

CONFERENCE CONNECT



Clients:

Tracy Camp (tcamp@mines.edu)

Jesse DeMott (jdemott@mines.edu)

Background:

Conference CONNECT is a web application that helps attendees of a conference network more efficiently. Conference CONNECT creates a searchable online conference attendee list and eliminates the need for business cards. Development of this app began in 2008, originally implemented at conferences with bar code scanners, and has since evolved into a networking web application. Conference CONNECTS serves thousands of users at conferences every year by allowing them to create personal profiles to highlight their career and academic backgrounds and interests. CONNECT is continually in development and new features are added every year. Currently this conference application is running on a web framework called Laravel. The main focus of this project would be upgrading the site from Laravel 4 to Laravel 5 while cleaning up the code and, if time permits, adding additional features.

This Project:

The purpose of this field session project is to (1) upgrade the current conference CONNECT system to a newer architecture and (2) possibly add additional features:

- Conference CONNECT is running on Laravel 4. This has caused some problems with newer versions of MySQL that are on Mines servers.
- Currently Admin users of conference CONNECT are not able to edit user information or reset passwords. We would like to give Admins more tools to better serve conference attendees.
- We would also like to implement a new Admin tool that shows statistics on conference attendees use of CONNECT. This tool would display data on how the software is being used, to help us get a better idea of which features get used and which ones don't (helping us make the application even better in the future). Ideally this tool would visualize the data in a helpful way using graphs and pie charts.

Skills:

This project will help you develop web programming skills, including use of: HTML, CSS, JavaScript, MySQL, PHP and Laravel (an MVC framework). All of these skills look good on a resume. Additionally, the project should help you enhance your ability to work with existing code, which will be very important in the workplace.