone. It is designed to pull the latest College of Communication and Information job, internship and event postings from the CCI web site at http://news.cci.fsu.edu via the college's multiple RSS feeds.

Goals

As developed in the strategic brief, the overall goals of this is:

- Attract and inform a diverse audience of current CCI students
- Provide useful, timely content in a compelling, easy-to-use design
- Allow CCI staff to maintain most site content using their web browser

Audience

The target users for this application will be current students of FSU's College of Communications and Information. They will be experienced web and smart phone users, who understands email and how to operate a web browser. This user also accesses the Internet every day.
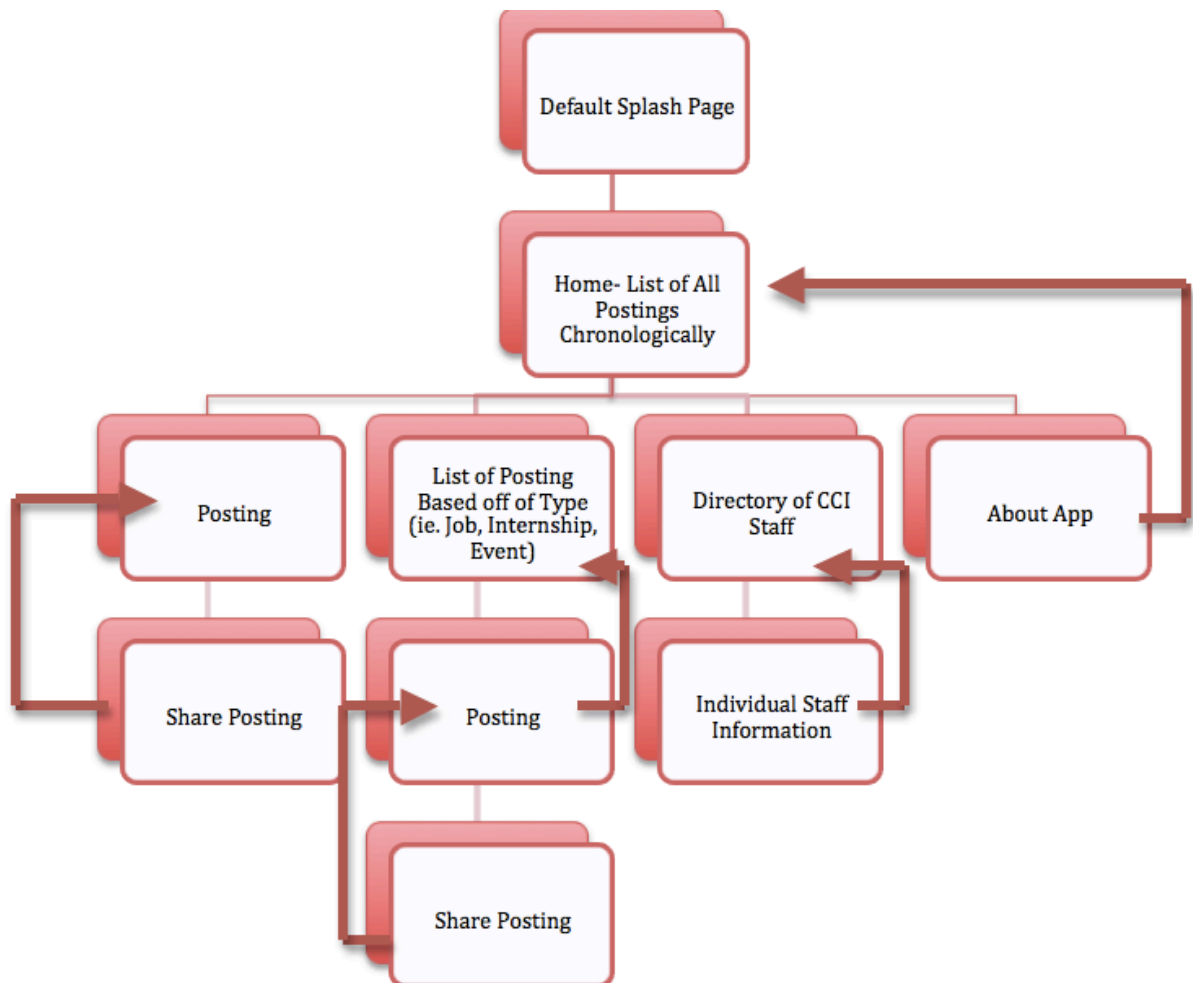
Tools

Content Management
The existing http://news.cci.fsu.edu web site uses a content management system. This system will permit staff to edit content using their web browser, without learning HTML.

Major Features:

Basically the main feature of this application will be a list of all recent job, internship and event postings from the CCI's current RSS feed, as well as a directory of all CCI staff. The RSS feeds will print directly into the application, and the application will be sole reliant on this feed and the updates that the CCI staff will make to this RSS feed.

CCI Posting Flowchart

This flowchart is not complete, but it does give you the right idea for the "storyboard" of using FSU CCI Postings app on your iOS device.

Design Goals:

This application is targeted to reach current students in FSU's CCI, and will be designed with the end-user in mind. The application will be designed to have a list that houses the different RSS feeds, whether it be for CCI Jobs, CCI Internship or CCI Events. On the bottom there will be a series of button that will allow the user to alternate between the different feeds for optimal usage.

