

A Practical Demonstration of Social Networking System in a University Setting: A Case Study of Obong University

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Abstract

The study has to do with the explorations of a way to use the internet services to provide a platform for the use of individuals, groups of people and companies to interact with one another through the social media. The social media has really assisted interaction and even bringing together business tycoons and their services together through social networking, forums, blogs, etc.

Index terms— internet services, social media, social networking, networking system forums

1 Introduction

Communication is a basic human need, and so, man is therefore prone to always find a way of meeting and using this means. The media is the general term for various means of communication, which has become part and parcel of human life. Accordingly, Idakwo (2011) in corroboration with this statement says that, the earliest forms of personal media, speech and gestures, had the benefit of being easy to use and did not necessarily need complex technology.

The social media and the internet community have extensively increased its operations over the years. The social media has also become a significant part of today's modern way of life, being a trait of how integrated social interactions have become. Therefore, the impact of social media has been seen in reckoned essentially in five different contexts; news, interactions, political landscapes, learning, and marketing according to Guha, (2013). This means that social media has been reckoned by man as a means of communication in terms of networking among all categories of people. Everybody needs social media, thereby increasing the demand for it hence, making its operations to be very expensive.

With over 80 per cent of teenagers according to Chopra (2013), are Internet users who often times resorts to social media sites, and it's no wonder that the real world social lives are seeing some changes. Social media is changing the way people communicate, but in many ways, it's for the better as we expand our social circles and explore new horizons through our online connections.

Social media of any generation makes that age have its beliefs and new technologies, meeting the needs of individuals who are anxious to adjust to new forms of socialization. A time of real change is a period in which society looks for meaning. Information is already a device, the principal tool, which people use to perceive and understand their environment (Idakwo, 2011).

Therefore, the emergence of online forums has become hugely popular in recent times with interactions based on similar discussions, posts and threads according to Xiaolin, et al., ??2009), and Sumit & Prasenjit, (2010). Bedmar (2010) posits that online forums have become powerful tools for sharing information; and Falls (2012) stated that online discussion forums have also, become one of the most popular places to ask and answer questions.

Online Forums, when compared to other social media sites, have various unique features like threads; and where discussions, posts, RSS feeds, and polls, etc. are made. Online Forums, provides a distinctive type of social environment that enables people to share and use information freely by either starting new topics or leaving comments in the threads of existing subjects as asserted by Xiaolin, et al., ??2009).

6 E) DEFINITION OF TERMS COMPUTERIZED

45 Social life in most of our Universities is diminishing because of the inability of students not communicating
46 effectively to adapt to their new environment. This imitation have affected some students who become ignorant,
47 especially of their surroundings and not knowing how to relate in their immediate environ and the outside world.
48 In Obong University it was found that socialism was a problem for lack of communication among themselves and
49 other students in other universities. There is, therefore, the need for building a social network website for the
50 students of Obong University to solve the problem of socialism. The development of a social network is imperious
51 as a therapeutic measure by setting up a social arrangement that is made up of individuals or organizations called
52 "nodes," which are connected to one another in friendship, kinship, and having common interest to be able to
53 have financial exchange among them, and to express their dislikes, have common beliefs, knowledge or prestige.
54 Hence, there is a need to create such a social network.

55 2 a) Motivation of Study

56 Potential students of an University as an institution, may have had issues in the past or present when it comes
57 to selecting careers, choosing a course of study and making decisions regarding right school to apply for, etc.
58 ??Ogu, 2008;Orndorff & Herr, 1996). However, to solve this problem, there is the need to create a platform
59 where students such difficulties can easily relate with people having answers to their questions with respect to
60 helping them solve these issues. Consequently, appropriate requirements have to be taken into consideration
61 while developing a web application to decipher these problems that confront students.

62 3 b) Objective of the Study

63 The main objective is to develop a web/online platform where students can share different opinions and to ask
64 questions and receive answers as well as express their views on various topics and make information about any
65 institution available and accessible. In other to achieve our desired objectives, the use of the following specific
66 objectives will be imperative: i.

67 To effectively and efficiently communicate between staff and students online. ii.

68 To reduce the anti-socialism problem through the use of the common web.

69 iii.

70 To create an educative online group to enhance learning. iv.

71 To ensure the possibility of making new friends online. v.

72 To reduce or eliminate extra cost in buying recharge charges for their phones and internet services.

73 4 c) Method of Study

74 The research work was conducted using different sources of relevant data for research by carrying out online
75 surveys, contacting journals, books, and reviews of relevant literature. The requirements needed for the
76 development of this application was got by an evaluation of existing systems. A platform has to be created
77 where users will interact with one another, give answers to questions asked by other users or provide any form
78 of information that will be beneficial to all users, to solve the problems stated above successfully. The online
79 forum was designed to show all the different functions that will be accomplished by using UML diagrams such
80 as used cases, class diagrams, etc. The implementation of the web application can and was done by making use
81 of the design diagrams and programming work is done with PHP and the database management was of MySQL
82 database taking a clue from existing forum software's. The system was evaluated by making use of feedback and
83 reports from relevant users. We went on to: i.

84 Gather the right requirements for this application through a. Requirements Elicitation b. Review of Existing
85 Systems ii.

86 Modelling the requirements gathered using a Unified Modelling Language (UML) through the: a. Review of
87 Existing Models b. Using UML diagrams like class diagrams and activity diagrams iii.

88 Implementing the system by creating a userfriendly platform makes the use of the application much easier for
89 students to interact with each other and possibly ask questions using threads and foci.

90 The code for the front-end, i.e. the interface was written in PHP, and the messages and threads were stored
91 using My SQL relational database. Review of Forum Software's like phpBB, vBulletin, etc. was carried.

92 5 d) Scope of the Study

93 The scope of this study was centred on designing an automated and webbased application for students' online
94 communication and eliminates or reduces anti-socialism. The system is strictly based on students, management,
95 and lecturer's communication and online seminars presentations and the management of suggestion, and create
96 enabling environment for making friends.

97 6 e) Definition of Terms Computerized

98 Convert to a computer-based system to install or start using a computer system to organize, control, or automate
99 something.

100 **7 Processing**

101 To deal with somebody or something according to an established procedure.

102 **8 Communication**

103 Communication means the interaction between two or more persons, or sending of messages from one person to
104 another; and from place to another.

105 **9 Online**

106 A connection made via a computer attached to or available to a central computer or computer network.

107 **10 System**

108 Set of computer components i.e. an assembly of computer Hardware, Software and peripherals functioning
109 together.

110 **11 Automation**

111 The replacement of human workers by technology; and a system in which a workplace or process has been
112 converted to one that replaced human labour with electronic or mechanical equipment.

113 **12 Web**

114 A complex structure, or design www: a computer-based network of information resources that combine text and
115 multimedia. The information on the www can be accessed and searched out through the internet, being a global
116 computer network.

117 **13 Database**

118 This refers to any collection of data that is organized for storage in computer memory and is being designed for
119 easy access by any authorized user.

120 **14 Database Update**

121 Database update simply means applying and maintaining changes in a database after data must have been added,
122 removed or modified.

123 **15 System Administrator**

124 A system administrator is a person that is designated and accountable for maintaining and operating a computer
125 system.

126 **16 PHP**

127 PHP being the acronym for Hypertext Preprocessor is a general-purpose scripting language that was originally
128 designed for web development to produce dynamic web pages. Hypertext Preprocessor is the server code used to
129 link the database to the interface of the website.

130 **17 Apache**

131 It is the server used for designing PHP, python pages.

132 **18 SQL**

133 Structured query language, it is a code used to query or insert records in a database.

134 **19 My SQL**

135 My SQL is a interpersonal database management system (RDBMS) that runs as a server providing multi-user
136 access to several databases.

137 **20 Php My Admin**

138 It is an open-source tool written in PHP and intended to handle the administration of My SQL over the World
139 Wide Web.

140 **21 Cascading Style Sheet (CSS)**

141 Cascading Style Sheet is a programming language used in the graphics and fine-tuning of the website.

142 **22 Swish Max**

143 It is animation software used in doing all the animations you can think of on the website, and the Macromedia
144 Dreamweaver; which is software used in organizing the website called Macromedia Fireworks and is the software
145 used to create the graphics and images on the website.

