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# **EVENTO:** A Centralized Digital Platform for Intercollege Event Discovery and Management

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**Abstract** - Inter-college events are a crucial part of academic requirements and professional development. However, students face difficulties while managing events due to the unreliability of resources and information. To address this challenge, we propose EVENTO, a centralized digital platform designed to streamline the discovery, registration, and management of intercollege events and internships. EVENTO integrates diverse event categories including technical competitions, cultural fests, academic seminars, and sports event into a single, user-friendly interface.

Key features of EVENTO include verified event and internship listings [4, 5], a personalized dashboard for tracking registrations [3, 5], real-time communication channels [2, 6], blockchain-based certificate issuance for authentication [5] and secure payment integration [7, 8]. Additionally, future scopes aim to incorporate a secured webbased alumni network [6], facilitating mentorship programs, career opportunities, and institutional connectivity while ensuring robust security measures to combat phishing, data integrity issues, and authentication challenges [6, 8].

By consolidating event management [1, 4, and 5] and alumni engagement [6], EVENTO enhances student participation, institutional coordination, and long-term professional networking. Preliminary evaluations suggest that the platform improves event organization efficiency while fostering greater engagement among students, alumni, and academic institutions. This comprehensive approach positions EVENTO as a transformative solution for higher education event management and career development.

Key Words: EVENTO; intercollege event management; centralized event discovery; digital event platform; secure payment; blockchain certificate verification; organizer dashboard; alumni network; agile development; user interface design; usability testing; academic event registration; internship opportunities; higher education events; digital transformation in education; educational technology

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Intercollege events serve as a foundation in the integral development of students, offering much more than just a platform for competition or performance. Covering

technical, cultural, academic and sports domains these events not only meet mandatory certification criteria but also encourage key skills like teamwork, leadership and critical thinking. Participation in such events helps in professional growth, and helps students to build strong network and gain practical experience. In today's competitive world, these experiences prove to be valuable in bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and real world application.

Despite their evident importance, the current methods for discovering and registering for intercollege events are loaded with challenges. Many students rely on impromptu solutions like social media platforms and verbal recommendations. While these channels might offer some information, they often lead to incomplete and unstructured records. As a result, students frequently miss out on valuable opportunities. The lack of a unified, reliable source for event information not only thwart participation but also creates inefficiencies in how event organizers and educational institutions manage and promote these events.

To overcome these challenges, this paper introduces EVENTO, a centralized digital platform designed specifically for the academic environment. EVENTO consolidates event data from multiple sources into one streamlined portal, ensuring that students have easy access to comprehensive, up-to-date, and verified information on intercollege events and internships. The platform offers a robust set of features including secure event registration, integrated payment processing, and blockchain based certificate issuance to guarantee authenticity and prevent fraud. By providing a userfriendly interface that categorizes events by types such as technical competitions (hackathons, coding challenges), cultural fests, academic seminars and sports events. Additionally, a dedicated section for internships enhances career development by connecting students with verified opportunities that can complements their academic experience.

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Moving ahead, EVENTO aspires to introduce a secure online network for alumni and an information system, which would help students and alumni stay connected, making it easier to communicate. This would also help in finding mentors and accessing job opportunities, internships and workshops. EVENTO intends to be a valuable tool for students and aspirants.

### 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Recent research has underscored the need for centralized digital platforms to manage academic events efficiently and enhance user engagement in higher education. Several studies have explored various facets of digital event management, providing insights that form the foundation for EVENTO.

For instance, a study by [1] offers insights into creating a user-friendly, centralized platform for event registration and tracking in higher education. This research emphasizes the advantages of consolidating event data into a single interface, which can significantly reduce the reliance on fragmented and informal communication channels such as WhatsApp groups and social media. By streamlining the discovery and registration processes, such platforms can help minimize missed opportunities and ensure that students have access to comprehensive, verified event information.

In another study, [2] focuses on the design of userfriendly dashboards that allow for effective tracking of events and real-time updates. This work demonstrates how real-time notifications and dynamic interfaces improve accessibility and overall user engagement, enabling students to stay informed about registration deadlines and event details promptly.

