

CS 4530 Final Project: User Enhancements

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Our Features

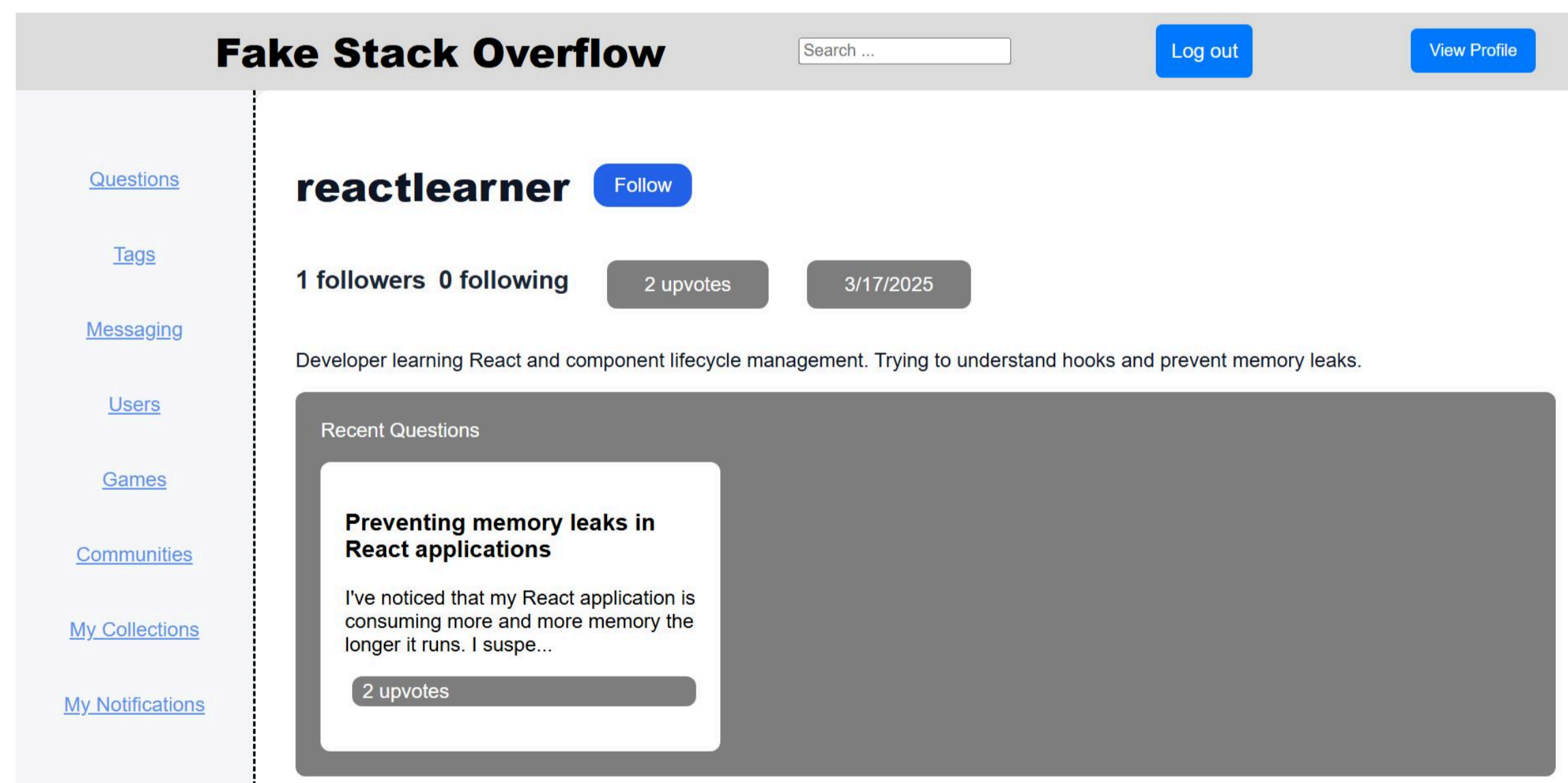
FakeStackOverflow offers a platform for developers to share knowledge, but limited ways to facilitate meaningful and lasting connections. Currently users have limited visibility into their and other's engagement patterns and no way to follow specific contributors whose expertise aligns with their interests.