146 **23 II.**

147 **24 Literature Review**

148 The social media is a form of electronic communication that enables the facilitation of interactions between
149 people based on definite interests and characteristics. Social media is the media available for social interaction,
150 which uses highly accessible and scalable publishing techniques. Social media uses web based technologies in
151 transforming and broadcasting media monologues into social dialogues (Idakwo, 2011). A social media network
152 platform is one that provides a medium for interaction by groups of people making it easy to share information
153 (such as lecture materials, pictures, and ideas) across a circle of people or groups Statistics have shown that the
154 use of a social networks such as Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn is on the increase among young individuals,
155 the crop of which are students of tertiary institutions (Iku-Omoregbe et al., 2012).

156 **25 a) The Impact of Social Network Services on People**

157 A social network service is set to have focused on building and reflecting on social networks among people, who
158 share common interests and activities. A social network service basically consists of a representation of each
159 user often called a profile, his/her social links, with a variety of additional services. A lot of social network
160 services are web-based and provides avenues for users to interact with one another over the internet, in the form
161 of sending e-mail and instant messaging. These social network services are known as online community services
162 which are considered as a social relations service in a sense, meaning an individual-centred service whereas online
163 community services are group-centred. Shelly, (2000) stated that social networking sites allow users to share
164 ideas, activities, events, and interests within their networks. Social networking services encompass category
165 places involving former school-year or classmates, meaning to connect with friends (usually with self description
166 pages) and a recommendation system linked to trust. Popular methods today are combined with many of these
167 sites, ie. Facebook, Twitter, and Bebo which are widely used worldwide according to ??helly (200) Shelly (200)
168 went on to say that there have been attempts made to standardize these services as to avoiding duplicate entries
169 of friends and interests; yet, there are some of the largest social networks founded on the notion of digitizing
170 real-world connections, couple with other networks that focuses on categories from books and music to non-profit
171 business to motherhood as ways of providing both services and community networks to individuals with shared
172 interests (Shelly, 2000).

173 **26 b) Brief History on Social Networking Website**

174 The essence of computer networking is to facilitate new forms of computer mediated social interaction. The efforts
175 made by people to support social networks via computer-mediated communication were made during early online
176 services provided, such as Usenet, ARPANET, LISTSERV, and bulletin board services (BBS). Chiemeke et al,
177 (2008) stated that many prototypical features of social networking sites were features found in online services
178 such as America Online, Prodigy, and CompuServe.

179 In the initial stage of development, social networking on the World Wide Web (www), were in the form of
180 generalized online communities such as Theglobe.com (1994), Geocities (1994) and Tripod.com (1995). These
181 early communities preoccupied with bringing people together through chat room to interact with each other and
182 encourages users to share personal information and ideas via personal web pages using easy-to-use publishing
183 tools and free or inexpensive web-space. ??hiemeke et al., (2008) further stated that a number of communities
184 -such as Classmates.comtook a different approach in the use of social network by merely making people link up
185 to each other via email addresses; and this was rampant in the late 1990s, where user profiles became a dominant
186 feature of social networking sites, which allow users to compile lists of "friends" and also search for new users
187 having similar interests.

188 Social networking methods were developed in late 1990s with many other sites that develop more advanced
189 features for users in finding and managing friends. This newer generation of social networking sites began to
190 flourish with the emergence of Friendster in 2002, and soon became part of the Internet mainstream.

191 Friendster was followed by MySpace and LinkedIn a year later, and finally, Bebo. Attesting to the rapid
192 increase in social networking sites' popularity, by 2005, MySpace was reportedly getting more page views than
193 Google. The launching of Facebook was in 2004 and has since become the largest social networking site in the
194 world. As of 1998, Meleond (1998) stated that over 200 active sites using a wide variety of social networking
195 models exist.

196 **27 c) Emerging Trends In Social Networking Website**

197 With the increase in popularity of social networking, new uses for the technology are constantly being observed.
198 At the forefront of emerging trends in social networking sites are the concept of "real-time" and "location-based"

199 that allows users to contribute content, which is then broadcasted as it is being uploaded, and the concept being
200 similar to live television broadcasts. Twitter was said to have set the trend for "real-time" services, where users
201 are permitted to broadcast to the world what they are doing, or the thoughts of their minds within a 140 character
202 limit. Facebook was not left behind as their "Live Feed" site where users' activities are run as soon as it happens.
203 Twitter focuses on words, Clixtr, a real-time service focuses its attention on group photo sharing where users can
204 update their photo streams with photos while at an event. Friends and nearby users can contribute their photos
205 gallery and make comments on them, thus contributing to the "realtime" aspect of broadcasting photos and
206 comments on them. In the location-based social networking space, foursquare site gained popularity according to
207 Parker, (1998) Some of the social networking websites allow users to "check-in" to places that they are frequenting
208 at that moment. Gowalla is another such service which functions in much the same way with what Foursquare
209 network does, leveraging the GPS in Phones to create a location-based user experience. Calix to, though in
210 the real time-space, is also a location-based social networking site as events created by users are automatically
211 geotagged, and users can view such events occurring nearby through The Clixtr iPhone app. Recently, Yelp
212 announced its entrance into the location-based social networking space through check-ins with their mobile app;
213 whether or not this becomes detrimental to Foursquare or Gowalla which is yet to be seen as it is still considered
214 as a new space in the internet technology industry (Parker, 1998).

215 One prevalent word use for this new technology is social networking among companies who saw social
216 networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter as great and marvellous invention to build their brand image.
217 Jody Nimetz, writer of Marketing Jive, stated that there are five major uses of social media to or businesses
218 namely: i. To create brand awareness, ii. As an online reputation management tool for recruiting, iii. A platform
219 to learn about new technologies, iv. An avenue to know competitors, and v. As a lead gen tool to intercept
220 potential prospects.

221 These companies according to Parker (1998) can drive traffic of their customers to their online sites and
222 encouraging them as their clients to have mutual discussions on how to improve or change products or services.
223 One other use that is being discussed is the use of Social Networks in the Science communities.

224 Julia Porter (2000) has published a study on how New Biotechnology firms are using social networking sites to
225 share exchanges in scientific knowledge. He further stated that by sharing information and knowledge, people can
226 "increase knowledge which ordinarily was not possible within a self-contained hierarchical organization. He went
227 on and stated that social networking in scientific groups expands knowledge of users who share ideas through
228 communication or else, their theories would become "isolated and irrelevant."

229 Social networks are both used by teachers and students as a communication tool, and while a lot of students are
230 already acquainted with the use of a wide range of social networking sites, teachers have just begun to familiarize
231 themselves with this application to their advantage. Teachers and professors have learnt to create chat-room
232 forums and groups in which extended classroom discussions are incessantly held, and posting of assignments,
233 tests and quizzes, as well as homework outside of the classroom setting are done. Social networks are similarly
234 being used to foster teacher-parent communication; which makes it possible and convenient for parents to ask
235 questions and voice out their concerns without having to meet with the teacher face-to-face.

236 Activists use social networks as a means of reaching out to the low-cost grassroots organizations. Therefore,
237 the continues use of a range of social networking sites enabled the organizers of the "2009 National Equality
238 March", to mobilize an estimated 200,000 participants to march in Washington D.C. with a Jerry (2006) has
239 affirmed that libraries uses online social networks in her communication with users of her services, seeing its use
240 an increasingly prevalent and growing tool among individual libraries.

241 Furthermore, Jerry (2006) stated that social networking is being used by college professional students for
242 internship and job seeking opportunities. Therefore, studies have shown that effectiveness of networking online
243 in a college setting is much in prevalence as succinctly summarized by Phipps Arabie and Yoram Wind in their
244 work on "Advances in Social Network Analysis."

245 **28 d) Ways in Which Social Networking Websites can be used**

246 Social networking is used extensively in recent times by various governments. The use of social networking tools
247 by the government made it easy for her to get quick response of public opinion and their enlightenment. The
248 use of social network especially the popular children's site Whyville and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
249 Administration made it possible for easy vaccination of children, and the demonstration of decease control in
250 Centres for Disease Control which has a virtual island on Second Life where people can explore underground,
251 caves or explore the effects of global warming. In the same way, NASA has taken advantage of social networking
252 tools of Twitter and Flickr to aid the review of U.S. Human Space Flight Plans Committee, whose goal was to
253 ensure that the nation was on a vigorous and sustainable path in its bid to achieving the boldest aspirations in
254 space as opined by Meleond (1998).

