



Conecter: **As experienced** **by international** **TAs**

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Our Participants

The participants for our study consisted of international graduate TAs.

- All spoke English as a second language.
- All were pursuing PhDs.

All of the participants were especially eager to help.

Research Protocol

- Asked participants how they currently connect
- Asked participants to walk through the app, specifically
 - Creating a profile
 - Creating an event
 - Finding an interesting event
 - RSVPing to an event

Data Review and Putting It All Together

- Originally data seemed overly skewed towards the bugs and issues.
- Affinity diagramming showed otherwise, though.
- It showed major trends where users focused in on like initial setup, functionality, and event creation.

A top-down view of a desk with a laptop, glasses, a pencil, a notepad, and a small potted plant. The desk is a light gray color. In the top left corner, there is a small potted plant with green leaves in a yellow and orange pot. In the top center, there is a small black notepad with a gold cross on the cover. In the top right, there are black-rimmed glasses. In the bottom left, there is a black laptop. In the bottom right, a hand is holding a green pencil over a light blue sticky note. A white sticky note with a folded corner is in the center, containing the text.

What It Means
And Solutions.

Creating a profile

- 2-letter last name
- Organization of interests
- Icons don't match interests
- Odd range of interests
- Can't skip categories
- Not all classes show up
- Can't search classes by keyword
- Email confirmation was hard to read on mobile

Proposed Solutions

- Remove minimum for last names
- Add organization to interests
 - Alphabetical
 - By similarities
- Add keyword search for classes
- Change font for email

Creating an event

- The description is too short
- Adding interests is a little confusing
- Profile pictures are hard to see
- Adding locations is not intuitive
 - Adding location leaves Conecter
 - Results are not focused on East Lansing
 - There is no map of MSU
- Term “RSVP” is confusing

Solutions

- Increase description character limit
- Simplify adding interests
- Make profile pictures of attendees bigger
- Have “location” and “address”
- Have the results focused on East Lansing
- Allow for places not in google maps
- Consider changing “RSVP” to “Attend”

Positives

- Good concept
- Smooth interface
- Messaging the host
- Would use

A top-down view of a desk with various items: a black laptop on the left, a small potted plant in a yellow and orange pot in the top left, a black notebook with a gold cross on the cover in the top center, a pair of black-rimmed glasses in the top right, a hand holding a pencil on the right side, a light blue sticky note in the bottom right, and a brown envelope in the bottom center. A white sticky note is placed in the center of the desk.

Questions?

Feel free to contact us via
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