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Alumni Connect: Bridging Past and Present

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ABSTRACT :

Our Alumni Connect Platform is a web-based tool we created to bring our college's alumni, students, faculty, and admins closer together. We noticed that traditional ways of staying in touch—like annual reunions or outdated contact lists—weren't cutting it anymore. They made it hard for alumni to stay engaged or for students to tap into their expertise. So, we built a user-friendly website where everyone can connect, share, and grow. Alumni can update their profiles, post job openings, and mentor students. Students can reach out for career advice or explore opportunities. Faculty and admins can organize events and keep everything running smoothly. By using modern web tech, we've made it easier for our college community to stay tight-knit, no matter where everyone is in the world.

Keywords : Alumni Engagement, Mentorship, Networking, Data Management, Community Building

Introduction

As students in the Information Technology program, we've seen firsthand how important it is for colleges to stay connected with their alumni. Alumni aren't just former students—they're mentors, industry pros, and supporters who can help current students succeed. But keeping those ties strong is tough when you're relying on old-school methods like email chains or once-a-year meetups. That's why, for our capstone project, we decided to create *Alumni Connect*, a web platform to make those connections easier and more meaningful.

Our goal was to build a digital space where alumni, students, faculty, and admins could interact effortlessly. Whether it's sharing job opportunities, planning events, or offering mentorship, the platform is designed to keep everyone in the loop. We created separate logins for admins, alumni, staff, and students, each with features tailored to their needs. It's been a challenging but rewarding journey, and we're excited to share what we've built.

Problem Statement

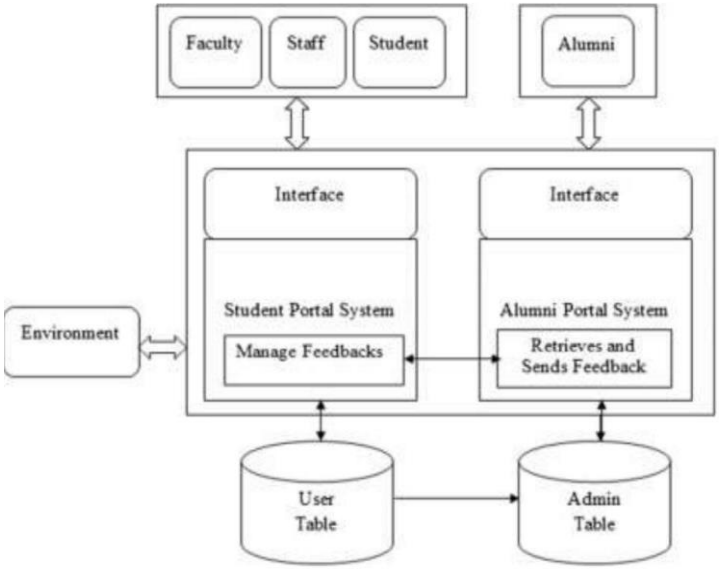
- We started this project because we saw some real gaps in how our college connects with its alumni. Here's what we noticed:
- **Scattered Community**: Many alumni lose touch with the college and each other after graduation, which weakens the network.
- **Missed Mentorship**: Students like us could benefit so much from alumni guidance, but there's no easy way to reach out.
- **Clunky Communication**: Emails and informal meetups don't keep people engaged regularly.
- **Untapped Potential**: Alumni have skills and connections that could help the college, but they often don't know how to contribute.
- **Data Struggles**: Managing alumni info with spreadsheets or manual records is a hassle and prone to errors.