255 **29 ii. Business Applications**

256 In the area of business Fraser et al. (??008) stated that the use of social network services in enterprises has the
257 potential of having a real impact on the world of business and work ??Fraser et al, 2008). The social network
258 connects people at low cost, and this can be beneficial for entrepreneurs and small businesses that are looking

32 V. MEDICAL APPLICATIONS

259 forward to expanding their contact bases. These networks often act as a customer relationship management tool
260 for companies selling products and services as orated by Abomaye-Nimenibo & Effiong (2019). Waggoner et
261 al. (1996) also talked about companies using social networks in their advertisement in the form of banners and
262 text ads. Social networks make it easier for companies to keep in touch with contacts around the world such as
263 LinkedIn.com, which aims to interconnect professionals, and has over 40 million users in over 200 countries.

264 Further use of the social network is the physical spaces made available to its members such as Hub Culture, an
265 invitation-only to its members who are having physical presence of memberships, allows its members to network
266 in the real and virtual worlds, which added extra business value. Businesses having brand names are capable
267 of creating their functional sites and sectors referred to as brand networking. Therefore, Waggoner et al (1996)
268 cried out that the idea of a brand can build its consumer relationship by connecting their consumers to the brand
269 image on a platform that provided them with relative content, elements of participation, and a ranking or score
270 system that is of a peculiar form. Brand networking today stands as a new social marketing tool.

271 30 iii. Dating Applications

272 Dating application also found its feet in social networks by providing an online environment for people to
273 communicate, and exchange both pleasantries and personal information for dating purposes. Dating intentions
274 vary in terms of relationships ranging from one time date, short-term relationships, and long-term relationships.
275 As is common in social networks, online dating services require users to give out certain pieces of information
276 about themselves including user's age, gender, geographical location of persons, personal interests, and possibly
277 a picture. The release of personal information is ordinarily discouraged for safety precautions which allows users
278 to search for such information where it is of utmost importance using some sort of criteria. However, people are
279 permitted to maintain a degree of anonymity similar to most online dating services. Online dating sites allow the
280 creating of profiles to meet and communicate with others, whose activities on such sites are for the sole purpose
281 of finding a person of interest to date. It is of prime importance to state that social networks do not necessarily
282 have to be for dating; as many users just use it for keeping in touch with friends, loved one, family members and
283 colleagues as envisaged by Cowper wait et al. ??2002). The only difference between online dating and social
284 networks sites is the payment of fees in the case of online dating site while the other has no charge attached to
285 it. The fees charges by online dating industry experiences massive decrease in revenue as users of this site resort
286 to using the social network site. Online dating site such as Yahoo Personals, Match.com, and eHarmony.com
287 are experiencing a massive decrease in the number of users, while social networks of MySpace and Facebook are
288 experiencing increase in the number of users. Hence, the total users of internet in the U.S. that visit online dating
289 sites has fallen drastically from a peak of 21% in 2003 to 10% in 2006 and has further deteriorated in the number
290 of users of this online dating site. The fall in usage is indubitable but for what reason is the fall in usage of this
291 online dating site is not clear, whether is the cost of the services, the variety of users with different intentions, or
292 any other reason. These facts are also the stand of Cowper wait et al. ??2002).

293 31 iv. Educational Applications

294 The National School Boards Association reported that almost 60 per cent of students who use social networking
295 talk about educational topics online and, surprisingly, more than 50 per cent talks are precisely based on
296 schoolwork. However, the vast majority of school authorities do not accept the use of all forms of social
297 networking during the School day hours and accordingly impose stringent measures its usage, although there
298 were few problematic behaviours cases so reported by students and parents. Although social networks focuses on
299 supporting relationships between teachers and students using it as aids to learning, as an educator professional
300 development, and content sharing. Social network such as Ning for teachers, Learn Central, Teach Street, and
301 other sites are being built to foster relationships that include educational blogs, report folios, formal and ad-hoc
302 communities, as well as effective communication in terms of discussion threads, chats, and synchronous forums
303 meant for content sharing and rating features, according to Nova, (2006).

304 32 v. Medical Applications

305 Healthcare professionals has adopted social networks as means of managing institutional knowledge, highlight
306 individual physicians and institutions, as well as disseminates peer to peer knowledge. The social networking is
307 of especial interest to pharmaceutical companies who spend approximately 32 per cent of their marketing budget
308 in attempts at influencing the opinion leaders of social networks. A new trend has emerged using social network
309 created to help its members with the treatment of various physical and mental ailments. For people suffering from
310 lifethreatening diseases, Patients Like Me offers its members the chance to connect while dealing with similar
311 issues and research patient data related to their condition. For alcohol and drug addicts, Sober Circle gives the
312 addicts the opportunity to talk with one another and strengthen their recovery through the encouragement of
313 others who can relate well to their situation. Nonetheless, Daily Strength being a website offers support groups a
314 wider range of topics covered, and conditions that include the support topics presented by Patients like Me and
315 Sober Circle, as well as Spark People offerings to the community and social networking tools for peer support
316 during weight loss (Chiemeke et al, 2006).

317 **33 III. Requirements Analysis and Design**

318 The requirements for Followme Hub were gathered by observing the existing systems and their operations. We
319 also provide details on the analysis and entrepreneurs, and other business influentials, with pavilions in major
320 cities such as London, UK; and design of the web application; the method of study, and design that was used in
321 modeling the application with the necessary Unified Modelling Language (UML) as well as diagrams that will be
322 used to analyse the architecture of this system.

323 **34 a) Analysis of the Existing System**

324 The social media system is a system that is carried out in terms of communication by students and staff, a system
325 in which all the messages are passed on with ease, relating one with another within the University campus and
326 with The outside world being introduced accordingly in 2015. Before the introduction and operation of this
327 system, the school has no social life interaction and communication among students was at its lowest peak and
328 passing of information to one another was equally low with the high cost of dissemination of information. There
329 was no thing like online seminars, and students don't have where to post some of their comments online as to
330 their gathering or assembling to receive lectures etc.

331 **35 b) Benefits of Existing System**

332 With an existing system on the ground, we have easy access to information, rationalized interaction between
333 students, in order to fostering social interactions, with no loss of information, security & access from anywhere.
334 It is flexible and requires nothing more than a computer system with access to the web. Followme social network
335 proposes to allow prospective students and staffs gets answers to their questions from fellow university students
336 etc. and start-up any discussion with them.

337 **36 c) System Architecture**

338 The architectural drawing of the system is depicted in figure ???.1 below. The required field includes student id,
339 first name, last name, gender, etc.

340 **37 Researchers Computation Table 3.3: Staff Member Table**

341 The staff table stores information about staff status for reference purposes.

342 Table ???.4: The member table stores information about the member on the social Network e) Database of
343 the System Database of the system refers to the structure of the database used in the design of the system. It
344 consists of tables which are in turn made of rows (records) and fields (columns). Each table has a name, and
345 the fields are defined as a number, date, text, etc. with well-defined data size. online social media platform. At
346 the end of the registration, after clicking the Signup button the information gathered will be stored inside the
347 database automatically.

348 **38 f) Input Specification And Design**

349 The input to the new system was derived at the Signup portion of the social media, on the part of the students
350 and the lecturers to feel in the right information required which was used in registering them to the The output
351 design was based on the inputs of the students, lecturers, and administrator. The system can log in the student,
352 lecturer, and administrator as a member of the social network where he/she will be able to see other members
353 and communicate with other members who are also on the same platform or network.

354 On clicking the "Login" button, based on the option selected, the page will look like this:

355 **39 IV. Implementation and Documentation**

356 In this section, we discussed the implementation of (Followme), Obong University Social Media. Implementation
357 is the realization of an application by following through several execution phases of planning, modelling, design,
358 and analysis. After a thorough process of system analysis, system design and an exhaustive requirement
359 specification, the system was implemented and test-ran using appropriate tools.

360 The section provided an overview of the choice of platform, tools and programming languages, software and
361 hardware requirements, and the different modules and interfaces that were implemented.

362 **40 a) Implementation**

363 The website or portal for online communication system was implemented, using PHPMy Admin, Macromedia
364 Dreamweaver, Mysql database, swish max, fireworks and apache server. System implementation follows the
365 approval of the system proposals and its object thus it is to arrive at a satisfactory, implemented, wholly evaluated
366 and functioned from the automated system. The system implementation embodies the preparation of resources
367 including equipment and personnel with the testing of the system.

368 **41 b) Choice of Programming Language**

369 The requirements of the Obong University Social Network website system demands that a capable programming
370 language should be used for its implementation. Hence PHP was chosen.

371 PHP: Hypertext pre-processor is a widely used, general-purpose scripting language was originally designed
372 for web development, and production of dynamic web pages. PHP code is embedded into the HTML source
373 document, to be interpreted by a web server that has a PHP processor module, which generates the web page
374 document. PHP is a generalpurpose programming language, which PHP code is processed by an interpreter
375 application in command-line mode performing desired operating system operations and producing program output
376 or its standard output channel. It may also function as a graphical application. PHP is a processor for most
377 modern web servers and a standalone interpreter on most operating systems and computing platforms.

