



## ECIU Techfit Challenge

**Empowering Healthy & Active Lifestyles Through Technology** 

### Our Challenge

Finding ways of using technology in order to encourage students to be more active



https://www.gcu.edu/blog/gcu-experience/working-out-college-getting-started-and-staying-motivated





## ECIU Techfit Challenge

**Empowering Healthy & Active Lifestyles Through Technology** 

### Our Challenge

Finding ways of using technology in order to encourage students to be more active

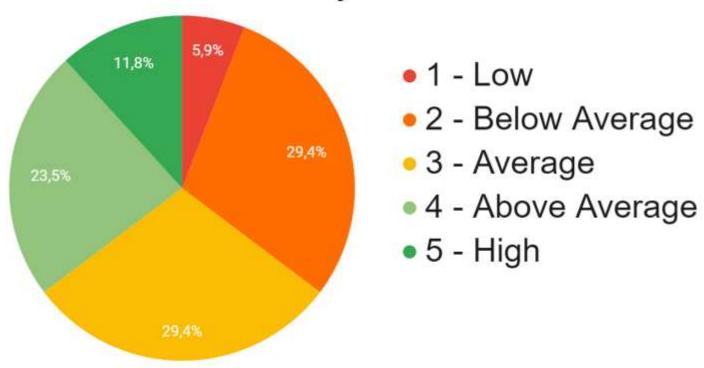


https://www.gcu.edu/blog/gcu-experience/working-out-college-getting-started-and-staying-motivated

### The Approach

- participants with different backgrounds
- 5 project groups:
  - marketing
  - o social
  - walking breaks
  - smart work-out stations
  - o AI
- May July 2024: online and on-site at UAB
- universal solutions

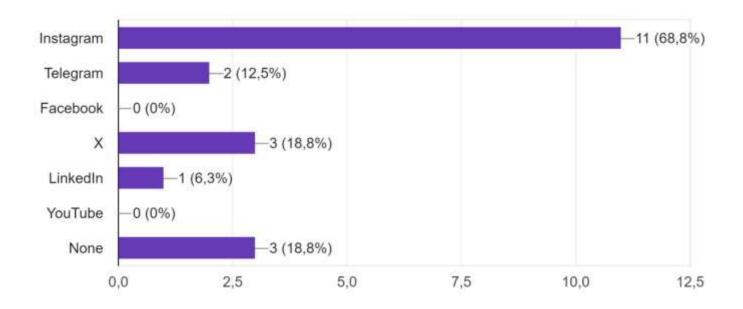
### **Activity Level**



Main source of information about UAB activities

# **%Website** The Email Whatsapp other **L** Instagram

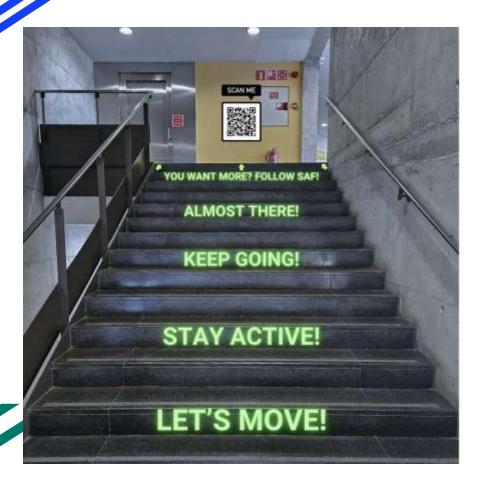
#### What social media of UAB do you follow?





### Campaign Goals

Promote	Promote mental and physical health among university students.
Utilize	Utilize technology to engage and educate students.
Create	Create sustainable healthy habits through interactive and informative content.
Incorporate	Incorporate face-to-face interactions to enhance engagement and motivation.
Include	Include student suggestions to tailor activities to their preferences.



### Campaign Components

#### **Channels:**

- Instagram
- Facebook
- Website Blog
- E-Flyer

#### **Content Types:**

- Mental Health Tips
- Quick Workout Tips
- Fitness Challenges
- Healthy Recipes

### EXERCISE YOUR WAY TO BETTER MENTAL HEALTH!





Make time for a workout today and feel the difference!