Working

Technologies Used :

- **Frontend-: PHP,JavaScript,CSS3,HTML3**
- **Backend-: MySQL**

System Architecture



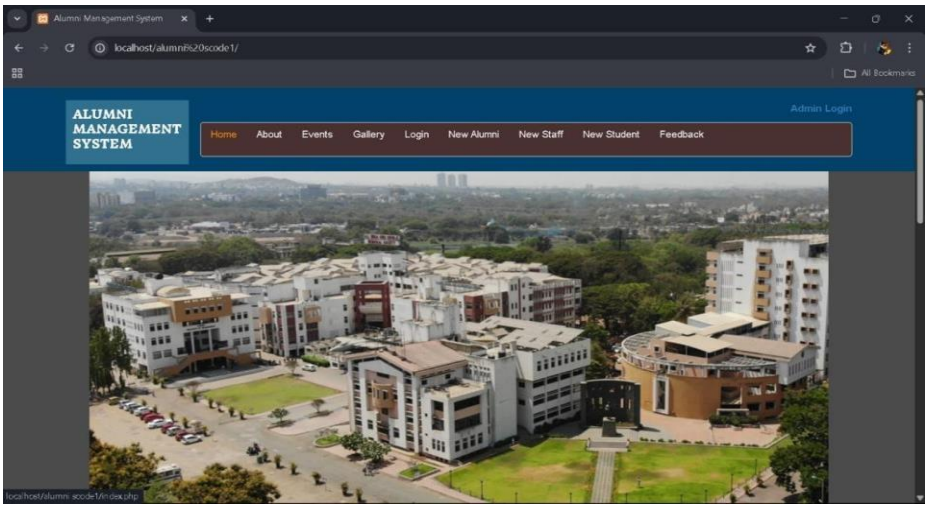
Working of the Project:

- **Role-Based Logins**: Users log in as Admin, Alumni, Staff, or Student, each getting a custom dashboard with relevant tools.
- **Admin Power**: Admins oversee everything—verifying alumni profiles, approving job posts, managing events, and tracking activity.
- **Alumni Features**: Alumni can sign up, update their info, post jobs, share success stories, or contribute to fundraisers.
- **Student Access**: Students can browse alumni profiles, check job listings, join events, or message alumni for advice.
- **Staff Tools**: Faculty can post announcements, organize guest lectures, or help students connect with alumni.
- **Events Hub**: Users can see upcoming events like webinars or reunions, register, and get details on timing and speakers.
- **Job Board**: Alumni and admins post job openings; students can view and apply.
- **Fundraising**: Alumni can donate to support scholarships or college projects, with admins tracking contributions.
- **Photo Gallery**: A shared space for event photos and memories that anyone can browse.

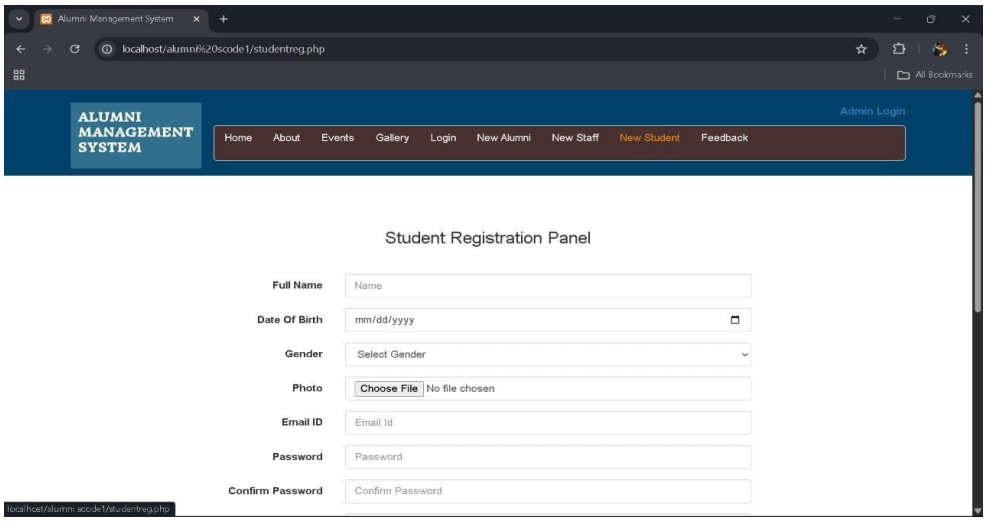
Working on this project wasn't always smooth. For example, linking the MySQL database to our PHP frontend took a lot of debugging, but it taught us how to troubleshoot real-world web dev issues. We also got feedback from classmates to make the interface more intuitive, which was a big help.