378 Why I found it appropriate to choose it in implementing this project was that it is a powerful debugging
379 facility that provides useful hints and suggestions for error handling.

380 **42 c) Program Description**

381 The program starts with the default home page. Here you can log in as a STUDENT, LECTURER, or ADMIN.
382 There are Six (6) tabs: Home, Profile, Info, My photos, Friends, and Messages. The Home tag is a portion which
383 welcomes non members and members of the social network and allows them to Login or register using the Signup
384 tab. After the Student, Lecturer or Admin must have Login to the social network, the next tab is the Profile tab
385 of the member allowing him/she as a member to view his/her profile picture, and also getting them to see some
386 update (such as friend's comment on another friend profile picture or a friend changing his photo). The Info tab
387 gives the member access to view his/her details that were supplied when signing up and remains valid and still
388 in progress and also to provide additional information. My photo tab is a portion where members can upload
389 their favourite photo and also make comment on them. Friends tab is a portion where a member gets to see all
390 the number of friends he/she has and also get to see friends that are available on the social network. Message
391 tab is a portion where all messages are seen. Mails which are sent are stored in the sent items folder, while those
392 received are stored in the inbox folder, and the trash folder contains those that are sent on broadcast within
393 a group. The system for running this project involves both the hardware and the software parameters. The
394 computer user should be given proper orientation on how the new system works. Training improves the efficiency
395 of both the user and the designed system. All staff has to be promptly notified whenever new modifications
396 are made. The students and staff using this system must be trained in the operation of the system. System
397 maintenance is the last phase in the development of computer software. It deals with adjusting, improving the
398 systems performance, reliability, efficiency, and effectiveness through system audits, user feedback, and periodic
399 evaluation. Furthermore, it is the maintenance that involves upgrading and updating of the system(s) to keep
400 them in place with new products, services, customers, demand, government regulations, and so forth.

401 V.

402 **43 Summary, Conclusion and Recommendation**

403 This section presents the summary of the research work, recommendations, and the general conclusion of the
404 research work.

405 **44 a) Summary**

406 People have used the idea of social network loosely for over a century to indicate complex sets of relationships
407 among members of social systems at all levels, from interpersonal to international. Social network analysis has
408 now moved from being a suggestive metaphor to an analytic approach and a paradigm, with its theoretical
409 statements, methods, social network analysis software, and researchers. Analyst's way of reasoning is from whole
410 to part; from structure to relations and individual; and as well from behaviour to attitude. This web-based system
411 can be implemented Operating system: Window XP professional edition or online or locally. This programme
412 was developed to the local taste and is still running on localhost as well as on intranet which is in support of
413 MySQL, MyPhpAdmin, Apache server and PHP. The system database is updatable, reliable, and secure and
414 enables students' applications to be processed and well documented.

415 **45 VI.**

416 **46 Conclusion**

417 The benefits of using the social networking website system cannot be overemphasized, since the system will
418 increase the speed of communication, online seminars, group chats, networking, and many more.

419 **47 VII.**

420 **48 Recommendations**

421 We recommend this work to the management of Obong University or any other institute of learning for ease of use
422 of both staff and students that are costeffective and save them of the stress of manual system of communication

423 or the restriction in the social life of the students. With the deployment of this social networking website, there
424 will be growth in students' population when effectively used of networking. The programme is cost-effective.
425 We also recommend this work to all institutions and organizations that deal with many employees and a large
426 student population. We are ready to install in any institution or workplace.

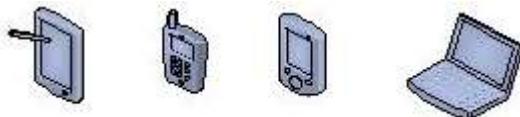
427 Volume XIX Issue VIII Version I 36 (E) <http://www.tekmom.com/buzzwords> by Tekmom Buzzwords.
428 appendix one screenshots of some development tools php myadmin interface. `$("#bi").click(function()
429 { $("#backin").fadeIn(); $("#bi").fadeOut(); }); $("#mis").click(function() { $("#mission").fadeIn();
430 $("#mis").fadeOut(); }); $("#vis").click(function() { $("#vision").fadeIn(); $("#vis").fadeOut(); });
431 $("#man").click(function() { $("#mandate").fadeIn(); $("#man").fadeOut(); }); $("#int").click(function()
432 { $("#intrams").fadeIn(); $("#int").fadeOut(); }); $("#che").click(function() { $("#cheer").fadeIn();
433 $("#che").fadeOut(); }); $("#ac").click(function() { $("#acq").fadeIn(); $("#ac").fadeOut(); });});</script>
434 <!-JQUERY -> <script type="text/javascript" SRC="js/jquery- <div class="grid_3"> <h1 class="logo"><a
435 href="index.php">followme </h1> </div><!-end grid ->
436 <div class="grid_9"> <ul class="sf-menu"> Home
437 LogIn Sign Up
438 Contact <!-end sf-menu -> </div><!-end grid
439 -> </div><!-end container -> <div class="clear"></div> </div><!-end header -> <div
440 id="content"> <div class="container_16 clearfix"> <div id="featured"> <div class="grid_12"> <div
441 id="slideshow"><h2>SOCIAL MEDIA SITE By Richman Abomaye Nimenibo | U1CS1115 </h2><font
442 size="6" color="green">LogIn <div id="slides"> </div> <div
443 id="slidepager"></div> </div><!-end slideshow -> </div><!-end grid -> <div class="clear"></div>
444 </div><!-end featured -> <div class="grid_4"> <p align="justify"> </div> ??,#,$,%,&,*?,_~,
445 ,(,)]/).removeClass('object_error'); $("#username").addClass("object_ok"); $(this).html(' '); } else { $("#username").removeClass('object_ok'); $("#username").
447 addClass("object_error"); $(this).html(msg); } }); } else { $("#status").html('<font
448 color="red">The username should have at least 4 characters.'); $("#username").
449 removeClass('object_ok'); $("#username").addClass("object_error"); }
450 Volume XIX Issue VIII Version I`

451 49 (E)

452 }); //--> </SCRIPT> </head> <body> <div id="header"> <div class="container_12"> <div
453 class="grid_3"> <h1 class="logo">followme
454 </h1> </div> <!-end grid -> <div class="grid_9"> <ul class="sf-menu"> <a
455 href="index.php">Home LogIn <a
456 href="reg.php">Sign Up Contact
457 </div> </div> <div class="clear"></div> </div> <div id="breadcrumb"> <div class="container_12
458 clearfix"> <div class="grid_9"> <p>Home ? Sign Up</p> <p> </p>
459 </div> </div> <div id="content"> <div class="container_12 clearfix"> <div class="right"
460 align="right" style="margin-left: 0px; padding-left: 20px;"> <h1>Welcome to followme.....</h1>
 It
461 is free and always will be.. <input id="username" style="width: 250px; font-weight: bold; color: #222;
462 text-transform: none;" type="text" name="username" />
</label>
463 </p> <p> <label>Password: <input style="width: 250px; font-weight: bold; color: #222; text-transform:
464 none;" name="password" type="password" onkeyup="passwordStrength(this.value)" /></label>

465
466 </p>
 <p> <label>Firstname: <input style="width: 250px; font-weight: bold; color: #222;
467 text-transform: capitalize;" type="text" name="firstname" /></label> </p> <p> <label>Lastname:
468 <input style="width: 250px; font-weight: bold; color: #222; text-transform: capitalize;" type="text"
469 name="lastname" /></label> </p> <p> <label>Email:
 <input type="text" style="width:
470 250px; font-weight: bold; color: #222; text-transform: none;" onblur="verifyEmail()" name="email"
471 /></label> </p> <p> <label>City:
 <input style="width: 250px; font-weight: bold; color: #222;
472 text-transform: capitalize;" type="text" name="address" /></label> </p> <p> <label>Birthdate:

473 <input name="birthdate" type="hidden" size="25" /> <div id="bmonth"><select class="" style="width:
474 100px; font-weight: normal; color: #222;" name="birthday_month" ></div> <span id="valmonth"
475 style="display:none;"> <option value="-1">Month:</option> <option value="January">Jan</option>
476 <option value="February">Feb</option> <option value="March">Mar</option> <option
477 value="May">May</option> <option value="June">Jun</option> <option value="July">Jul</option>
478 Volume XIX Issue VIII Version I 45 (E) ¹