UAB

Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona

#### MANAGING STRESS WITH EXERCISE

TAKE A WALK DURING YOUR LUNCH BREAK BIKE TO UNIVERSITY WHENEVER POSSIBLE TAKE THE STAIRS INSTEAD OF THE ELEVATOR

DANCE AROUND THE HOUSE FOR A WHILE

PRACTICE DEEP BREATHING TRY A GROUP FITNESS CLASS IN YOUR COMMUNITY

UAB
Universitat Autônoma
de Barcelona



#### "MOVE YOUR BODY, REFRESH YOUR MIND."

Exercise can be as effective as medication for some people dealing with depression and anxiety

#### **UAB**

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona



#### QUICK WORKOUT ROUTINE FOR BUSY STUDENTS

- Jumping Jacks: 20 x 3 Sets
- Push-Ups: 10 x 3 Sets
- Squats: 10 x 3 Sets
- Plank: 30 Seconds x 3 Sets
- High Knees: 20 x 3 Sets
- Stretching (4-5 Minutes)

#### UAB

Universitat Autónoma de Barcelona







### **Blog Posts**

Blog Post 1: "10 Easy Tips for Maintaining Mental Wellness During Exams"

Blog Post 2: "How to Start a Fitness Journey: A Beginner's Guide"

Blog Post 3: "Healthy Eating on a Budget: Quick and Nutritious Recipes for Students"

### E-Flyer



A social network to connect people for fitness



Many university students struggle with **motivation** to stay active

**Busy schedules** and the excessive **use of technology** leaves people with less time to focus on health and socialising with others, particularly if someone is not already sportsy

#### Our solution:

An app to help people find others to workout with, try out new sports and organize fitness activities with others



Most people are **socializers**, meaning that while participating, they care the most about the social aspect of the activity

Creating a **community** around fitness can increase motivation and make people more consistent

Our app is useful for a wide audience:

- competitive/non-competitive people
- beginners/intermediate/advanced athletes
- people with different fitness goals

## Achiever Explorer ~10% ~10% Socializer Killer ~80%

Let's get into the prototype



★ ♀ Socialize While Staying Active with Our New Mobile App! 
■ 6

Earn badges, track your progress, and join university-wide challenges. Download now and make fitness social!





### StepQuest

**Encouraging Movement During Lecture Breaks** 



#### The Goal





#### Research

Standing Breaks in Lectures Improve University Students' Self-Perceived Physical, Mental, and Cognitive Condition

Maike Paulus, 1 Jule Kunkel, 11 Steffen C. E. Schmidt, 1 Philip Bachest, 1 Hagen Wasche, 1 Bainet Neumann, 2 and Alexander Well 1

Cheng-Fang Yen, Academic Editor

Author information - Article notes - Copyright and License information - PMC Disclaimer.

#### Associated Data

- Data Availability Statement

#### Abstract

Go to:

While adolescents and adults should limit high levels of sedentary behavior, university students spend large amounts of time on sedentary activities. The aim of this study was to investigate the effect of this prolonged sitting on students' self-perceived physical, mental, and cognitive condition and to answer the question of whether simple standing breaks in lectures can help students improve these conditions and for example feel more concentrated, motivated, or less tense in class. A five-minute standing break was introduced using a designed presentation slide for one semester in five different 90-min lectures. In addition, an active break as well as an open break with no trigger were implemented in two further lectures to explicitly investigate the effects of a standing break. Before, during, and after the semester, the students were surveyed about their physical, mental, and cognitive condition (836 respondents at start, 634 during semester, and 528 at the end). To evaluate



#### Standing breaks during lectures

- Easy to implement
- Was highly accepted by students
- Improved overall concentration

#### Head-fake



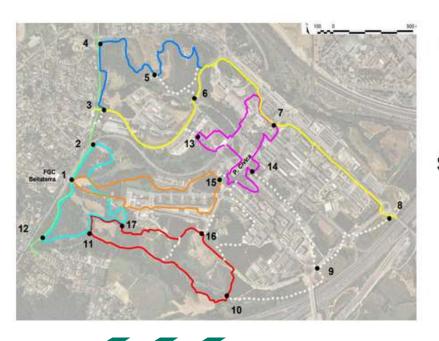
#### **Collecting points**



#### **Rewards**



#### Where to start?



Create walking routes (in and outdoors)

- Possibly interactive: music, podcasts
- collaboration with DesignLab

Suggestion: Start with campus tour route.

- Introduce campus to new students
- Familiarize students with walking routes concept and reward system
- Goodiebag reward (with sponsors)

#### How to continue?



- · Create the app
- Test (a lot)
- Establish a (student) team for continuous updates and improvements of the platform

#### StepQuest



Tommaso Ceccherini Pietro Cau Chiara Melega Engrid Xhepaliu Lucrezia Di Bari Oumayma El Ghamrasni Michele Lovato Benin Pietro Peroni Aria Kalforian

### Introduction



### Our (sub)group

Mainly HCI/UX design students.

Some sport enthusiast, some not, but all aware of the problem posed by the TechFit Challenge and interested in proposing a solution.

### Our idea

The campus can be a playground.