To address these issues, this revamp includes 6 main features enhancing the overall user to user interaction:

1. An enhanced User Profile, displaying user questions, answers, communities, and upvotes
2. A Following/Following system, where answers from users you follow will appear first
3. A mutual following feature, suggesting following users with mutual connections to you
4. Popup notifications that appear when a user answers your question, upvotes your question, or follows you
5. A Notification Center that displays all of a user's recent notifications
6. A Community Announcements feature, that allows admins to blast a message to their community

Demo & Source

Our deployed site is available at <https://cs4530-f25-705-client.onrender.com/> and our code is available at <https://github.com/neu-cs4530/fall25-project-fall25-project-group-705>

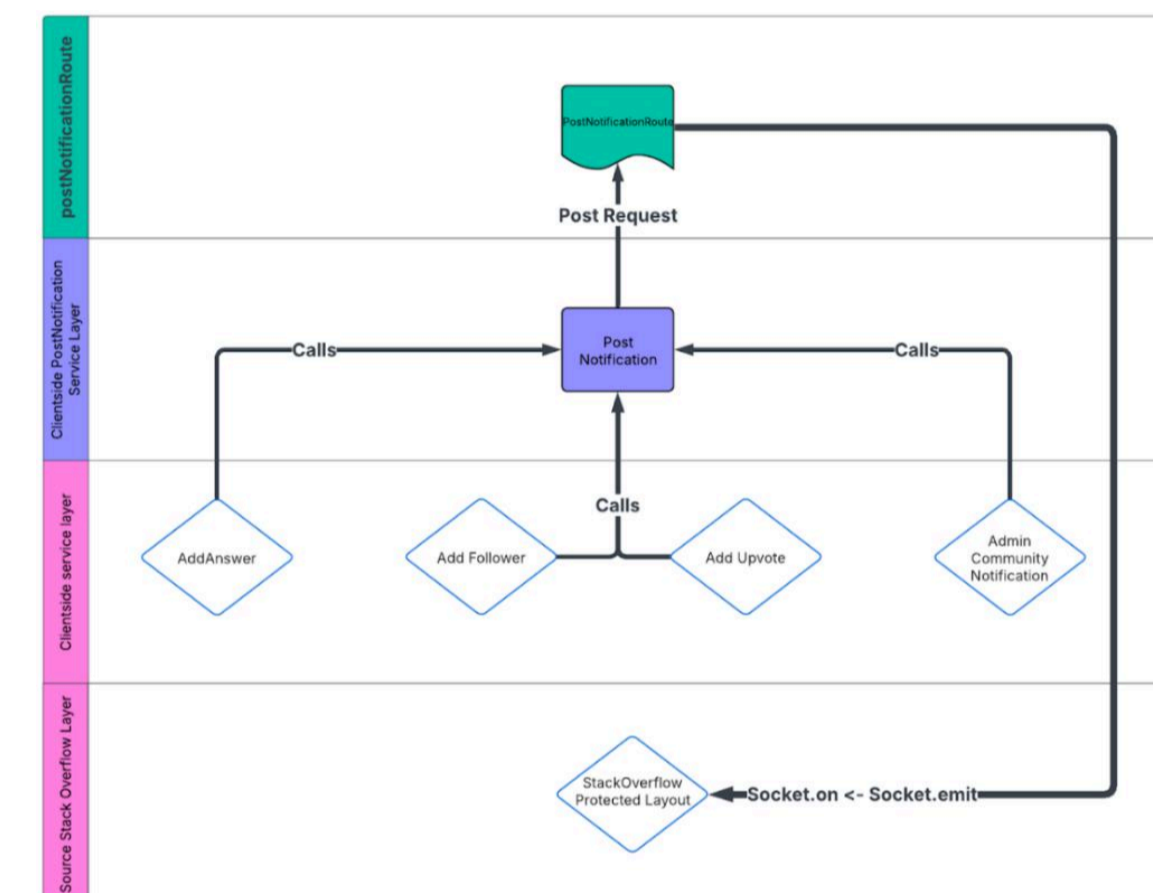


Enhanced Profile page, displaying user questions, answers, and communities. It also allows for following and unfollowing, as well as viewing those lists of users.

Tech Stack & Design

Throughout this project we worked with React and JavaScript, testing with JUnit and Cypress, and implementing CI pipelines.

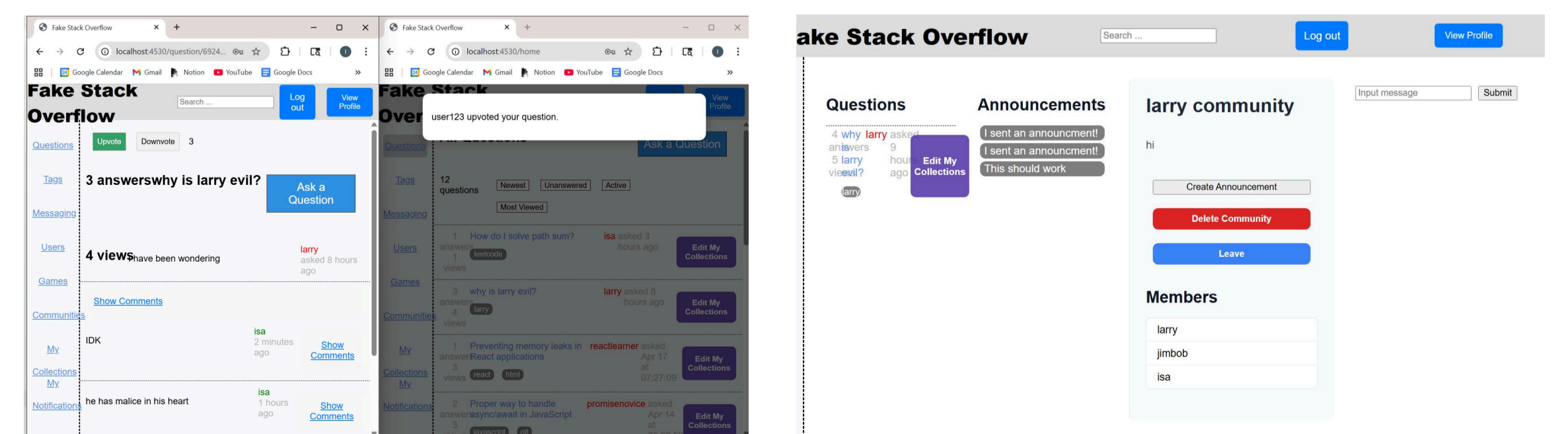
Because we added new fields to existing objects, we had to create a backwards compatibility method. We set any undefined fields in the response User object to their default values as outlined in the updated User Schema and retroactively applied those changes to the actual DatabaseUser document in UserModel. The end result is that we catch pre-existing old user objects and only update them when it is necessary to do so while simultaneously preventing the client side User information display from ever interacting with the old user objects or undefined fields in the first place.



Future Work

If we were given more time to work on this project, we would like to integrate APIs to enhance our added features. For instance, an extension we had in mind was to send email notifications in addition to in site notifications.

Additionally, we would've added more customizability to user profiles, so that users could express themselves more, and contribute to the user to user interaction. This could include changing colors on their profiles, adding a profile picture to their account, or adding profile links to other social media and sites, like GitHub.



Instant popup notifications

Create community announcements for admins