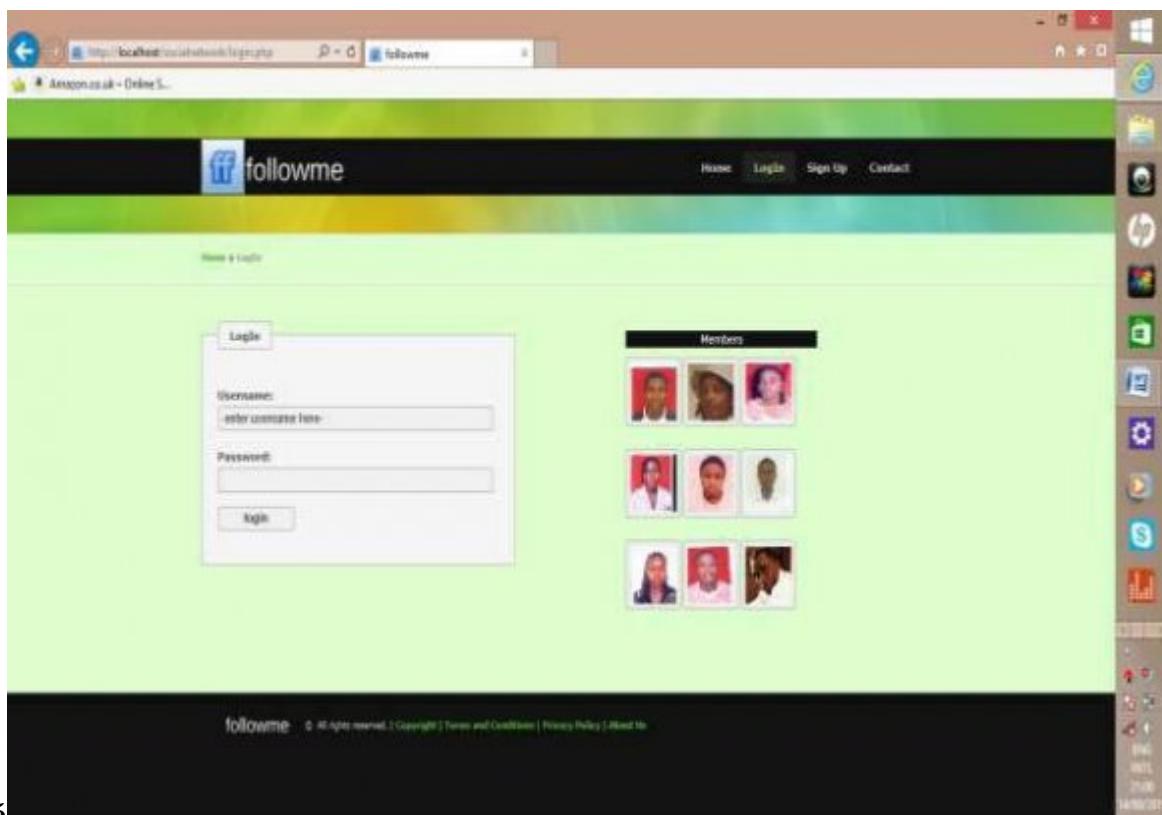
313132

Figure 1: Figure 3 . 1 :Figure 3 . 1 :Figure 3 . 2 :



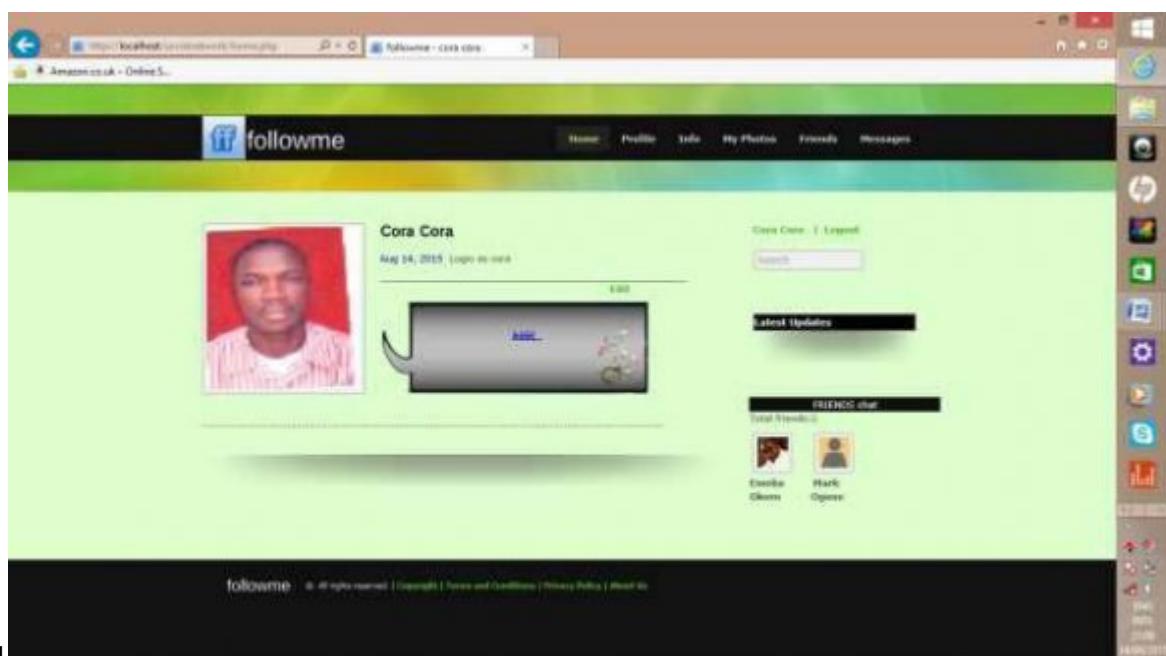
33

Figure 2: Figure 3 . 3 :



3435

Figure 3: Figure 3 . 4 .Figure 3 . 5 :



41

Figure 4: Figure 4 . 1 :

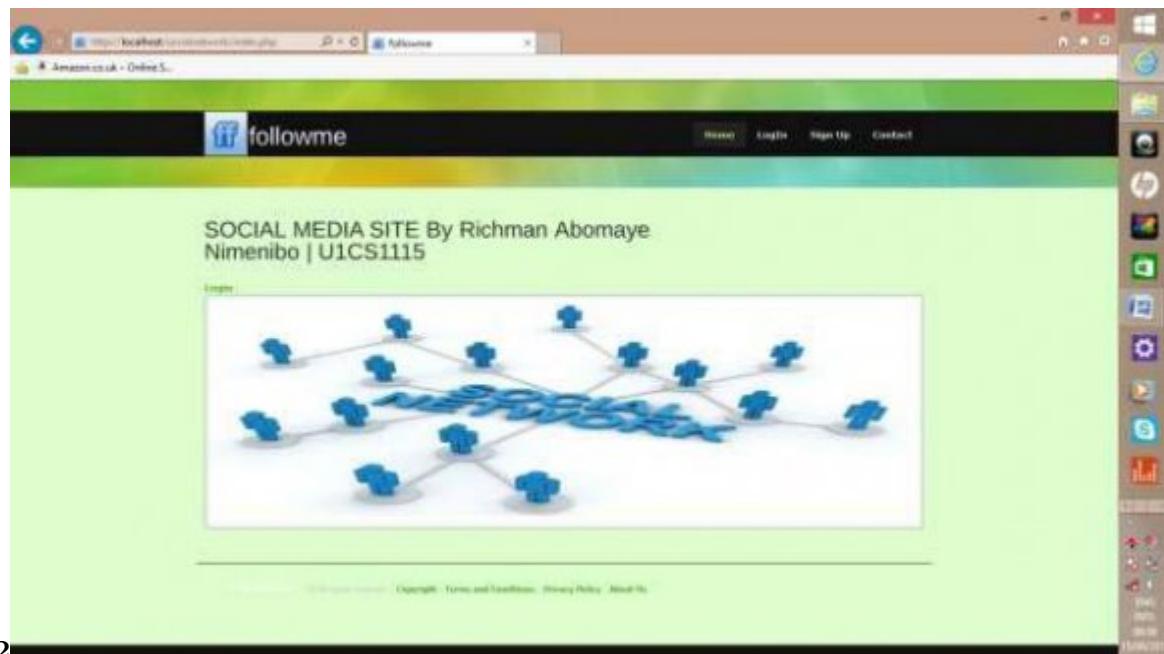


Figure 5: Figure 4 . 2 :