Encourage students to practice physical activities on already placed locations in UAB.



### Our Solution

Associate **QR codes** to workout stations and campus locations.

Interact with the QR code through an app.

- **1. Feasible** and **easy** to implement.
- 2. Not limited to UAB.
- 3. Easy to **expand** with more functionalities.







# App Prototype

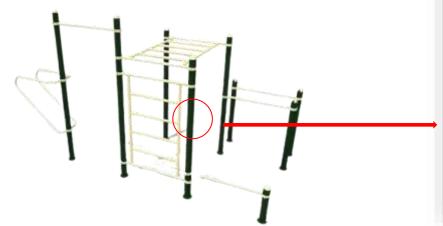
Welcome to Train Out



At the workout station



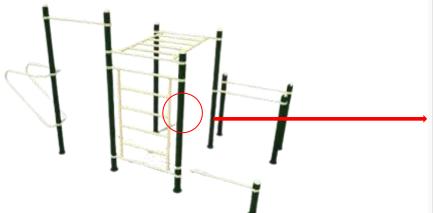
# Connect to the Station

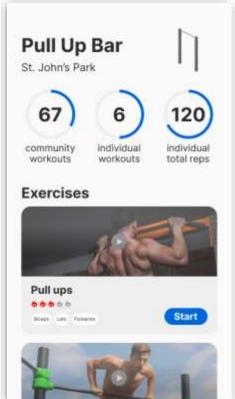






# Connect to the Station







# Map Section

- Visualization of stations nearby
- Friends location when connected to the stations

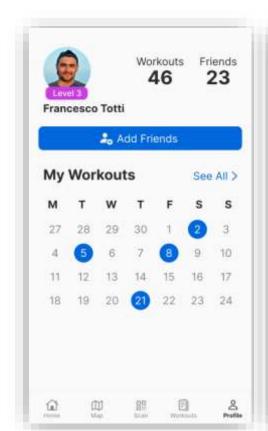


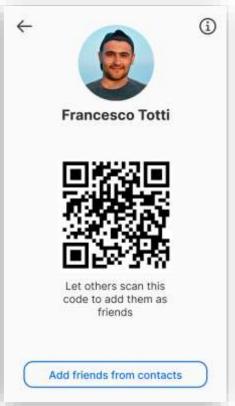


# Profile Section

- Friends to add and connect with
- Levels to achieve
- Workouts completed







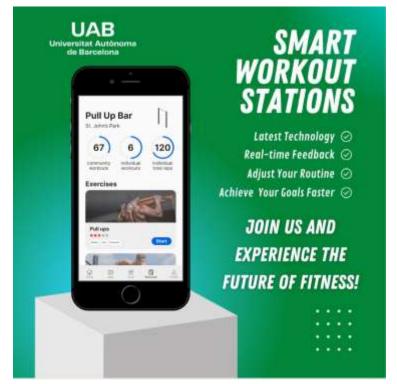
# What's Next?

- Community
- Personalization
- Gamification and challenges
- It's already smart...let's make it smarter



Don't just stick to the gym - explore the campus for fitness through our Smart Workout Stations!

Fintroducing our new smart workout stations! Enhance your workouts with QR codes on calisthenics stations and other campus spots. Work out with friends and achieve your fitness goals faster with real-time feedback



### Using AI to promote Fitness:

Fitness Plans & Diet Plans

# User needs?

Who are the users?

### STUDENTS.

What do the users want?

Be fit, eat healthy, and stay in the budget.

Why do the users want that?

Stay refreshed and energized to study effectively in the busy schedule.

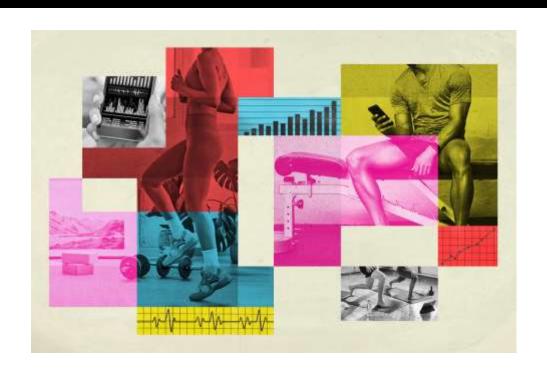
# Our solution?