Outputs And Result

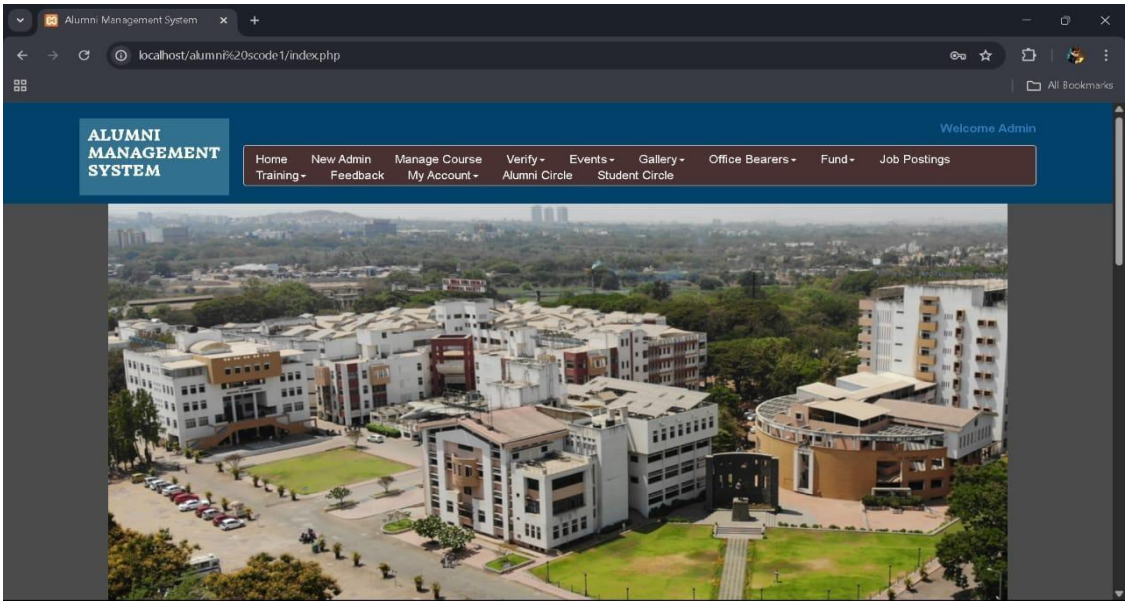
Home Page-:



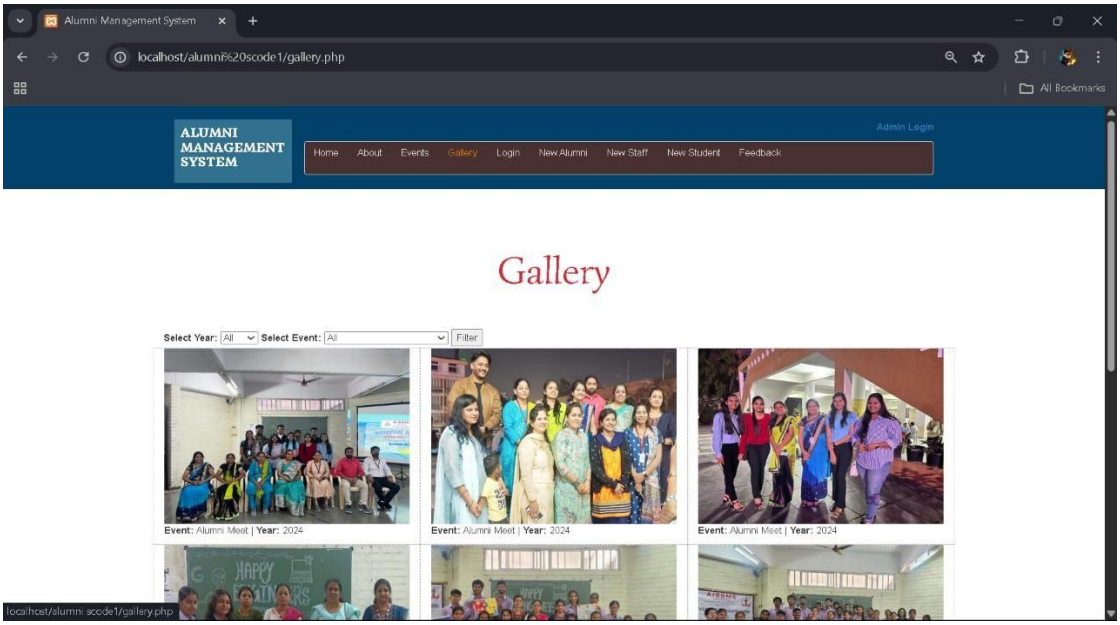
Student registration-:



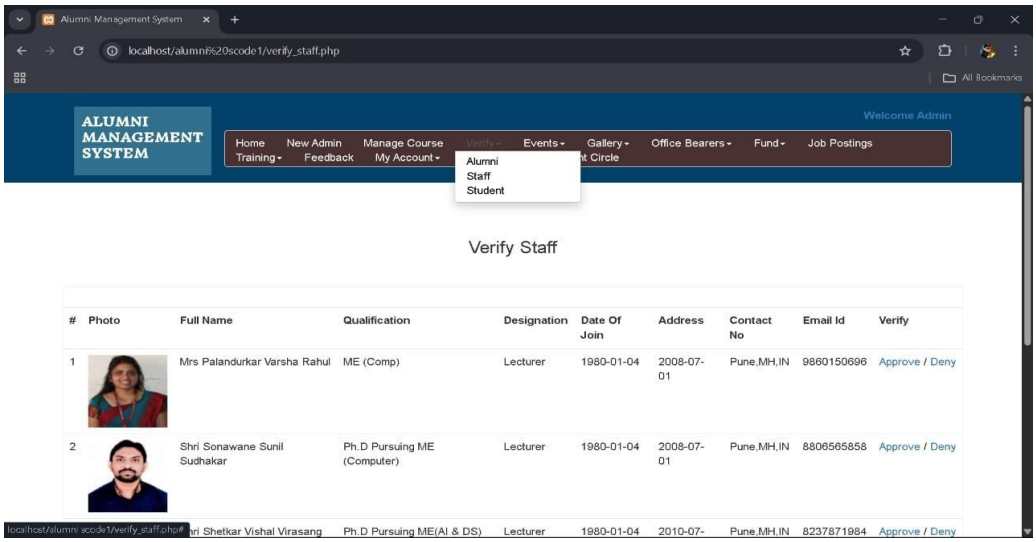
Admin Panel-:



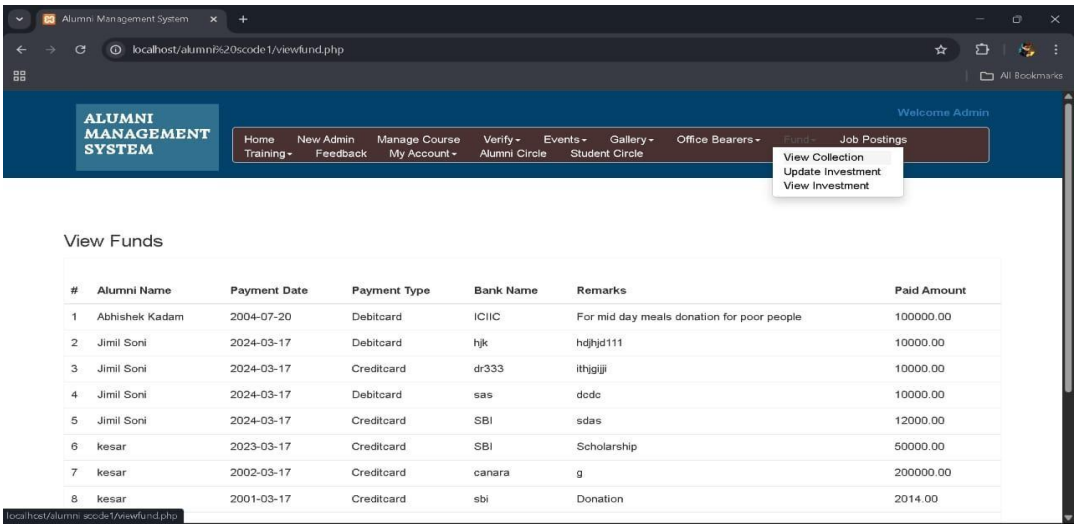
Gallery-:



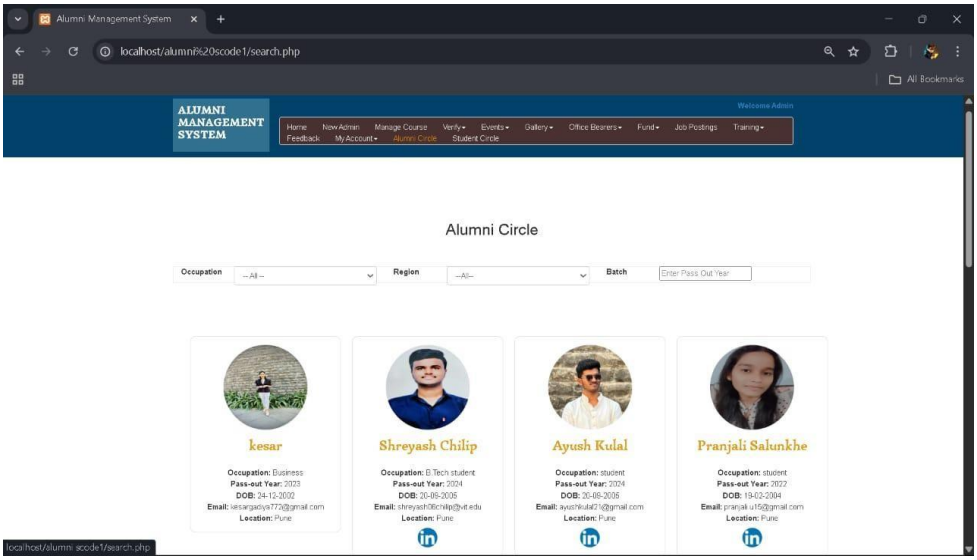
Staff Verification-



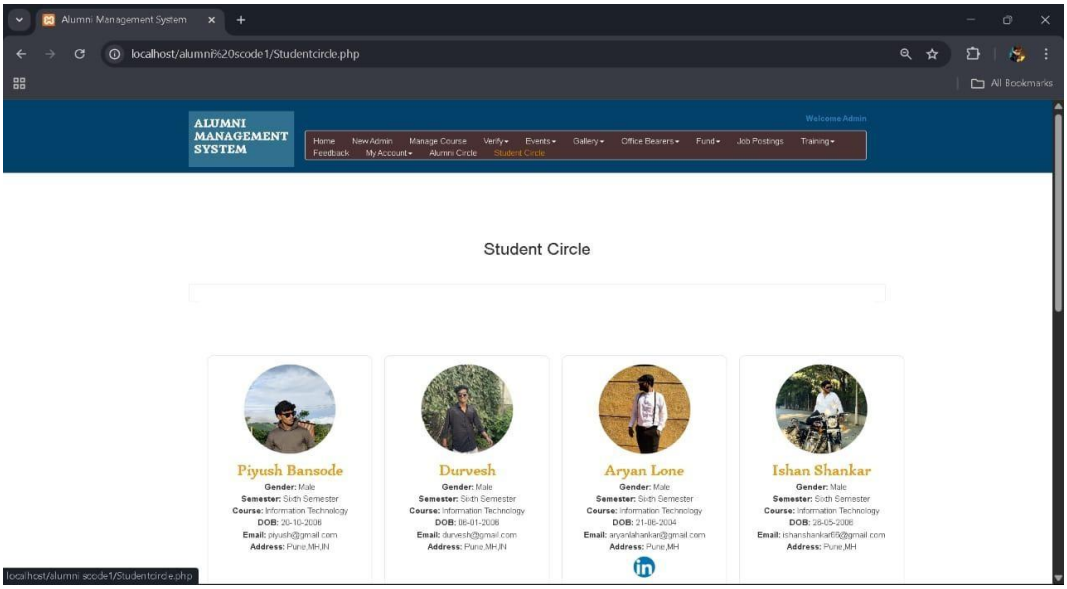
Funding-:



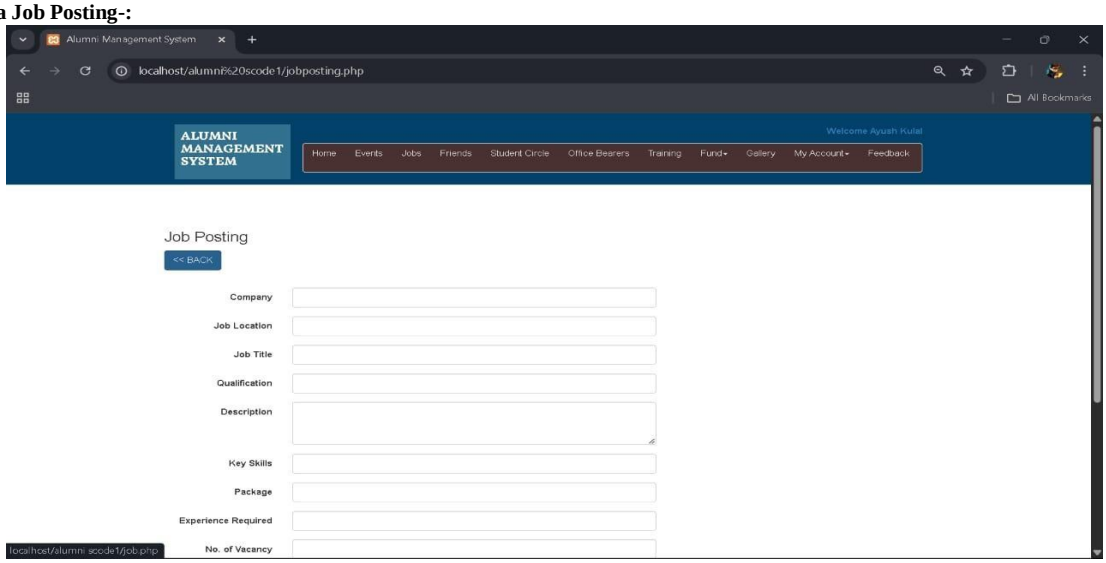
The Alumina Circle-:



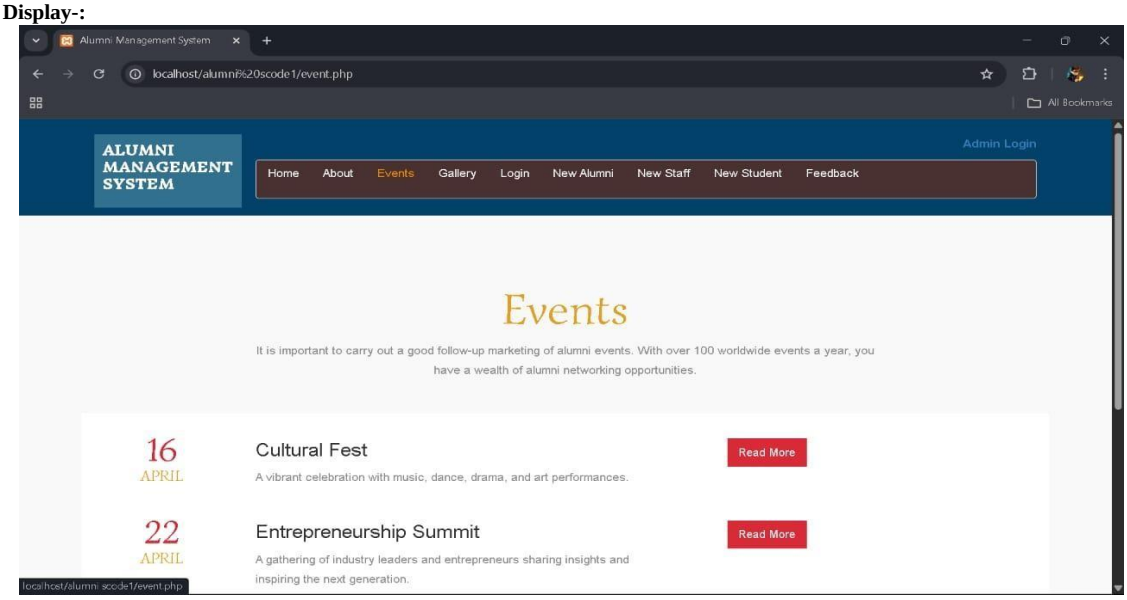
The Student Circle-:



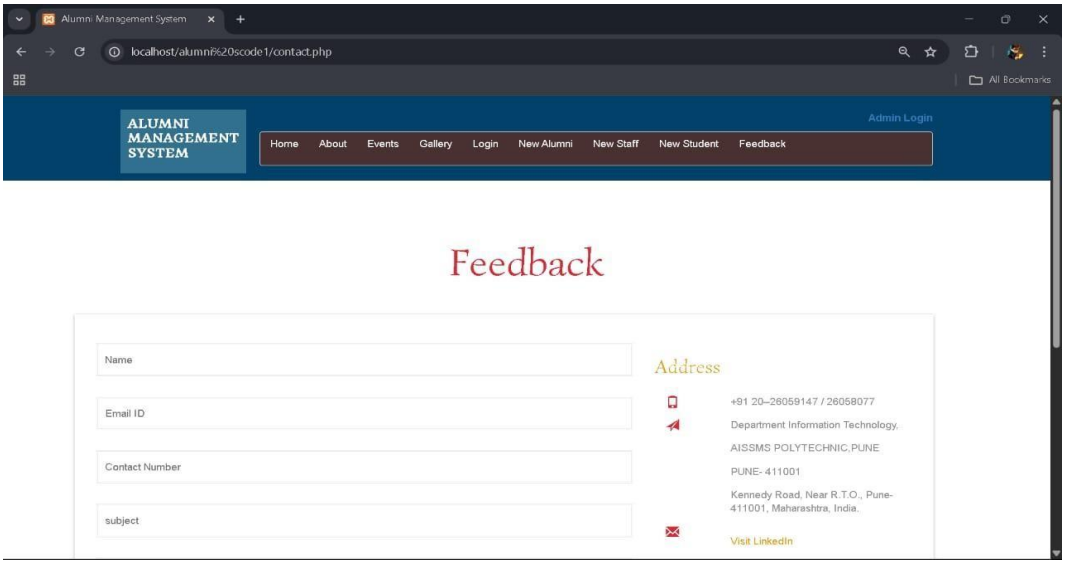
Alumina Job Posting-:



Event Display-:



Feedback Form-:



Outcome :

Building *Alumni Connect* has been a game-changer for our college community. Alumni are now more involved, posting jobs and joining events, which makes them feel like they're still part of the family. Students, including us, love being able to message alumni for career tips or internship leads—it's like having a direct line to the industry. Faculty and staff have an easier time managing events and alumni data, saving them hours of manual work. Overall, the platform has turned our fragmented network into a vibrant, connected community. We're proud to see it making a real difference.

Conclusion

Creating *Alumni Connect* was our way of tackling the outdated ways colleges stay in touch with alumni. We wanted to build something practical that would help our college and its students long after we graduate. By designing a platform with role-based logins and features like job boards and event hubs, we've made it easier for everyone to stay connected. The process taught us a ton— from coding with PHP and MySQL to working as a team under tight deadlines. Most importantly, we've built a tool that strengthens our college's community and helps students like us get a head start in our careers.

Future Scope

We see a lot of potential to make *Alumni Connect* even better. A mobile app for iOS and Android would let users stay connected on the go. Adding push notifications could remind people about events or new job posts. We could also use AI to suggest jobs or mentors based on user profiles, making the platform smarter. For admins, a dashboard with analytics could show how engaged users are. Features like live chat or video calls would take mentorship to the next level. We'd also love to add LinkedIn integration so alumni can showcase their profiles and students can share resumes. le to make it more personal and engaging. Security upgrades like two-factor authentication could keep user data safe. These additions would make *Alumni Connect* a one-stop hub for networking and growth.

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