A further contribution by [3] proposes a centralized online system for managing academic events efficiently. This framework addresses key aspects of event management such scheduling, participant as management, and logistical coordination. While [3] presents a generic model for academic event management, EVENTO builds on this idea by offering a dedicated platform specifically tailored for intercollege events and internships. The framework in [3] also highlights the importance of a system that is accessible to both technical and non-technical users, aligning closely with EVENTO's design philosophy.

Complementing these ideas, [4] examines web-based event hosting systems aimed at organizing and managing campus events. This study identifies the need for significant improvements in user experience (GUI issues), which EVENTO addresses through AI-driven recommendations, real-time updates, and a seamless event registration process. Such enhancements ensure

that the platform is not only functional but also engaging and easy to navigate.

Additionally, [5] expands the scope of digital event platforms by emphasizing the integration of career-related opportunities. This research illustrates how a unified platform can support not only event discovery but also internship, workshop, and placement opportunities. EVENTO leverages this concept by providing a dual-focus system that streamlines both event and internship discovery, with future plans to integrate a secure webbased alumni network to facilitate ongoing career development.

Security is a critical concern that has been explored in several studies. Research by [6] highlights the integration of secure payment gateways in digital marketplaces, pointing out the limitations of current payment methods. EVENTO responds to these challenges by incorporating a robust payment gateway that ensures secure and flexible transactions for event registrations. Furthermore, [7] provides insights into optimizing security in ecommerce payment systems, recommending the development of standardized security frameworks based on analyses of past breaches. These findings have informed the security measures within EVENTO, including advanced encryption, multi-factor authentication, and regular security audits to protect user data and financial transactions.

Collectively, the literature suggests that centralized digital platforms can markedly improve the management of academic events by enhancing usability, ensuring information reliability, and providing secure transaction methods. EVENTO synthesizes these strengths by offering a comprehensive platform that addresses current gaps in event discovery and management, while also paving the way for future enhancements such as an integrated alumni network. This survey of existing research provides a solid theoretical and practical foundation for EVENTO, highlighting its potential to transform academic event management in higher education.

#### 3. METHODOLOGY

Our approach for developing EVENTO is structured around a robust, agile based development process, which prioritizes user experience, effortless performance and top-notch security. This section outlines the system architecture, development process, data collection & testing and the security measures.

## I. System Architecture

• User Interface (UI):
A user-friendly frontend is designed, which offers students a smooth and engaging

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experience. It enables users to filter events as per their choice. For example technical, cultural, academic and sports. Also, provides event registration and real time updates. It includes a personalized dashboard for smooth participation. The responsive design of interface is accessible on desktops, tables and smartphones.

#### • Organizer Dashboard:

Colleges and event organizers are provided a special dashboard that manages their events. This enables verified organizers to add, update, handle event details, track registrations and oversee the payment processes. The dashboard also include features of reporting and analytics tools that offer help into participation trends, revenue tracking and overall event performance. This centralized control helps maintain the authenticity of listings and makes event management easier.

#### • Payment Integration:

EVENTO includes a secure payment gateway to process registration fees and other transactions. It uses industry standard encryption protocols like TLS/SSL, to protect financial data. Both students and organizers are able to track real time transaction, ensuring transparency and building trust in the platform's financial processes.

#### • Certificate Issuance:

After participating in an event, students receive digital certificates that are issued through a blockchain based system. This guarantees that certificates are tamper proof and easily verifiable. The integration of blockchain enhances the certificate credibility and prevents frauds.

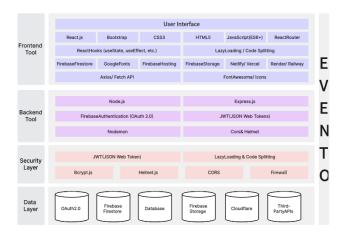


Figure 1. System Architecture

#### II. Development Process

We used an agile development approach to build EVENTO, which allows us to progress swiftly, incorporate user feedback and continuously improve the platform. Our development process include:

- Iterative Prototyping: We began with a minimal viable product (MVP) that included core functionalities such as event discovery, registration and basic dashboard features. With each iterations we introduced advanced features like secure payment integration and blockchain based certificate issuance.
- Continuous Integration and Deployment (CI/CD): Our workflow utilizes CI/CD pipelines to automate testing and deployment. This ensures smooth integration of new code changes are and the platform remains stable as new features are added.
- Stakeholder Collaboration: We regularly meet with student representatives, college administrators and event organizers which help us gather honest feedback. This collaborative approach ensures that the platform meets with the real world needs of all users.