AI - powered

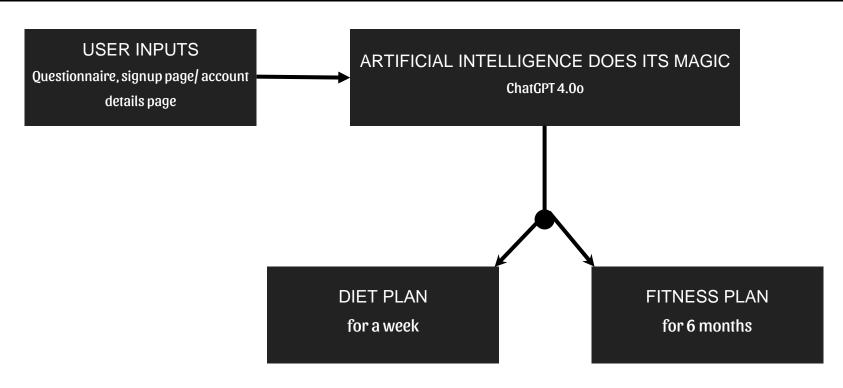
**Diet Plans** 

AI - powered

Fitness Plans



# The user journey



# User Inputs

#### **Personal Information**

Age, Gender, Height, Weight

#### **Health and Medical History**

Medical Conditions. Medications, Allergies

#### **Current Fitness Level and Routine**

Exercise History, Fitness Level (Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced). Past Programs

#### **Preferences and Constraints**

Exercise Preferences (eg. yoga, zumba), Availability, Location (Gym, home, outdoors), Direct Equipment Access, Fitness Goals (e.g., weight loss, muscle gain)

#### Lifestyle and Habits

Dietary Habits, Sleep Patterns, Stress Levels (Low, Medium, High), Daily Activity (Sedentary, Lightly active, Active, Very active)

#### **Motivation and Support**

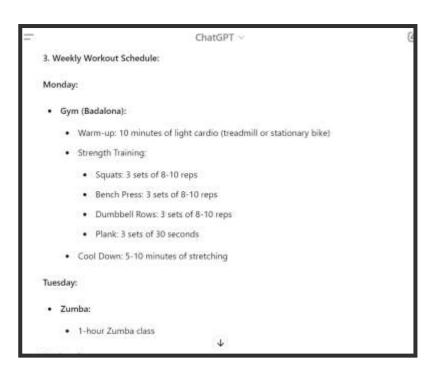
Motivation Level (1-10), Support System (Alone or with workout buddy?

#### **Specific Questions for Customization**

Target Areas, Previous Injuries, Diet preferences (cuisines, location- at home or mensa, etc.), Weekly budget, Home Location

# AI Cons: Hallucinations





# External Data

#### Access to databases

To follow correct nutritional guidelines, exercise guidelines, fitness research, injury prevention

#### **Calorie Needs Calculation**

Basal metabolic rate (BMR) formulas, total daily energy expenditure (TDEE)

#### **Food Composition Databases**

Online verified database (USDA Food database),

#### **Canteen Weekly Menu**

Name of dishes, Nutritional content, price, allergy information

#### Supermarket weekly prices (offer-list)

Lidl, Mercadona, Carrefour

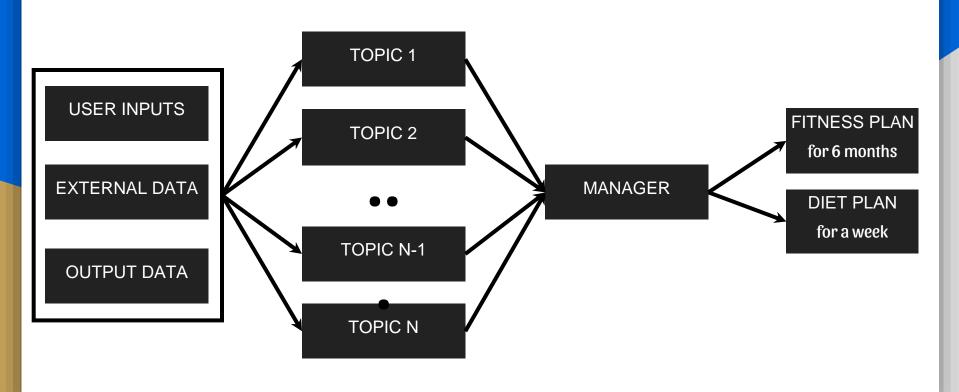
#### **University Schedule**

Classes (on-campus, virtual), Exam schedule, Travel time (from home to uni)

#### Allergy and Intolerance Information

Scorecard to assign importance distribution to each variable of the data input

# Multi Agent Approach



# Output Data

#### Fitness Plan

Exercises to do, when to do, how much to do, where to do

#### **Diet Plan**

Dishes to have, where to have them (canteen or cook at home, or cafe), time required, Macronutrient Distribution (proteins, carbohydrates, fats), Calorie Needs Calculation, Micronutrient Needs (Vitamins, minerals), Meal Structure (frequency, time), Hydration

