



UCF

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

**Arboretum and
Sustainability Initiatives**

<https://arboretum.ucf.edu>

From Preview to Product:

Behind the Scenes of Internal Communications

Website and Microsoft Teams Team



MEET OUR TEAM!

Megan Carberry - Digital Media

Alisa Katsionova - Computer Science

Valeria Tibocha - Digital Media

Eileen Tomy - Computer Science

Amanda Craig
Junior Mentor





UCF

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OUR PROJECTS



Strategic Planning App

The process of creating an app from concept to the final product. What steps we took, why we created it, and how it helps the Arboretum.

Website Updates

How we've updated the website since the start of 2025. What impact does this have to our program and how we want to move forward.

Quality of Life

What is QOL and why do we need it? How does this impact users?



STRATEGIC PLANNING APP

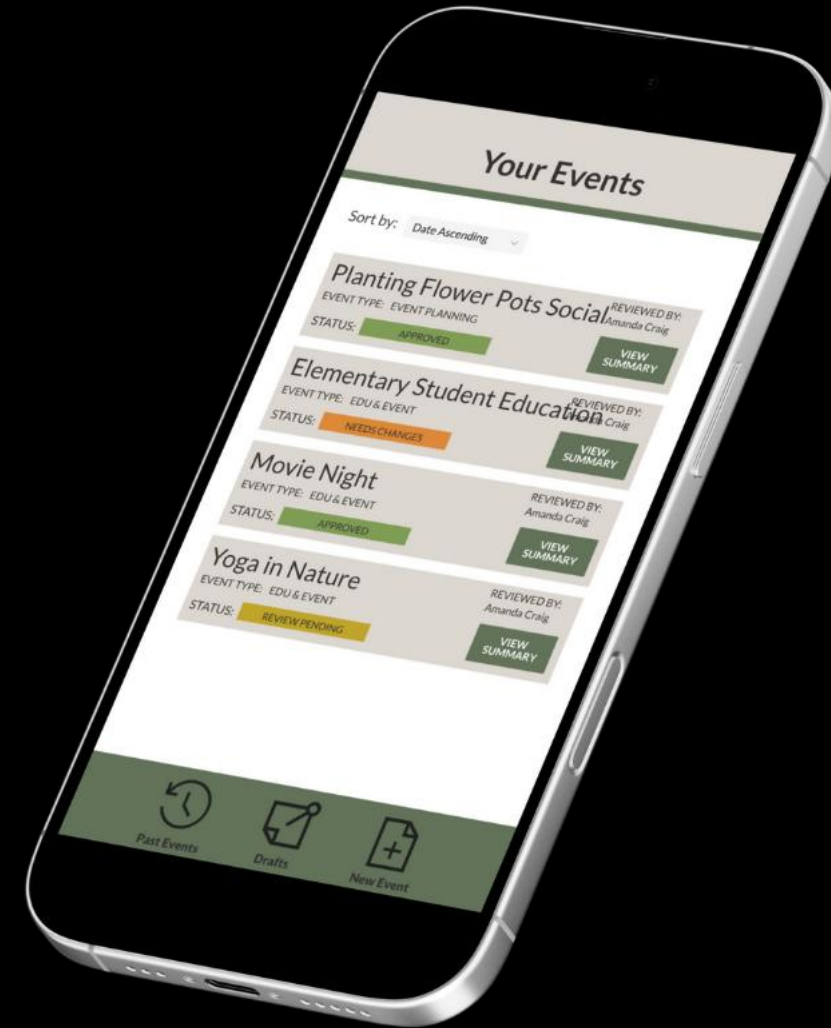
Identified Problem

The previous process required users to manually locate and fill out PDF forms, which was

- Outdated
- Inconvenient
- Time-Consuming
- Confusing

Our Goal

Create a more efficient and centralized system for our mentors, coordinators, and interns

