



# IPRO 363: Language Link

## Midterm Presentation

# Problem Statement

IIT's lack of a foreign language department and other language-learning resources leaves students in need, especially given our diverse population and study-abroad program. Furthermore, cultural socialization and interactions are at a minimum.

## Solution

IPRO 363 sets out to create Language Link, a networking site that:

- connects students according to language learning specifications using a matching algorithm
- encourages students to meet with each other to learn languages, based on the immersion theory
- integrates cultures and builds friendships on campus

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# Team Structure and Goals of the Project

- Write and format full site map and web content
- Secure server space
- Write code for and design home page, log-in page, profile pages, logo, and legal script
- Build and thoroughly test matching algorithms
- Promote the project, keeping constant contacts with relevant individuals and organizations, including international and study abroad centers
- Facilitate student testing of site and prototypes
- Complete full prototype - with registration and matching features - for IPRO Day

# Project Team

## Completed Work

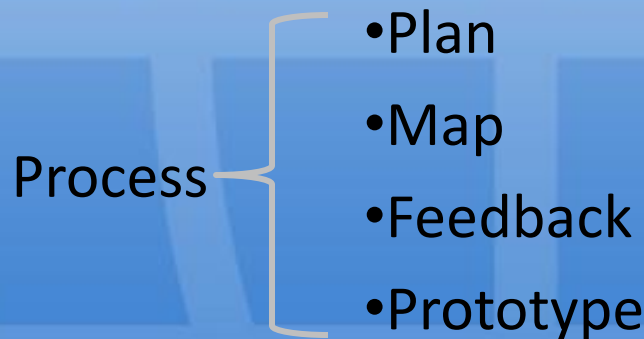
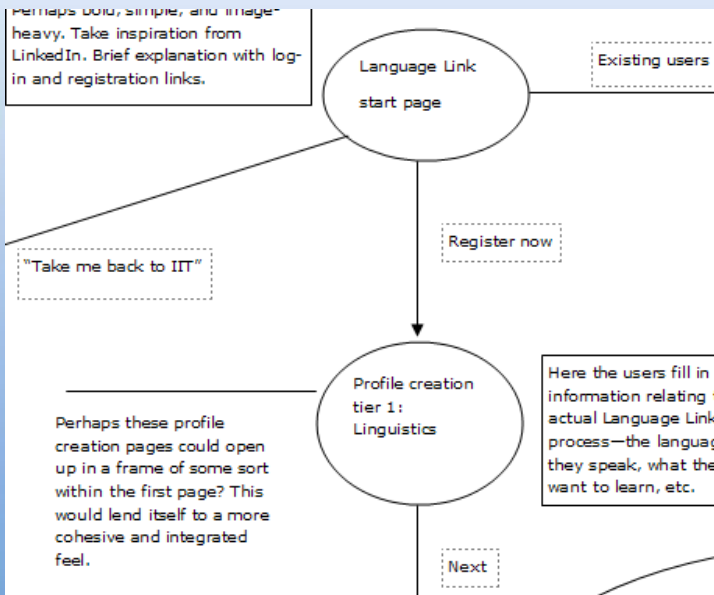
- Organization of Team and Work
  - Project Plan
- Promotion
  - Initiated contact with the International Center and IIT's contact in Paris
  - Implemented promotional project with TechNews: "International Student of the Week" column
- Site Research and Progress
  - Creation, distribution and analysis of survey: Researching specific language interests, investigating possible matching, gauging socialization interest
  - Compilation of links for language learning

# Project Team

## Plans for the Future

- Organization of Team and Work
  - IPRO Day Preparation
- Promotion
  - Continue TechNews articles
  - Maintain communication with contacts in International Center and abroad for advice, tips, and critique
  - Brainstorm new ideas for further Language Link outreach
- Site Research and Progress
  - Compile links and resources for important languages (Spanish, Mandarin and Cantonese Chinese, English, etc.)
  - Develop Privacy Policy and engage in conversation with IIT legal council

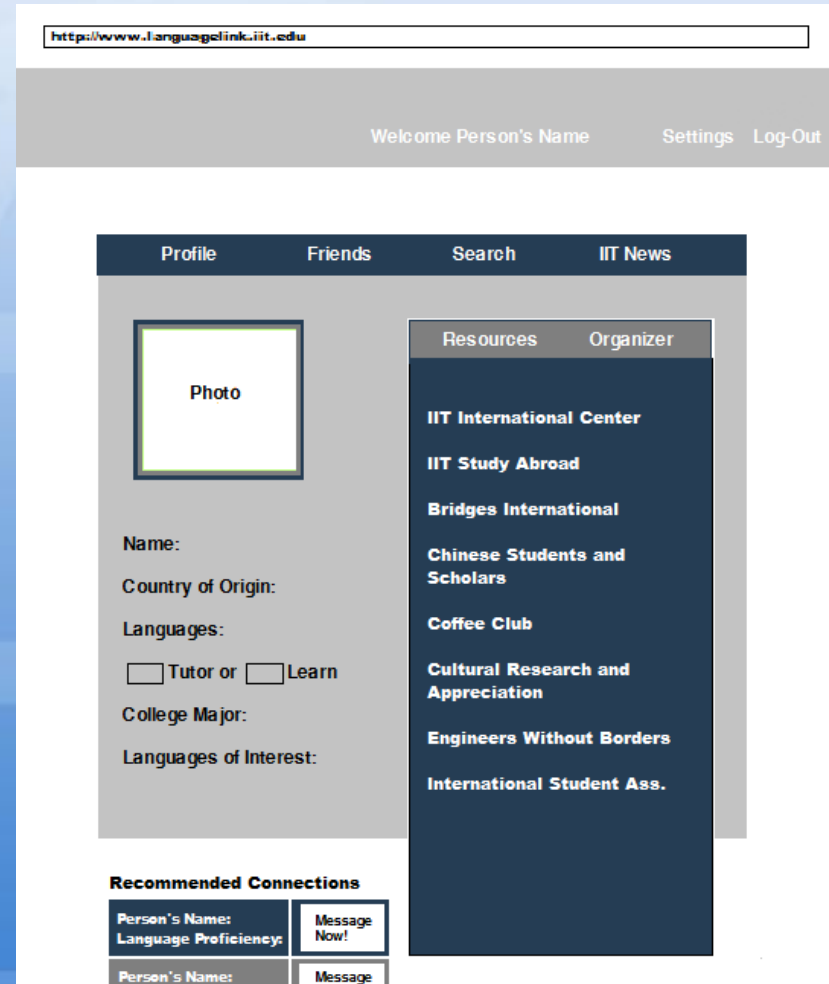
# Design Team Completed Work



# Design Team

## Plans for the Future

- Continue seeking feedback
- Concept vs. development/time
- Avoid feature creep
- Maintain pleasing aesthetics



# Development Team

## Completed Work

- Researched and identified potential development environments.
  - CakePHP – MVC structure
- Determined underlying data-structure model
- Created a MySQL database to reflect our model
- Programmed admin interface
- Obtained an account on an IIT web-server



# Development Team

## Plans For The Future

- Programming client-interface for essential features (e.g., Homepage, Search)
  - Implement design team specifications
  - Matching algorithm:
    - Essential matching characteristics
    - Non-essential preferences (survey)
  - Testing
  - Security
  - Programming additional features (e.g., Event suggestion, Progress tracker)
- Upload and host site from our account on the IIT web-server

# Looking Ahead

- Connecting to the diverse community at IIT
- Mastering fundamentals of website design
- Understanding and applying CakePHP operations

Completing a functional and visually appealing prototype

# Questions?