#### Dishes

 $Recipes, Price\ , nutritional\ value, allergy\ information, price, flavor\ scorecard, where\ to\ get\ it\ from?$ 

#### CHATBOT

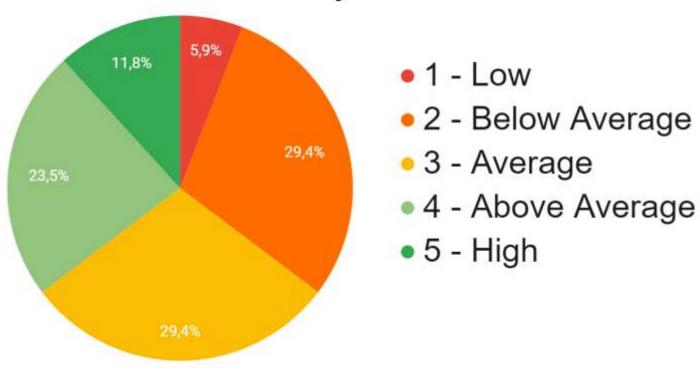
To talk about anything related to fitness, dishes, plans; to understand better or change anything

### Conclusions

# The Approach

- participants with different backgrounds
- 5 project groups:
  - marketing
  - o social
  - walking breaks
  - smart work-out stations
  - o AI
- May July 2024: online and on-site at UAB
- universal solutions

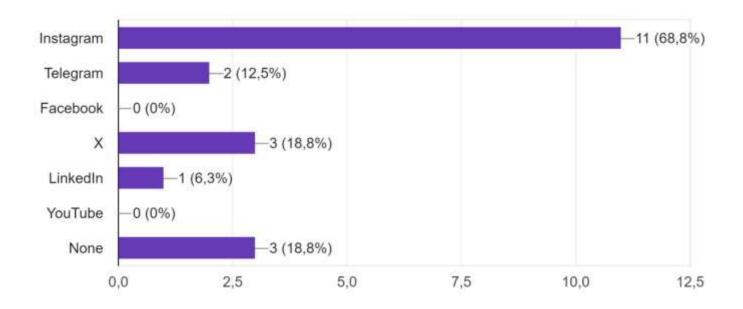
### **Activity Level**



Main source of information about UAB activities

# **%Website** The Email Whatsapp other **L** Instagram

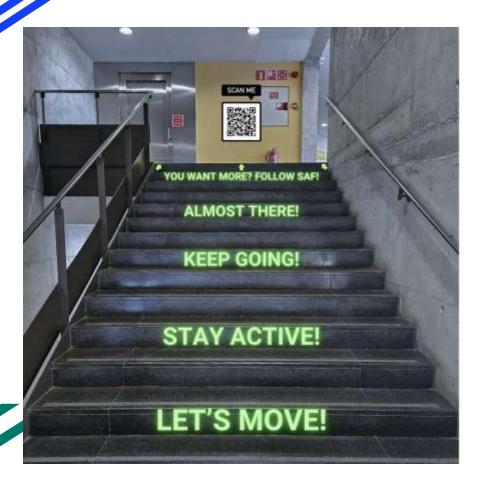
### What social media of UAB do you follow?





# Campaign Goals

Promote	Promote mental and physical health among university students.
Utilize	Utilize technology to engage and educate students.
Create	Create sustainable healthy habits through interactive and informative content.
Incorporate	Incorporate face-to-face interactions to enhance engagement and motivation.
Include	Include student suggestions to tailor activities to their preferences.



# Campaign Components

### **Channels:**

- Instagram
- Facebook
- Website Blog
- E-Flyer

### **Content Types:**

- Mental Health Tips
- Quick Workout Tips
- Fitness Challenges
- Healthy Recipes

## EXERCISE YOUR WAY TO BETTER MENTAL HEALTH!





Make time for a workout today and feel the difference!

UAB

Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona

### MANAGING STRESS WITH EXERCISE

TAKE A WALK DURING YOUR LUNCH BREAK BIKE TO UNIVERSITY WHENEVER POSSIBLE TAKE THE STAIRS INSTEAD OF THE ELEVATOR

DANCE AROUND THE HOUSE FOR A WHILE

PRACTICE DEEP BREATHING TRY A GROUP FITNESS CLASS IN YOUR COMMUNITY

UAB
Universitat Autônoma
de Barcelona



### "MOVE YOUR BODY, REFRESH YOUR MIND."

Exercise can be as effective as medication for some people dealing with depression and anxiety