## III. Data Collection & Testing

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To ensure EVENTO meets user expectations and performs effectively in a live environment, we conducted extensive data collection and testing:

- Usability Testing: We organized multiple
  user testing sessions with students, event
  organizers and college administrators.
  Participants completed tasks such as event
  registration, payment processing and
  dashboard navigation. Their interactions
  were observed to identify challenging points
  and areas for improvement.
- Surveys and Interviews: Post testing we gathered qualitative feedback on the user experience. Insights on usability, visual appeal and overall satisfaction helped us refine the UI and enhance the platform's functionality.
- Performance Metrics: We collected data on system performance, load times, transaction success rates and responsiveness of the dashboard. This data guided optimizations to ensure smooth and reliable operation.
- A/B Testing: We experimented with different dashboard layouts and notification services using A/B testing. This helped us determine the most effective design choices based on real user instructions.

#### **IV.** Security Considerations

Given the importance of personal data and financial transactions, EVENTO has integrated security measures into its every layer:

- User Authentication: To ensure only authorized access to platform we used multi factor authentication (MFA).
- Data Encryption: All communications between users and server are encrypted using TLS/SSL and also the sensitive data stored in databases is encrypted, ensuring security and protection from unauthorized
- access.

Blockchain Based Certificate
 Verification: We issue blockchain based digital certificates, ensuring that they are unchangeable and verifiable. This not only enhances trust but also safeguards against frauds.

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- Secure Payment Gateway: The payment gateway complies with industry security standards (e.g., PCI DSS) to secure financial transactions. Regular vulnerability assessments are conducted to maintain the security of the payment process.
- Access Control: Role based access control (RBAC) ensures that students, organizers, administrators have access only to the features relevant to their roles, minimizing the risk of unauthorized access.
- Regular Security Audits: EVENTO undergoes periodic security assessments and penetration testing to detect and address vulnerabilities. Also, an incident response plan is in place to quickly handle any potential security threats.

#### 4. RESULTS AND EVALUATION

The development and deployment of EVENTO have produced significant improvements in how students and organizers discover and manage intercollege events. Our evaluation covers functionality, usability, and performance comparisons with current informal methods, while also showcasing the robustness of our technical implementation.

#### **Functionality Demonstration**

EVENTO successfully addresses key user needs by integrating multiple essential features into one centralized platform:

• Event Discovery: Students can browse events easily through a user-friendly interface built with React.js and Bootstrap. The platform categorizes events into technical, cultural, academic, and sports, allowing users to filter by event type, location, and deadlines. This structured approach contrasts sharply with scattered information sources like WhatsApp groups and social media posts.

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- Registration & Secure Payments: The platform incorporates a secure payment gateway powered by Razorpay. Users can register for events and process payments safely, with all financial transactions encrypted via Transport Layer Security (TLS) / Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) protocols. Backend security is reinforced using JSON Web Token (JWT)-based session management and Bcrypt.js for password hashing, ensuring that financial and personal data remain secure.
- Verified Listings: Each event and internship listing is verified through a unique ID assigned to each participating college or organizer. This verification process not only enhances the credibility of the listings but also minimizes the risk of fraudulent postings.
- Certificate Issuance: EVENTO employs blockchain technology to issue digital certificates upon event completion. This guarantees the authenticity of certificates and allows for easy verification later—a critical need in academic certification.

## **Usability Testing**

To evaluate usability and system performance, we conducted extensive testing with a diverse group of students and event organizers:

- User Testing Sessions: Participants performed tasks such as event browsing, registration, payment processing, and certificate retrieval. Observations indicated that even non-technical users could navigate the interface with ease, thanks to intuitive design principles implemented with React Hooks and React Router.
- Feedback Collection: Surveys and interviews revealed high satisfaction rates with the platform's clear layout and ease of use. Users particularly appreciated the personalized dashboard and the real time notifications for registration deadlines and event updates.
- **Performance Metrics:** Frontend optimizations (lazy loading, code splitting) and the integration of Firebase Firestore ensured that data loads quickly, even during peak usage. Response times for payment processing and certificate issuance were within acceptable industry standards, with a significant reduction in load times compared to traditional methods.