Screen-by-Screen Specifications

FSU CCI Posting App will consist of quite a few different screens. Most screens will follow a standard format, with a look and feel to be designed in the future by a graphic designer. This document is more concerned with the functionality and the interaction design, not the exact look and layout.

Here is a general guideline of what the application should look like:

Default Splash Screen

A CCI logo should appear or another appropriate image—just displayed during the initial loading of the application, and when the first load of the RSS feed on the first start of the application.

Home Page

The Home Page, will contain all three RSS feeds for CCI's Job, Internship and Event listings. It will print in the application from the most recently published on the feed to the oldest. The postings will be searchable. And at the bottom of the page you can click on five different tabs:
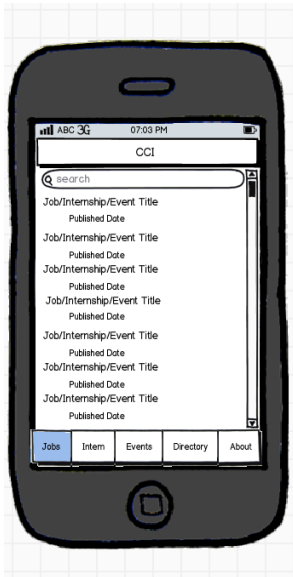
Jobs—allows you to see only Job Listing RSS Feed

Intern—allows you to see only Internship Listing RSS Feed

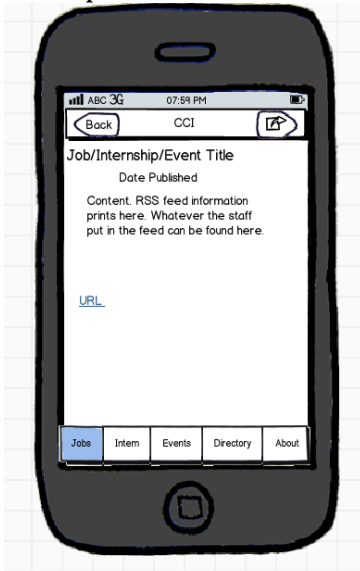**Events**—allows you to see only Event Listing RSS Feed

Directory—allows you to view the CCI directory

About—allows you to see a brief description of the application, as well as a list of credits.

Read Posting

Upon clicking the posting, the data from the RSS feed is displayed, with a clickable URL link. Keep in mind that it will come up in the same fashion that it was input.

Share Posting

If the user wants to share the information found, he/she would merely have to tap the top right email button. At that time a confirmation would appear in the form of a slide up menu, where they could either choose to cancel the email and return back to the prior viewing page. Or continue on to send the email, by tapping on the 'Email Link' button. Then bringing up an in application compose email screen.

Open URL

If the user tapped on the URL in the description of the event/internship/job, then an alert would pop up asking if the user would like to open the link in Safari, ultimately closing down the application as a whole. If 'no' is chosen, then the user would return back to prior viewing page.
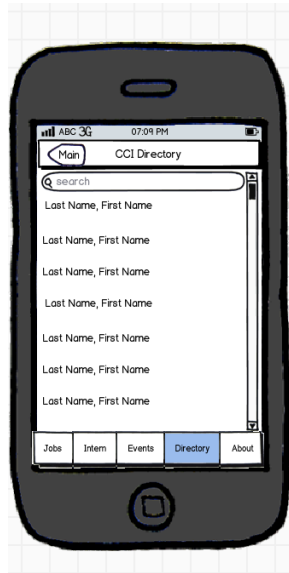
Separated Posting Pages

The following three mock-ups depict how the user would be able to narrow down the list to specific categories, by merely clicking on the menu bar on the bottom. Also there is a button on the top left part of the title bar that would allow the user to return to the main screen, where all three RSS feeds are combined.

Directory

The directory tab would have the list of CCI staff and faculty listed in alphabetical order of their last name. This tab will also be searchable, providing a search bar on the top of the screen.
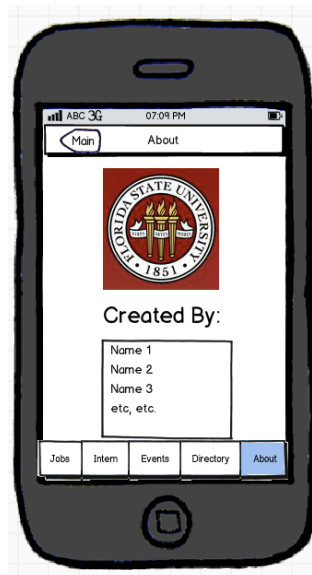
Individual Staff Page

Upon selecting a name on the directory page, the user will be brought to their main information page. This page will include anything that the CCI staff or faculty may have on their page in CCI's current directory. This includes, but not limited to: email address, phone number, office location and their picture. In addition, there is a button on the top left side of the title bar, entitled "Back", that would allow the user to go back to the main screen of the directory.

About the App Page

The About page will merely have a brief summary of the application, accompanied with a credit of everyone involved in the development of the application. It also has a button that allows the user to go back to the main page where all three RSS feeds are blended.

Server and Uptime:

It is important to recognize that the functionality of this application is based solely off of the current RSS feed that is produced by the CCI. It will be 100% dependent on this feed. The application will automatically update every time the app loads.