### **UAB**

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona



### QUICK WORKOUT ROUTINE FOR BUSY STUDENTS

- Jumping Jacks: 20 x 3 Sets
- Push-Ups: 10 x 3 Sets
- Squats: 10 x 3 Sets
- Plank: 30 Seconds x 3 Sets
- High Knees: 20 x 3 Sets
- Stretching (4-5 Minutes)

### UAB

Universitat Autónoma de Barcelona







### **Blog Posts**

Blog Post 1: "10 Easy Tips for Maintaining Mental Wellness During Exams"

Blog Post 2: "How to Start a Fitness Journey: A Beginner's Guide"

Blog Post 3: "Healthy Eating on a Budget: Quick and Nutritious Recipes for Students"

### E-Flyer



A social network to connect people for fitness



Many university students struggle with **motivation** to stay active

**Busy schedules** and the excessive **use of technology** leaves people with less time to focus on health and socialising with others, particularly if someone is not already sportsy

### Our solution:

An app to help people find others to workout with, try out new sports and organize fitness activities with others



Most people are **socializers**, meaning that while participating, they care the most about the social aspect of the activity

Creating a **community** around fitness can increase motivation and make people more consistent

Our app is useful for a wide audience:

- competitive/non-competitive people
- beginners/intermediate/advanced athletes
- people with different fitness goals

# Achiever Explorer ~10% ~10% Socializer Killer ~80%

Let's get into the prototype



★ ♀ Socialize While Staying Active with Our New Mobile App! 
■ 6

Earn badges, track your progress, and join university-wide challenges. Download now and make fitness social!





# StepQuest

**Encouraging Movement During Lecture Breaks** 



### The Goal





### Research

Standing Breaks in Lectures Improve University Students' Self-Perceived Physical, Mental, and Cognitive Condition

Maike Paulus, 1 Jule Kunkel, 11 Steffen C. E. Schmidt, 1 Philip Bachest, 1 Hagen Wasche, 1 Bainet Neumann, 2 and Alexander Well 1

Cheng-Fang Yen, Academic Editor

Author information - Article notes - Copyright and License information - PMC Disclaimer.

#### Associated Data

- Data Availability Statement

#### Abstract

Go to:

While adolescents and adults should limit high levels of sedentary behavior, university students spend large amounts of time on sedentary activities. The aim of this study was to investigate the effect of this prolonged sitting on students' self-perceived physical, mental, and cognitive condition and to answer the question of whether simple standing breaks in lectures can help students improve these conditions and for example feel more concentrated, motivated, or less tense in class. A five-minute standing break was introduced using a designed presentation slide for one semester in five different 90-min lectures. In addition, an active break as well as an open break with no trigger were implemented in two further lectures to explicitly investigate the effects of a standing break. Before, during, and after the semester, the students were surveyed about their physical, mental, and cognitive condition (836 respondents at start, 634 during semester, and 528 at the end). To evaluate



### Standing breaks during lectures

- Easy to implement
- Was highly accepted by students
- Improved overall concentration

### Head-fake



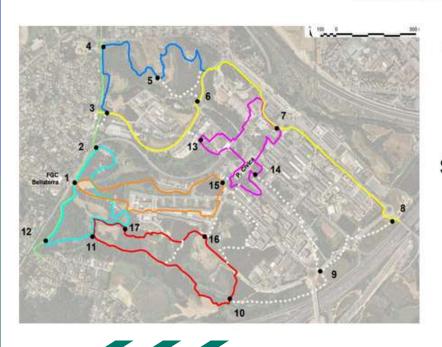
### **Collecting points**



### **Rewards**



### Where to start?



Create walking routes (in and outdoors)

- Possibly interactive: music, podcasts
- collaboration with DesignLab

Suggestion: Start with campus tour route.

- Introduce campus to new students
- Familiarize students with walking routes concept and reward system
- Goodiebag reward (with sponsors)

### How to continue?



- · Create the app
- Test (a lot)
- Establish a (student) team for continuous updates and improvements of the platform

### StepQuest



Tommaso Ceccherini Pietro Cau Chiara Melega Engrid Xhepaliu Lucrezia Di Bari Oumayma El Ghamrasni Michele Lovato Benin Pietro Peroni Aria Kalforian

## Introduction



### Our (sub)group

Mainly HCI/UX design students.

Some sport enthusiast, some not, but all aware of the problem posed by the TechFit Challenge and interested in proposing a solution.

### Our idea

The campus can be a playground.

Encourage students to practice physical activities on already placed locations in UAB.



### Our Solution

Associate **QR codes** to workout stations and campus locations.

Interact with the QR code through an app.

- **1. Feasible** and **easy** to implement.
- 2. Not limited to UAB.
- 3. Easy to **expand** with more functionalities.