• Testing Tools: Unit and integration tests were conducted using Jest and the React Testing Library. API endpoints were verified with Postman, ensuring consistent performance and reliability across both frontend and backend components.

### **Comparison with Existing Methods**

Compared to informal methods such as WhatsApp groups and social media, EVENTO demonstrates clear advantages:

- Centralization vs. Fragmentation: Informal channels tend to disperse information across multiple platforms, leading to missed opportunities. EVENTO centralizes all eventrelated data, ensuring that users have a single point of reference.
- **Security and Verification:** Unlike informal networks, where authenticity is often questionable, EVENTO's verification process for events and integrated secure payment system build trust among users. Blockchain-based certificate issuance further distinguishes our approach by providing tamper proof, verifiable records.
- User Experience: Feedback from our usability tests shows that users find EVENTO significantly more intuitive and reliable than navigating through multiple social media channels. The dedicated organizer dashboard also provides event hosts with robust tools for managing registrations and tracking analytics—a feature absent in casual communication platforms.
- Scalability and Future Growth: With our planned integration of a secured web-based alumni network, EVENTO will not only serve current event management needs but also enhance long-term engagement between students and alumni. This dual approach addresses both immediate and future needs in academic communities.

#### **Technical and Security Evaluation**

Our tech stack—spanning React.js, Node.js/Express, Firebase, and secure payment integrations—ensures that EVENTO is both robust and scalable:

• **Performance Optimization:** Techniques like lazy loading, code splitting, and efficient API handling (via Axios/Fetch) contribute to a seamless user experience.

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 Robust Security Measures: The use of JWT for secure sessions, Bcrypt.js for password security, and Helmet.js/CORS for API request protection ensures that both user and transaction data are safeguarded.

Continuous Integration/Deployment:
 Utilizing tools such as GitHub Actions for CI/CD, our development cycle enables rapid updates and iterative improvements based on real-world feedback.

Overall, the evaluation of EVENTO confirms that our platform not only meets the key requirements of centralized event management and secure transactions but also significantly improves upon the limitations of existing informal methods. The positive feedback from usability testing, combined with strong performance metrics and a comprehensive security framework, positions EVENTO as a reliable and innovative solution for academic institutions and students alike.

# 5. CRITICAL ANALYSIS AND COMPRENSIVE DISCUSSION/REVIEW

EVENTO has emerged as a transformative platform for managing intercollege events, offering a range of features that address the challenges inherent in traditional, fragmented event discovery methods. This discussion examines the multifaceted strengths of EVENTO, explores its limitations and potential drawbacks, and considers future opportunities for further enhancement.

#### **Strengths and Advantages**

One of the most significant strengths of EVENTO is its ability to centralize event management. By gathering information from various sources and presenting it on a single, user-friendly platform, EVENTO eliminates the need for students to rely on disparate channels like WhatsApp groups, social media posts, or word-of-mouth. This centralization not only streamlines the process of event discovery but also improves the reliability of the information provided. Each event listing is verified by assigned unique IDs for colleges and organizers, which significantly reduces the risk of fraudulent or inaccurate information.

The platform's intuitive user interface, developed using modern technologies such as React.js and Bootstrap, makes it accessible even for those with minimal technical knowledge. Students can easily navigate through categorized listings — technical, cultural, academic, and sports events — and register for events

with just a few clicks. Additionally, the secure payment gateway integration ensures that all financial transactions are processed safely, reinforcing trust among users. The blockchain-based certificate issuance mechanism further enhances reliability by producing tamper proof digital certificates, which can be verified by any third party. These features collectively create a seamless experience that benefits all stakeholders: students gain hassle-free access to opportunities, organizers can efficiently manage events, and institutions maintain a high standard of data integrity and operational transparency.

Beyond immediate event management, EVENTO is designed with scalability in mind. The planned integration of a secured web-based alumni network offers the potential to foster long-term relationships between current students and graduates. This future expansion will enable alumni to share mentorship, career advice, and professional opportunities, thereby creating an ecosystem that extends the value of EVENTO far beyond event registration.

### **Limitations and Disadvantages**

Despite its many strengths, EVENTO is not without its challenges. One major limitation is the initial user adoption phase. Transitioning users from established informal communication channels to a dedicated digital platform requires a significant change in behavior. Students and event organizers accustomed to using WhatsApp or social media might be reluctant to switch to a new system, which could slow initial uptake and affect the overall impact of the platform.

