

MOBILE LIBRARY ANDROID APPLICATION

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BACKGROUND

- Smart phones and tablets have many different kinds of application to make people life easier. The rise in mobile device use, people are taking advantage of being connected to data wherever they are.

- METU Library is one of Turkey's leading libraries with its large collections containing nearly 400,000 books classified according to the Library of Congress Classification (LCC) scheme. It is a great source of information for its students, staff and the staff of other universities researchers.

- In addition to the variety of contained materials, METU Library is one of the most innovative libraries in Turkey. METU Library has various services to facilitate its users accessing the information.

- Here is some of the services provided by METU Library:

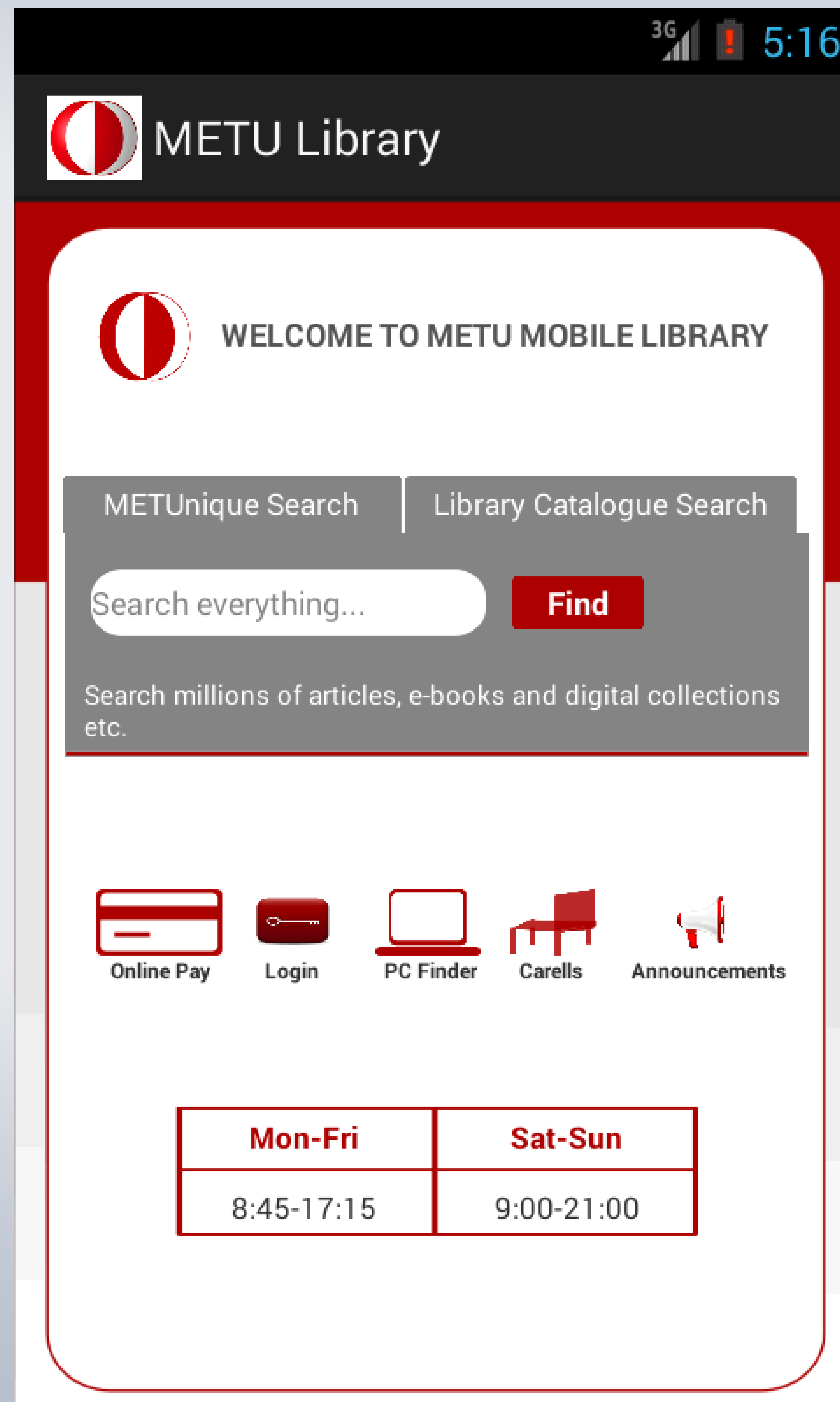
- Book lending
- Online material search
- User accounts
- Paying debts
- Online material hold
- Online deadline extending
- Viewing material locations in library building
- Viewing availabilities of study rooms and user PC's

PROBLEM

Although METU Library has many services, users can reach most of them only with personel computers or by interacting with the desk on the library building.