# App Prototype

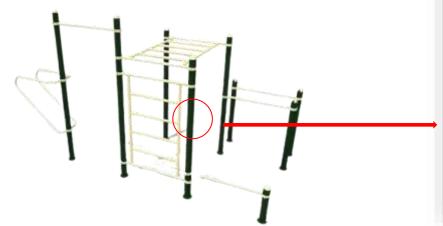
Welcome to Train Out



At the workout station



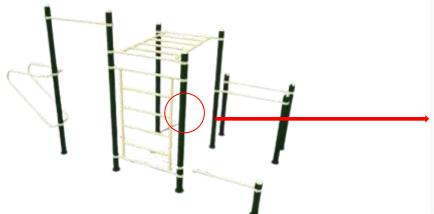
# Connect to the Station

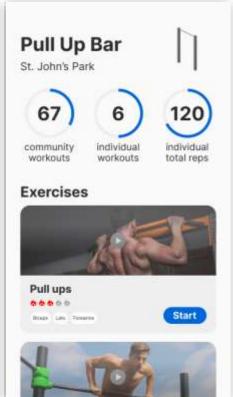






# Connect to the Station







# Map Section

- Visualization of stations nearby
- Friends location when connected to the stations

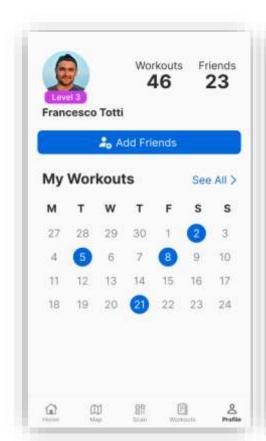


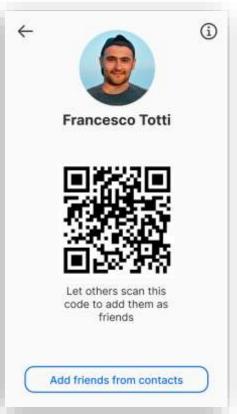


# Profile Section

- Friends to add and connect with
- Levels to achieve
- Workouts completed







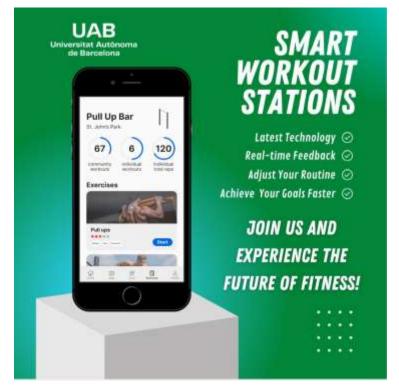
# What's Next?

- Community
- Personalization
- Gamification and challenges
- It's already smart...let's make it smarter



Don't just stick to the gym - explore the campus for fitness through our Smart Workout Stations!

Fintroducing our new smart workout stations! Enhance your workouts with QR codes on calisthenics stations and other campus spots. Work out with friends and achieve your fitness goals faster with real-time feedback



# Using AI to promote Fitness:

Fitness Plans & Diet Plans

# User needs?

Who are the users?

### STUDENTS.

What do the users want?

Be fit, eat healthy, and stay in the budget.

Why do the users want that?

Stay refreshed and energized to study effectively in the busy schedule.

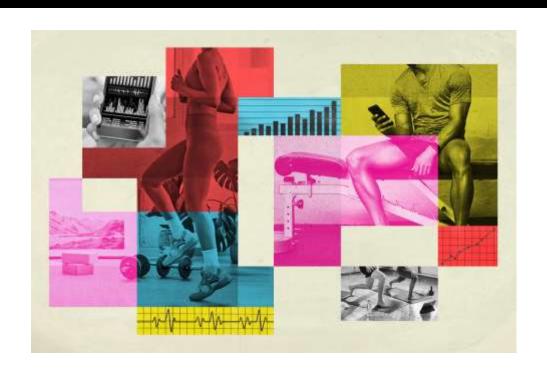
# Our solution?