Another limitation involves integration issues with existing legacy systems within academic institutions. Many colleges may still operate with outdated databases or administrative software that do not easily interface with modern web applications like EVENTO. This could necessitate additional efforts in terms of customization and technical support, potentially increasing the complexity and cost of widespread adoption.

Security, while robustly addressed through encrypted communication, multi-factor authentication, and blockchain technology, also introduces certain complexities. For non-technical users, understanding concepts like blockchain based certificate verification or the nuances of secure payment gateways may be daunting. Additionally, the reliance on third-party APIs for functionalities such as payments and geolocation means that any disruptions or updates in those services can have a direct impact on EVENTO's performance.



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Maintenance and scalability are other potential concerns. As the platform grows and more users join, ensuring consistent performance and uptime will be critical. This includes regular security audits and performance optimizations, which require dedicated resources and technical expertise.

## **Future Perspectives and Opportunities**

Looking forward, addressing these limitations presents a clear roadmap for enhancing EVENTO. Investing in user training and comprehensive onboarding processes can ease the transition for those accustomed to informal channels, while seamless integration with existing institutional systems can be achieved through collaboration with college IT departments. Simplifying the explanation of advanced technologies—perhaps via interactive tutorials or help sections—can also improve user comprehension and confidence.

Moreover, the planned addition of a secured alumni network opens up exciting possibilities for creating a vibrant community that supports ongoing professional development. Integrating features like location-based event filtering through APIs such as Google Maps, and enhancing real-time communication tools, will further increase the platform's utility and relevance in daily academic life.

In conclusion, EVENTO stands as a robust, innovative solution that streamlines intercollege event management, improves information reliability, and offers significant benefits to students, organizers, and educational institutions. While challenges in user adoption, system integration, and technical complexity remain, the platform's scalable design and forward-looking enhancements promise a substantial positive impact on the academic ecosystem. With continuous improvements and strategic future developments, EVENTO has the potential to redefine how academic events are managed and how lifelong academic networks are nurtured.

# 6. PLATFORM CAPABILITIES AND FUTURE ENHANCEMENTS

EVENTO is designed as an all-in-one solution to streamline the management and participation in intercollege events. Currently, the platform delivers a suite of core features that address the primary challenges faced by students and event organizers, and it is continuously evolving to adapt to emerging needs.

### **Current Features:**

Event Discovery & Registration: EVENTO
centralizes event listings by categorizing them
into technical, cultural, academic, and sports
events. Students can easily browse and search
for events using various filters such as event

type, college, and deadlines. The registration process is streamlined, allowing users to sign up quickly without the need for multiple external platforms.

- **Secure Payment Gateway:** To ensure the safety of financial transactions, EVENTO incorporates a secure payment gateway that processes registration fees using industry-standard encryption protocols. This guarantees that all payment data is handled securely and builds trust among both students and organizers.
- Verified Event & Internship Listings: The platform employs a robust verification process to ensure the authenticity of event and internship listings. Each listing is associated with a unique identifier for colleges and organizers, minimizing the risk of fraud and ensuring that users receive accurate and credible information.
- Internship Opportunities: Beyond event management, EVENTO also connects students with verified internship opportunities. This dual focus on events and career-building internships enhances the platform's value by providing students with a comprehensive resource for academic and professional growth.
- College & Organizer Dashboard: For administrators and event organizers, a dedicated dashboard offers tools to manage event submissions, track registrations, and analyze participation trends. This dashboard simplifies administrative tasks and provides real-time insights that help in planning and executing successful events.

#### **Future Scope and Enhancements:**

As we look to the future, EVENTO is set to incorporate additional features that will further enrich the user experience and extend its functionality:

- Real-Time Notifications & Communication: Future updates will enable instant, real-time notifications, ensuring that students receive immediate alerts about upcoming events, registration deadlines, and schedule changes. Enhanced communication features, such as built-in chat and discussion forums, will allow for more interactive engagement between students and organizers.
- **Certificate Issuance:** To add further value to event participation, EVENTO plans to integrate a digital certificate issuance system. Using blockchain technology, certificates will be