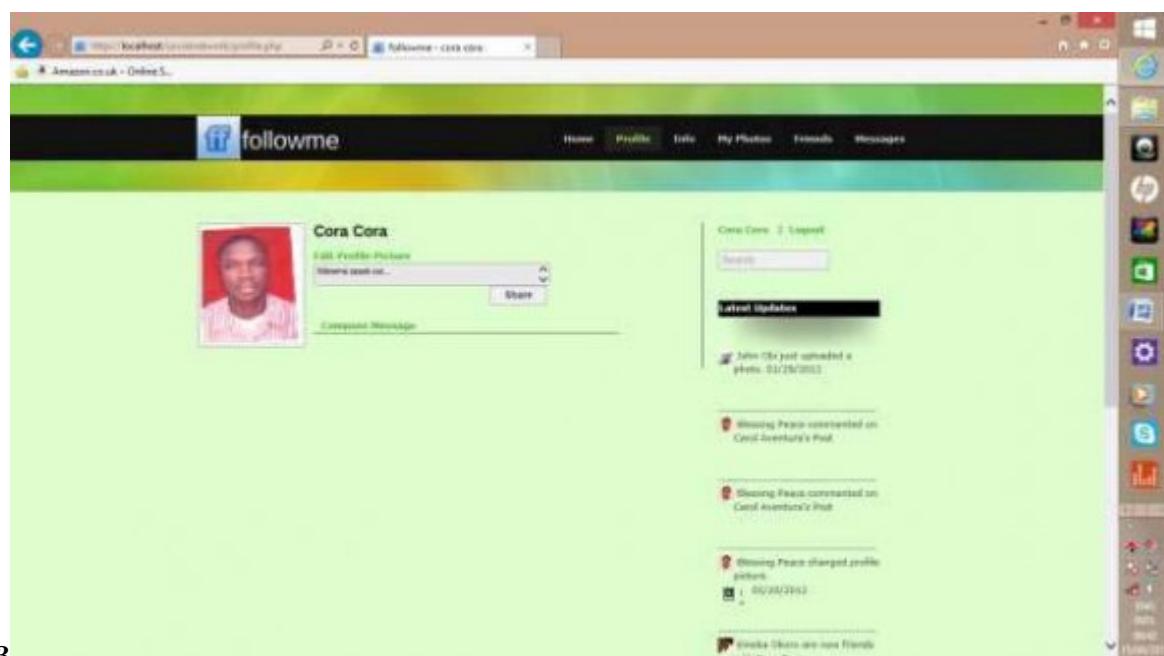
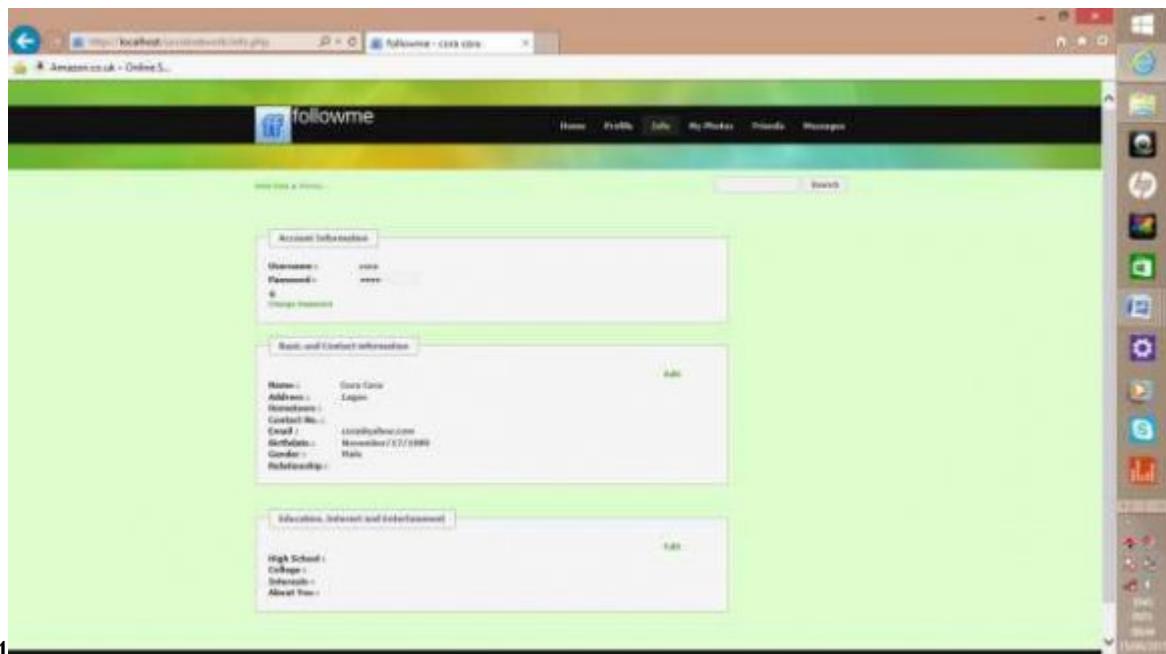
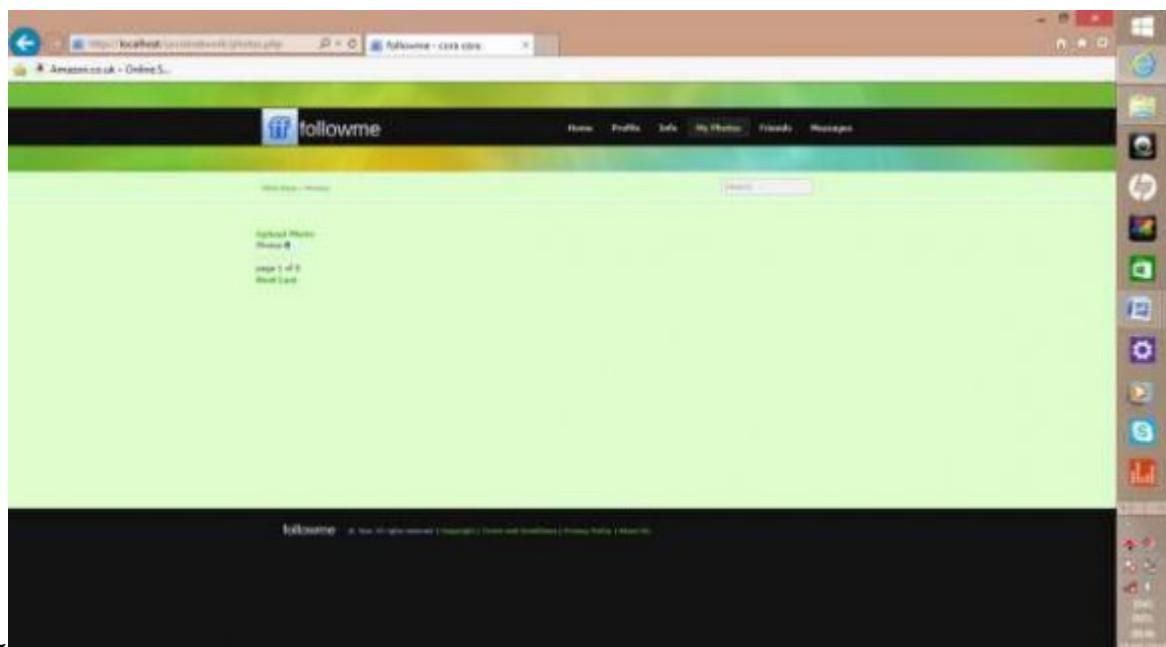


Figure 6: Figure 4 . 3 :