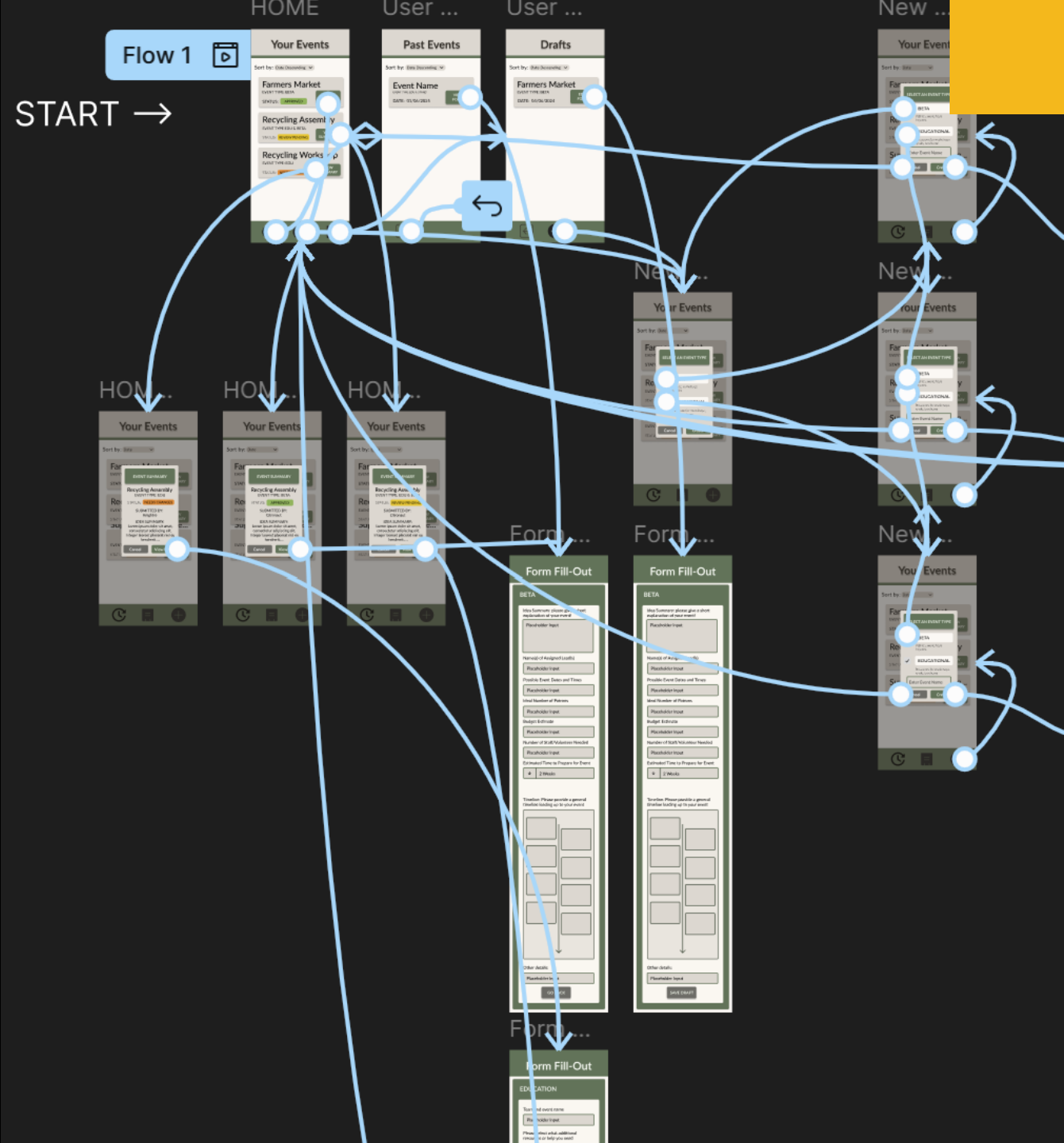


PROTOTYPE PLANNING

We used Figma to create a high fidelity prototype to map out our project.

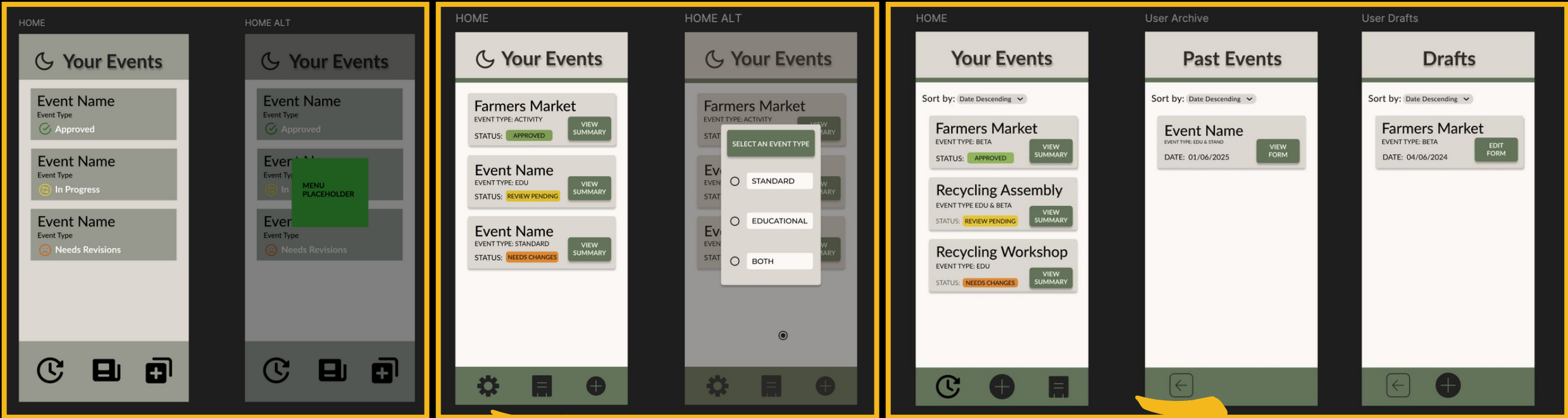
Design Considerations: How can we make the app intuitive and accessible to users?