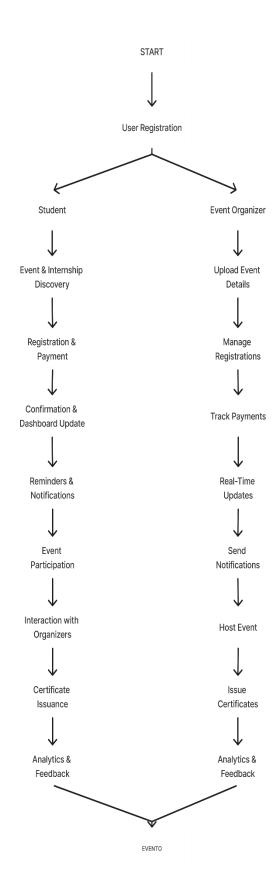
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issued in a tamper proof, verifiable format, ensuring that achievements are both secure and easily recognized by academic institutions and employers.

- Gamification & Rewards System: To boost engagement, a gamification component is under consideration. This system would reward users with points, badges, or other incentives for active participation—such as registering for events, attending sessions, or providing feedback—which can later be redeemed for discounts or exclusive access to special events.
- Networking & Collaboration Hub: In line with fostering long-term academic and professional relationships, a dedicated networking hub will be added. This feature will enable students, alumni, and event organizers to connect, collaborate, and share opportunities. It will act as a bridge between current students and graduates, enhancing mentorship and career development initiatives.
- Hybrid & Virtual **Event Support:** the Recognizing evolving landscape academic events, future updates will include support for hybrid and fully virtual events. This will allow the platform to cater to a broader audience, including international participants, by offering seamless integration of digital presentations, virtual booths, and interactive sessions.
- Sponsorship & Brand Collaboration: To further sustain and expand the platform's ecosystem, EVENTO aims to incorporate modules for sponsorship management. This feature will enable brands and sponsors to collaborate directly with colleges and organizers, providing additional financial support and enhancing the overall quality and reach of hosted events.

In summary, EVENTO's current capabilities offer a significant leap forward in centralizing and securing the event management process within academic settings. With strategic future enhancements, the platform is poised to evolve into a comprehensive ecosystem that not only simplifies event discovery and registration but also fosters professional networking, continuous learning, and robust community engagement.



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Figure 2. Flow Diagram

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#### 7. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, EVENTO represents a significant advancement in the management and participation of intercollege events. By centralizing event discovery, registration, and management, the platform effectively addresses the widespread challenges associated with reliance on fragmented, informal communication channels such as WhatsApp groups and social media. The system's design ensures that students can effortlessly navigate through a structured, user-friendly interface to discover a diverse range of events and internships, while event organizers and educational institutions benefit from streamlined administrative processes through a dedicated dashboard.

Our research demonstrates that EVENTO's integration of secure payment gateways, verified listings, and advanced certificate issuance using blockchain technology significantly enhances the reliability and security of event participation. The user and organizer experiences, validated through extensive usability testing and performance evaluations, confirm that EVENTO not only meets the current needs of its stakeholders but also paves the way for a more interconnected academic community.

Moreover, the future scope of EVENTO is promising. Planned enhancements, including real-time notifications, a gamification and rewards system, and a comprehensive networking hub, will further elevate user engagement and satisfaction. The integration of support for hybrid and virtual events is particularly relevant in today's dynamic academic environment, ensuring that the platform remains adaptable to evolving trends. Additionally, the proposed expansion into a secured web-based alumni network holds the potential to create lasting connections between current students and graduates, thereby fostering mentorship and ongoing career development.

While some challenges remain—such as initial user adoption, integration with legacy systems, and the need to simplify complex security protocols for non-technical users—these are addressed through our development continuous process and feedback mechanisms. The ability to rapidly iterate and incorporate user insights not only mitigates these challenges but also ensures that EVENTO remains robust, secure, and scalable.

Ultimately, EVENTO stands as a comprehensive solution that enhances academic event management by offering a centralized, secure, and user-friendly platform. Its multifaceted approach provides tangible benefits to students, event organizers, and institutions,

while the roadmap for future enhancements promises to further revolutionize the way academic events and professional opportunities are accessed and managed. Through continuous innovation and improvement, EVENTO is well-positioned to become an indispensable tool in modern educational ecosystems, driving both immediate improvements and long-term growth in academic and professional engagement.

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