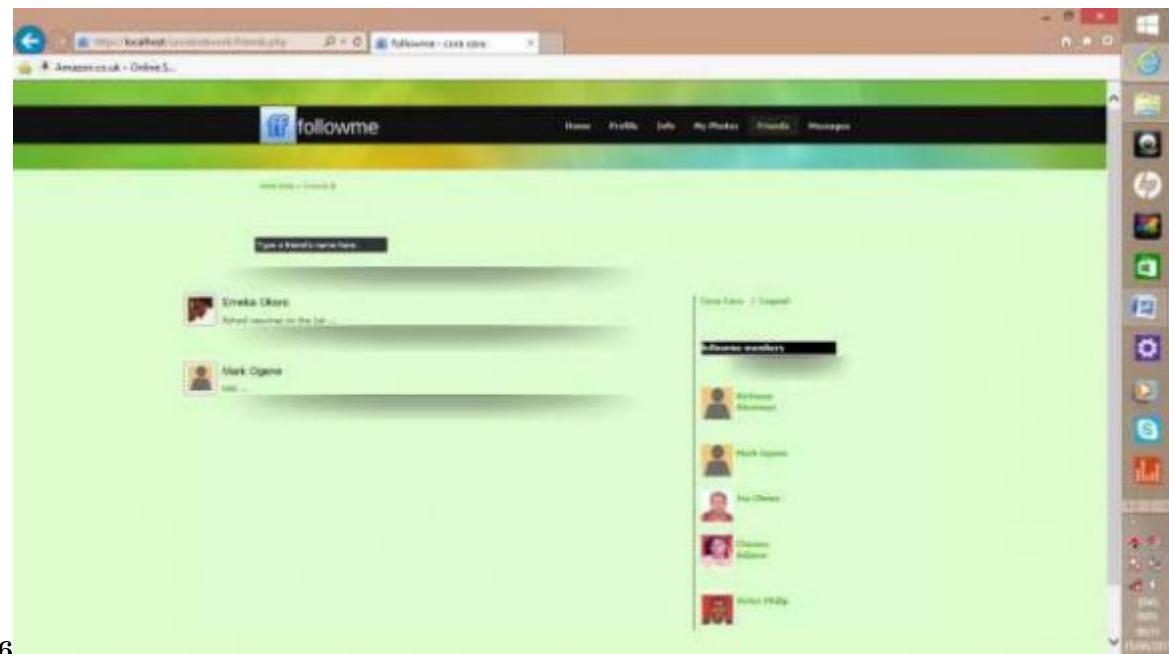
44

Figure 7: Figure 4 . 4 :



45

Figure 8: Figure 4 . 5 :



46

Figure 9: Figure 4 . 6 :



Figure 10:

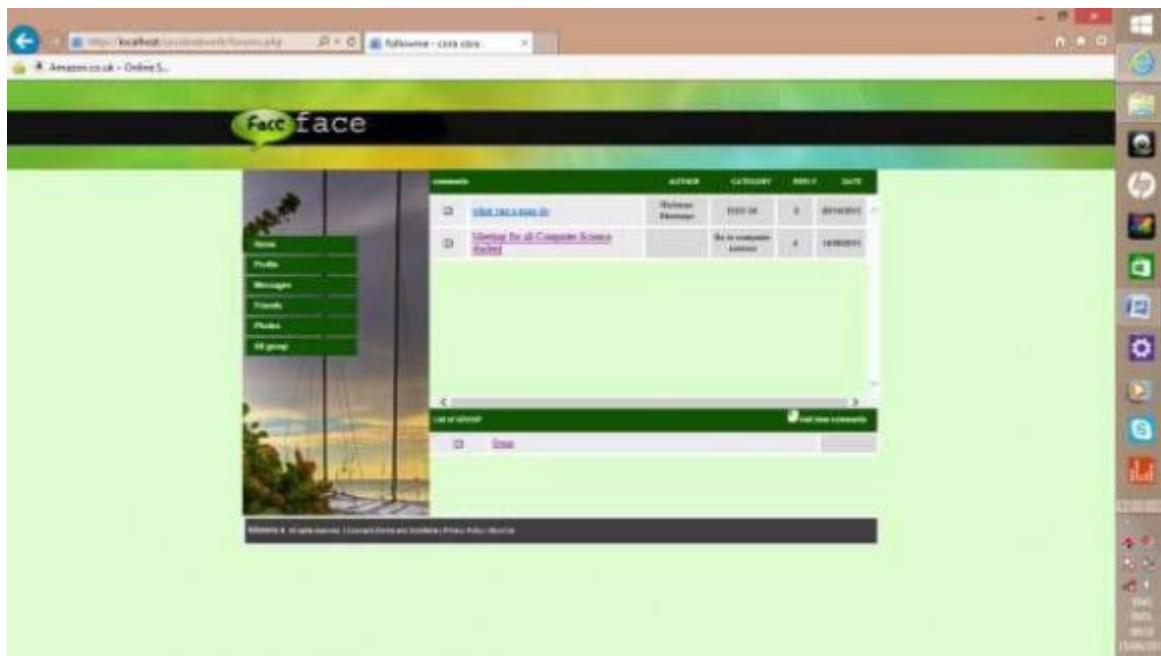


Figure 11:

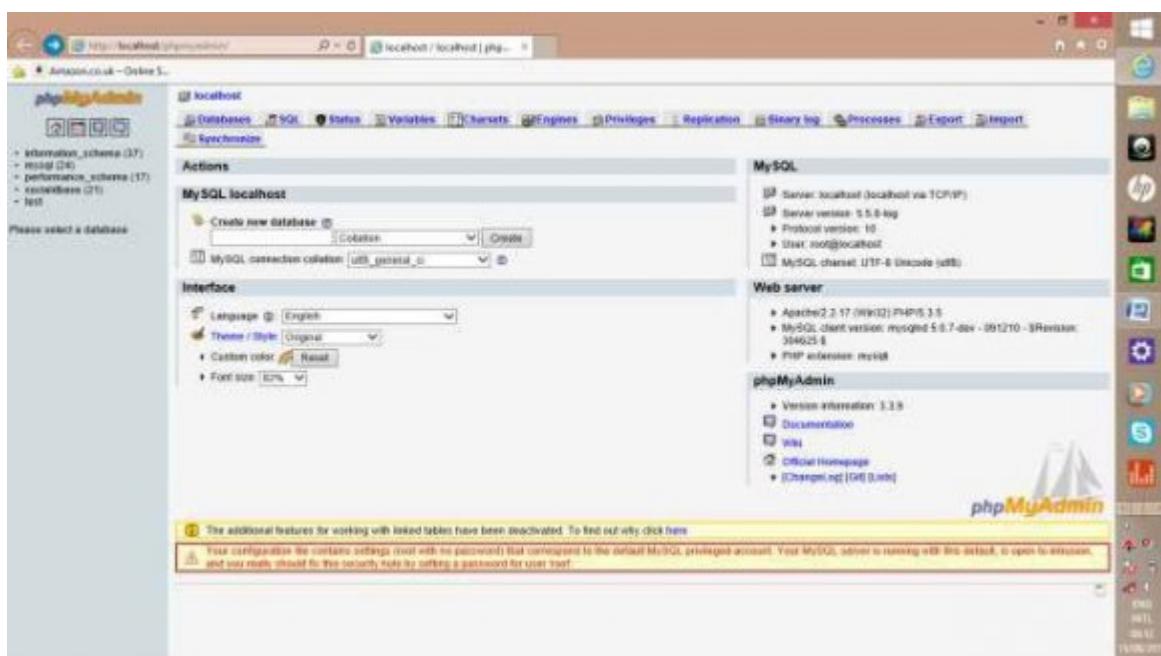


Figure 12:

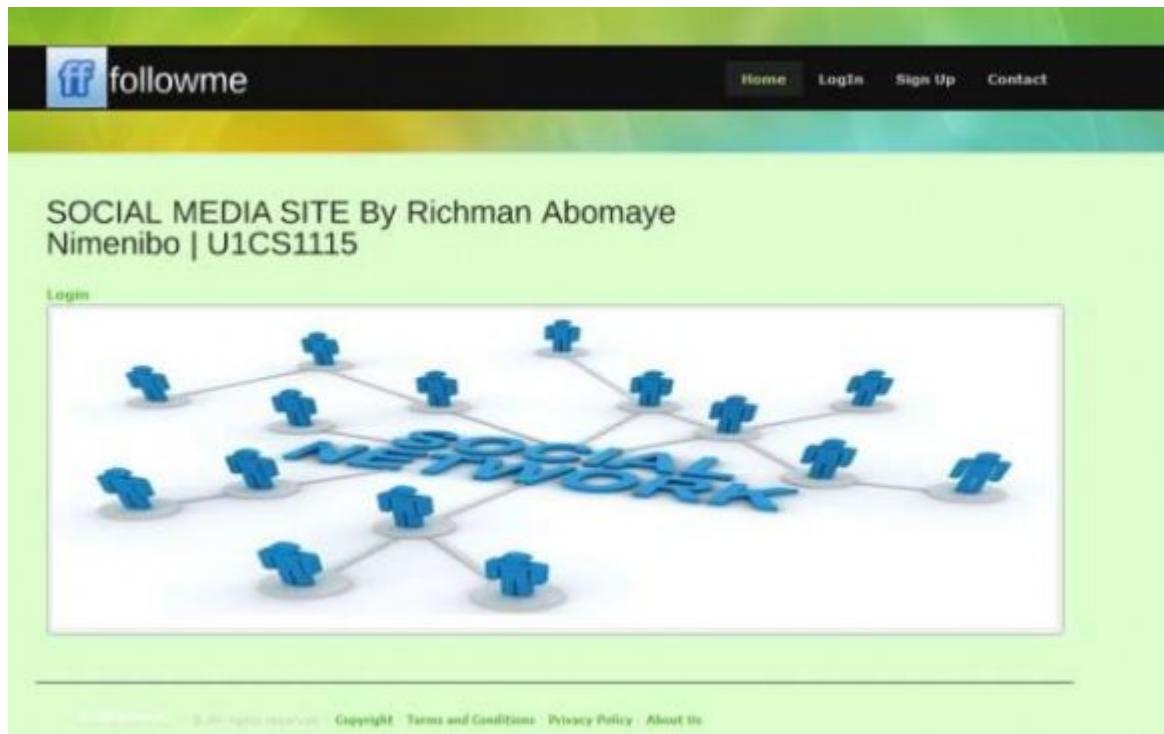


Figure 13:

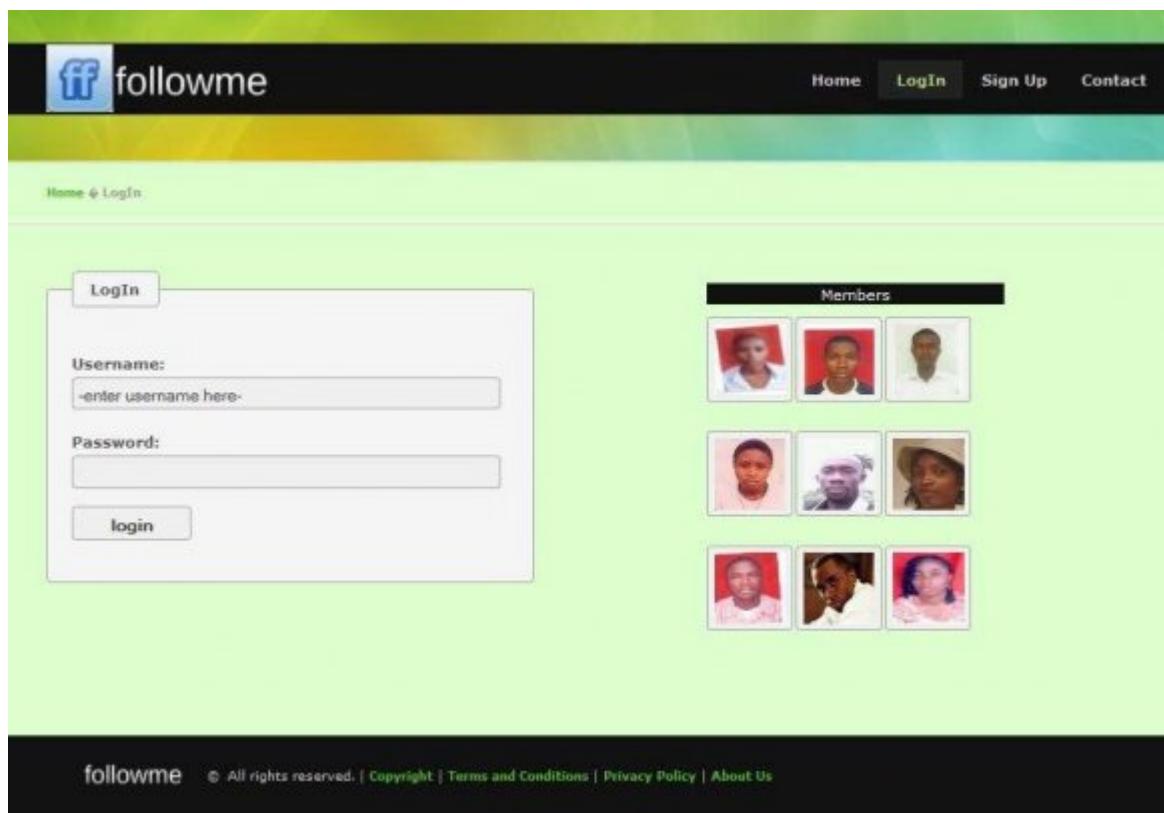


Figure 14:

32

Figure 15: Table 3 . 2 :

31

S/N	FIELD NAME	DATA TYPE	SIZE	DESCRIPTION
1	User Name	Text	50	Unique User's Name for login
2	Password	Text	20	Unique User's Password
Student_id	FIELD	TYPES	FUNCTION	DESCRIPTION
		int(11)	Optional	student's position in the database
Id_no		varchar	Optional	student's i_d
First name		varchar	Optional	student's first name
Last name		varchar	Optional	student's last name
Gender		varchar	Optional	student's gender(M/F)
Course		varchar	Optional	student's course
Yr_sec		varchar	Optional	student's level at school
FIELD	TYPES		FUNCTION	NULL DESCRIPTION
Staff_id		Int(11)	Optional	Staff position in the database
Id_no	Varchar(20)		Optional	Staff id
First name	Varchar(50)		Optional	Staff first name
Last name	Varchar(50)		Optional	Staff last name
Gender	Varchar(20)		Optional	Staff gender(M/F)
Address	Varchar(500)		Optional	Staff address
FIELDS	TYPE		FUNCTIONS	NULL DESCRIPTION
Member i_d		Int(11)	Options	Member i_d
Username	Varchar(20)		Options	Member username
Password	Varchar(16)		Options	Member password
First name	Varchar(30)		Options	Member first name

Figure 16: Table 3 . 1 :

35

Researchers Computation

[Note: Figure 3. 6: Output Specification and Design]

Figure 17: Table 3 . 5 :

479 .1 Appendix Two Source Codes

480 <http://www.w3schools.com/tags> by w3schools. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hierarchical_database_by_Wikipedia. <!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd"> <html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml" xml:lang="en" lang="en"> <head> <meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=utf-8" /> <link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="css/style.css" /> <link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="css/cycle.css" /> <!–Here is where your page title must go –> <title>followme</title> <!–Metadescription and MetaKeyWords are used for SEO –> <meta content="Metadescription" name="Insert the description of this page here" /> <meta content="MetaKeyWords" name="Insert the keywords that describe this page here" /> <script type="text/javascript" src="js/jquery.js"></script> <script type="text/javascript"> \$(document).ready(function() { </script> <!–END-Cycle –> <!– Superfish Menu –> <script type="text/javascript" SRC="js/superfish/hoverIntent.js"></script> <script type="text/javascript" SRC="js/superfish/superfish.js"></script> <script type="text/javascript" SRC="js/superfish/supersubs.js"></script> <script type="text/javascript"> \$(document); </script> <!–END-Superfish Menu –> <!–CUFON Font Replacement –> <script SRC="js/cufon-yui.js" type="text/javascript"></script> <script SRC="js/Liberation_Sans_font.js" type="text/javascript"> Cufon.replace('h1,h2,h3,h4,h5,h6'); Cufon.replace('logo', { color: '-linear-gradient(0.5=#FFF, 0.7=#DDD)' }); </script> <!–END-CUFON Font Replacement –> </head> <body> <div id="header"> <div class="container_12">

498 Volume XIX Issue VIII Version I 39 (E)

499 <option value="August">Aug</option> <option value="September">Sep</option> <option value="October">Oct</option> <option value="November">Nov</option> <option value="December">Dec</option> </select> <select name="birthday_day" style="width: 100px; font-weight: normal; color: #222;" autocomplete="on"> <option value="-1">Day:</option> <option value="1">1</option> <option value="2">2</option> <option value="3">3</option> <option value="4">4</option> <option value="5">5</option> <option value="6">6</option> <option value="7">7</option> <option value="8">8</option> <option value="9">9</option> <option value="10">10</option> <option value="11">11</option> <option value="12">12</option> <option value="13">13</option> <option value="14">14</option> <option value="15">15</option> <option value="16">16</option> <option value="17">17</option> <option value="18">18</option> <option value="19">19</option> <option value="20">20</option> <option value="21">21</option> <option value="22">22</option> <option value="23">23</option> <option value="24">24</option> <option value="25">25</option> <option value="26">26</option> <option value="27">27</option> <option value="28">28</option> <option value="29">29</option> <option value="30">30</option> <option value="31">31</option> </select> <select name="birthday_year" style="width: 100px; font-weight: normal; color: #222;" autocomplete="on"> <option value="–"

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