NOW WE TAKE THIS...





ADD DESIGN...





HOME

Your Events

Farmers Market
EVENT TYPE: ACTIVITY
STATUS: APPROVED
VIEW SUMMARY

Event Name
EVENT TYPE: EDU
STATUS: REVIEW PENDING
VIEW SUMMARY

Event Name
EVENT TYPE: STANDARD
STATUS: NEEDS CHANGES
VIEW SUMMARY

HOME ALT

Your Events

Farmers Market
EVENT TYPE: ACTIVITY
STATUS: APPROVED
VIEW SUMMARY

Event Name
EVENT TYPE: EDU
STATUS: REVIEW PENDING
VIEW SUMMARY

Event Name
EVENT TYPE: STANDARD
STATUS: NEEDS CHANGES
VIEW SUMMARY

SELECT AN EVENT TYPE

☐ STANDARD

☐ EDUCATIONAL

☐ BOTH

Form Fill-Out

BETA

Idea Summary: please give a short explanation of your event!

Enter Input

Name(s) of Assigned Lead(s)

Enter Input

Possible Event Dates and Times

Enter Input

Ideal Number of Patrons

Enter Input

Budget Estimate

Enter Input

Number of Staff/Volunteer Needed

Enter Input

Estimated Time to Prepare for Event



Click Dropdown

Timeline: Please provide a general timeline leading up to your event

Form Fill-Out

EDUCATION

Please select what additional resources or help you need

- ☐ Workshop
- ☐ Physical Materials
- ☐ Spiel/script/guide
- ☐ Other

Based on your previous selection please expand on what your material needs are.

Enter Input

What are your learning outcome goals? What will people learn?

Enter Input

Who is your target audience?

Enter Input

How many people are you trying to reach?

Enter Input

ADD FUNCTIONALITY...

Events

Event Name

EVENT PLANNING REQUEST

Idea Summary: Please give a short description of your event!

Name(s) of Assigned Lead(s)

Possible Event Dates and Times 

Ideal Number of Patrons

Budget Estimate

Number of Staff/Volunteer Needed

CANCEL

SAVE DRAFT

SUBMIT

TO THIS FINAL PROTOTYPE

Challenges

- Learning a new coding language
- Finding ways around the limitations of PowerApps

App Testing

As the app is developed it is important to test implemented features and fix any potential bugs for users.

Video Demo By Eileen Tomy



WEBSITE COLLABORATION

We can't accurately keep the website up-to-date without the help of all our other teams:

- Stormwater: Provided updates to the Adopt-A-Program
 - Education: Provided valuable information for our work in progress DIY Page
 - Sustainability: Ensure all information is accurate to gain more STARS rating
-



Arboretum and Sustainability Initiatives

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA



Gold Zone Gameday Parking

Gopher tortoises love UCF as much as you do! With over 800 acres of natural habitat on campus, many gopher tortoises call UCF their home – this includes areas near the Bounce House stadium! Be mindful of your fellow Knights by avoiding parking/walking near burrows, containing your trash, and leaving critters be. Tailgate like a tortoise, go slow and enjoy the view!

- The gopher tortoise, *Gopherus polyphemus*, is a species of tortoise native to the southeastern United States.
- Gopher tortoises are protected by state and federal law, so it is important to remember to share the space and to not get too close to the wildlife on campus!
- They are also keystone species in many Florida habitats, meaning the services they provide are vital to their ecosystems!
- Over 360 species, including burrowing owls, rabbits, mice, and indigo snakes all rely on the gopher tortoise's burrows to live and thrive in their habitat.