Since browsers for mobile devices do not support all properties of the web site of METU library, there is no efficient way for users to connect library servers by mobile devices and utilize from web site of METU library.

On busy days, waiting on queue in front of the desk for using these services makes life difficult for both users and librarians.



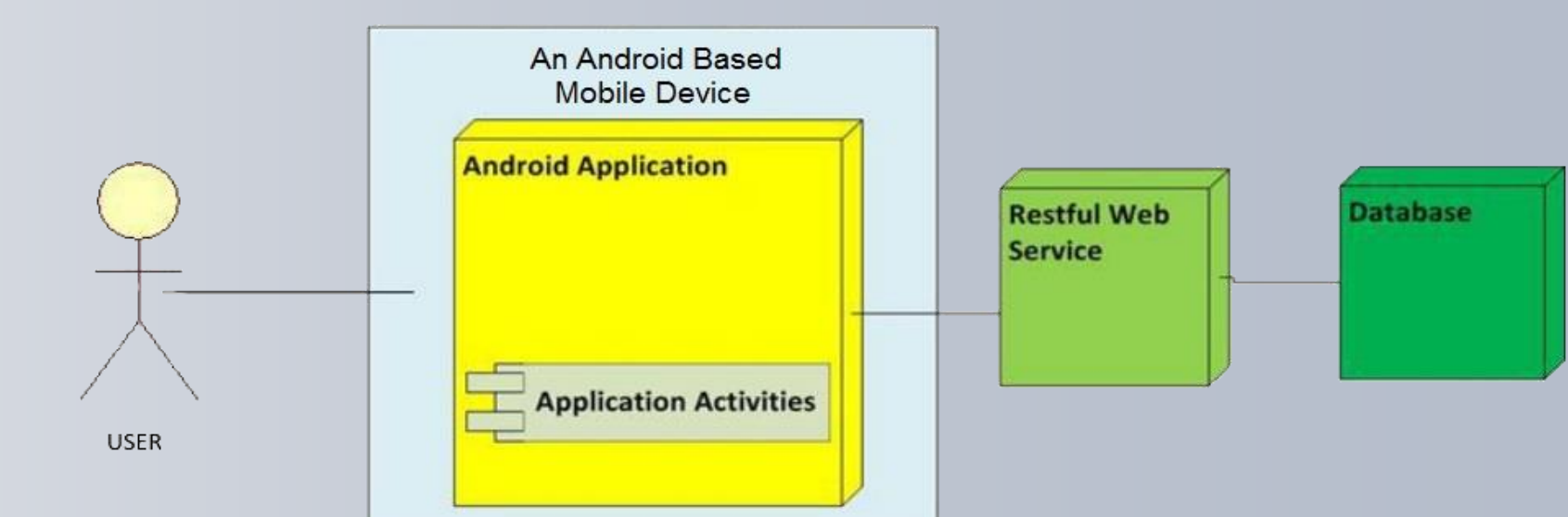
Main Screen of Mobile Library Application

PROJECT GOAL

METU library is one of the biggest opportunity for both METU students and staff to obtain more academic achievements. Therefore, users should use the services of the METU Library more efficiently. They should be able to access and use the library services everywhere and all the time.

DESCRIPTION

Since android is a very popular mobile operating system and we believe that more people have android devices, we have designed Mobile Library as an android application. We have created restful web services which provides connection between mobile devices and library database. With this way, we provide accurate and reliable data to our users.



Product Perspective

With the Mobile Library application, users can reach the most of the METU Library services via their mobile devices. By scanning the barcodes of materials with our application, users are not have to interact with the desk for borrowing a material. They can also pay their library debts with PayPal by using our application. In addition to these features, users can search materials, view the locations of materials, see the announcements of METU Library, check the availability of study rooms and PC's, view their library accounts, extend the deadlines of borrowed materials and they can do more with the Mobile Library application.

Our project can run on any android platform. Therefore, any model smart phone and tablets, which support android application, can execute the Mobile Library. Moreover, since the application can be download freely, all library users can have the application and use it in their academic or social lives.

RESULTS & CONCLUSION

With the Mobile Library Application, METU Library users will be able to access to the library services with their mobile devices. Since users can borrow materials and pay their debts with our application, desk of the METU Library will not be as busy as before. By using our application, METU Library users will save their time since they can check the availabilty of the studying rooms and public PCs with Mobile Library application. It will be also easier to find a material in library building since our application shows their locations.