AI - powered

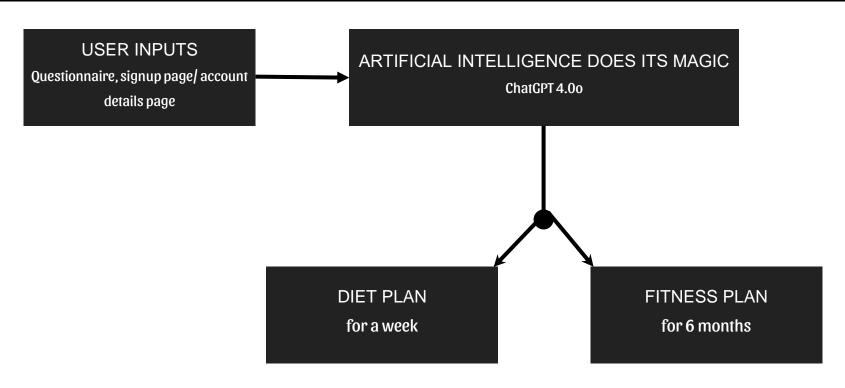
**Diet Plans** 

AI - powered

Fitness Plans



# The user journey



# User Inputs

#### **Personal Information**

Age, Gender, Height, Weight

#### **Health and Medical History**

Medical Conditions. Medications, Allergies

#### **Current Fitness Level and Routine**

Exercise History, Fitness Level (Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced). Past Programs

#### **Preferences and Constraints**

Exercise Preferences (eg. yoga, zumba), Availability, Location (Gym, home, outdoors), Direct Equipment Access, Fitness Goals (e.g., weight loss, muscle gain)

#### Lifestyle and Habits

Dietary Habits, Sleep Patterns, Stress Levels (Low, Medium, High), Daily Activity (Sedentary, Lightly active, Active, Very active)

### **Motivation and Support**

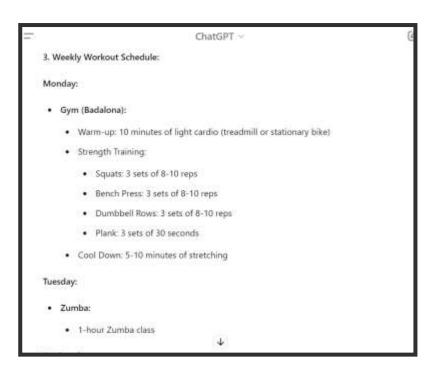
Motivation Level (1-10), Support System (Alone or with workout buddy?

#### **Specific Questions for Customization**

Target Areas, Previous Injuries, Diet preferences (cuisines, location- at home or mensa, etc.), Weekly budget, Home Location

# AI Cons: Hallucinations





# External Data

#### Access to databases

To follow correct nutritional guidelines, exercise guidelines, fitness research, injury prevention

#### Calorie Needs Calculation

Basal metabolic rate (BMR) formulas, total daily energy expenditure (TDEE)

### **Food Composition Databases**

Online verified database (USDA Food database),

### Canteen Weekly Menu

Name of dishes, Nutritional content, price, allergy information

#### Supermarket weekly prices (offer-list)

Lidl, Mercadona, Carrefour

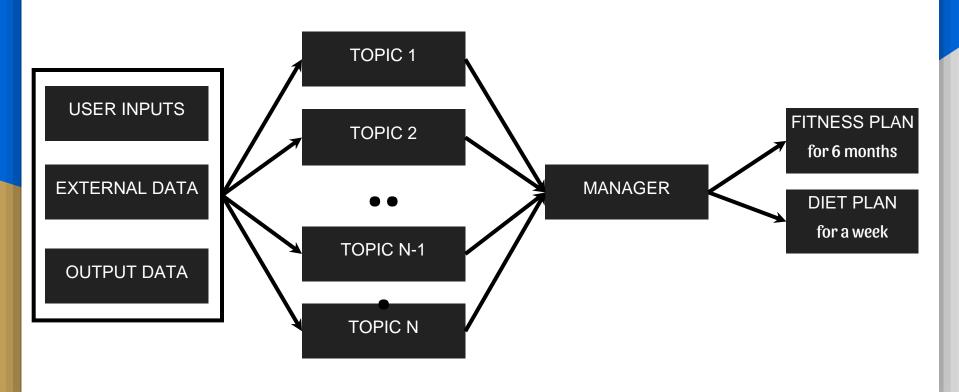
#### **University Schedule**

Classes (on-campus, virtual), Exam schedule, Travel time (from home to uni)

#### Allergy and Intolerance Information

Scorecard to assign importance distribution to each variable of the data input

# Multi Agent Approach



# Output Data

#### Fitness Plan

Exercises to do, when to do, how much to do, where to do

#### **Diet Plan**

Dishes to have, where to have them (canteen or cook at home, or cafe), time required, Macronutrient Distribution (proteins, carbohydrates, fats), Calorie Needs Calculation, Micronutrient Needs (Vitamins, minerals), Meal Structure (frequency, time), Hydration

#### Dishes

 $Recipes, Price\ , nutritional\ value, allergy\ information, price, flavor\ scorecard, where\ to\ get\ it\ from?$ 

#### CHATBOT

To talk about anything related to fitness, dishes, plans; to understand better or change anything

### Conclusions