UCF's Arboretum & Sustainability Initiatives has a large team of student leaders and staff devoted to cultivating, celebrating, and communicating the value of plants, ecosystems, and biodiversity to human well-being. This includes management of over 800 acres of conservation area here on campus, providing habitat for threatened species as well as unique learning and recreational opportunities for students and the community.

Looking to get involved? Volunteer shifts are open to students and available for signup on Knight Connect! We gratefully welcome donations to our Endowment Fund as well. Go Knights, Charge On!

ABOUT

DONATE

*For the full list of Football Gameday parking, [click here](#).

WEBSITE UPDATES



Adopt-A-Program

The Adopt-a-Pond/Road program was started in 2008 and focuses on the care and maintenance of the UCF retention ponds and campus roads. The Adopt-a-Program offers an opportunity for UCF student organizations to gain community service hours by eliminating trash around campus roads and stormwater ponds. Each identified pond or road should be adopted by individuals who will commit to the project dependably. The adoptees must maintain both the shoreline and the vicinity of the pond or road; however, entrance into the pond water or road is prohibited.

If your group/organization is interested in adopting a pond or road, click the button below for the Adopt Application or contact adopt.a.program@ucf.edu with any questions. Once the application is submitted, a representative will follow up through the email address provided in the application. To learn more about the program and understand how to properly fill out the forms, please watch our orientation video below:



We are currently accepting applications to adopt roads and ponds.

ADOPT APPLICATION



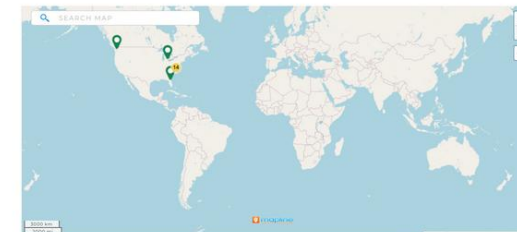
Alumni Map

Our Alumni

Our program supports students first experience in a variety of environmental and sustainable fields that can then be applied after graduation. Many UCF students have their roots in the the Arboretum and Sustainability Initiatives, and we are extraordinarily proud to support a large alum network that has now branched out across the world. Our full list of program participants, past and present, can be found on our [Staff page](#).

Where Are They Now?

Click on a location marker to learn more about our alumni and see where they are today!



If you're an alumni and want to be added to the map, please take our survey!

ALUMNI MAP SURVEY



QUALITY OF LIFE

QOL features can be subtle changes that users don't notice, including but not limited to links opening in a new tab, new buttons, minor bug fixes, and editing staff data.

LXL INTERN TEAMS

Fall 2024

ASI Social Media and Video Production: Isabella Coronel, Hope Miller, Elena Schleidt, Grace Wolfer

ASI Website and Microsoft Teams Management: Samuel Pann

Business Operations Communications: Jared Trigg, Camryn Cooper, Mia Batista

Education and Outreach: Haliah Brooks, Chloe Geier, Reilly Walker

Event Management: Piercen Bogolea

Land Management: Kira Barker, Alyson Costa, Anna Wazny, Penelope Blesch, Emily Blackwood

Plant Production: Madison Wong, Michaela Jackson, Madison Leiner, Marwa Itani, Bailey Chevres

Public Garden Management: Liliana Pacenti, Avery Neuhardt, Madison Perunko, Natasha Schenfield, Lucrezia Ongaro

STARS Reporting: Janapriya Vijayakumar, Chase Thompson, Emily Young, Jonathan Beckford

UES Stormwater: Alana Foote, Sophie Swank, Fabiana Botton, Sophia Canabal

Urban Agriculture: Kristen Barger, Matthew Vila, Peyton Higgs, Sydni Burge, Olivia Neville

LXL INTERN TEAMS

Spring 2025



Fall 2024



Spring 2024



Fall 2023



Spring 2023



Fall 2022



Spring 2022



QOL EXAMPLES

Website Buttons

Buttons instead of hyperlinking words

[Click Here](#)

CLICK HERE

Fixing Broken Links on Website

Correct links reduces confusion

PowerApps

Implemented automated emails to some apps:

- Timekeeping App: Forgot to clock out email
 - Event App: Reminder of upcoming event email
 - Strategic Planning: PDF of event email
-





“
**ONCE IT’S
DONE, IT’S
NEVER DONE**
”

- Megan C.





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THANK YOU!



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