Bulacan State University | InternConnect | College of Science

CENTRALIZED INTERNSHIP PROGRAM WEBSITE FOR THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AT BULACAN STATE UNIVERSITY

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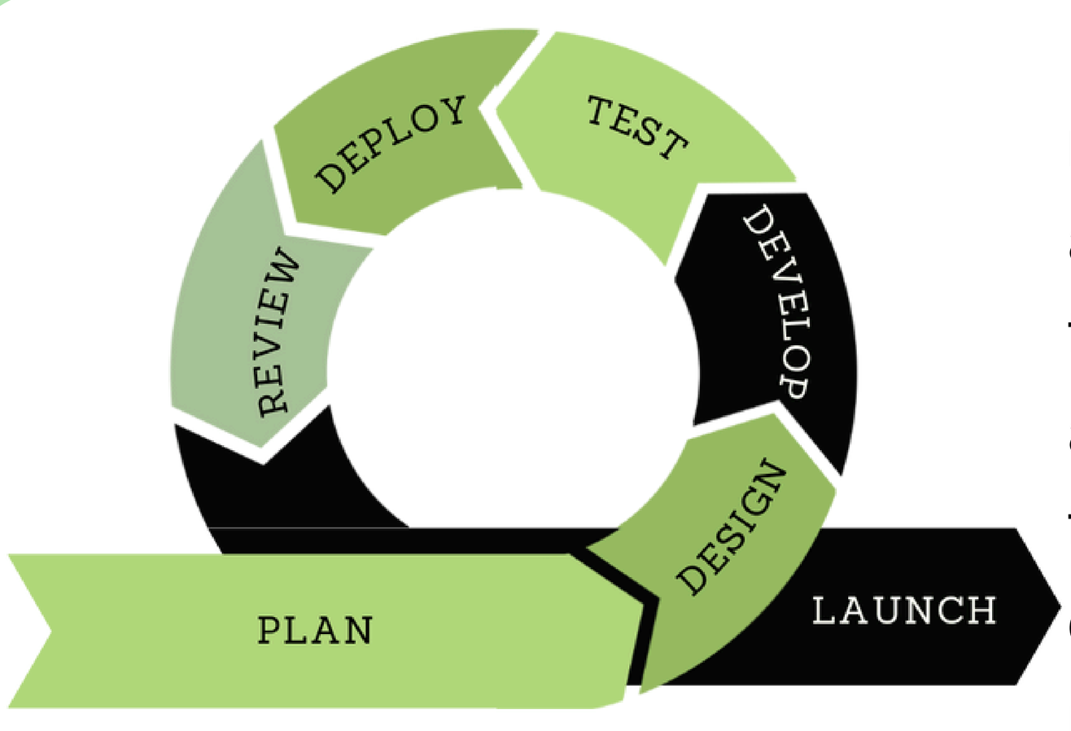
INTRODUCTION

Internships provide valuable real-world experience and skill development for students. While many universities have digitized their internship processes (Saleem, 2016), the College of Science at Bulacan State University (BulSU) still relies on manual methods, causing difficulties in securing Host Training Establishments (HTEs), managing documents, and increasing faculty workload (Boton, 2024). To address these issues, the researchers developed **InternConnect**—a centralized online platform designed to streamline and organize the internship process for both students and faculty at BulSU.

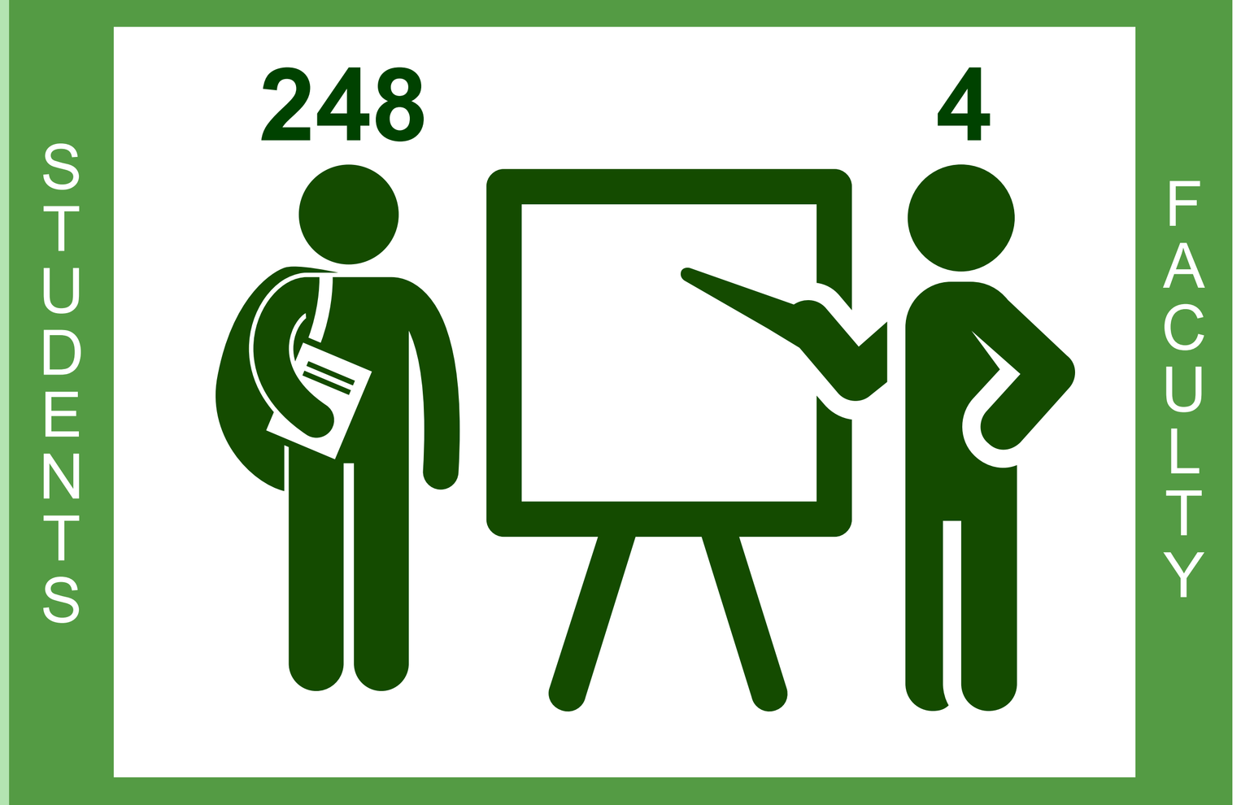
METHODOLOGY

The research design for this study was a **mixed-method applied research design**, incorporating both quantitative and applied approaches. This ensured the system effectively met the needs of students and faculty managing internships at the College of Science, BulSU.



The researchers used the **Agile development methodology** for its flexibility and iterative approach. Agile was ideal for building InternConnect to meet the specific needs of the College of Science at BulSU. It enabled continuous improvement through manageable phases—planning, design, development, testing, and deployment—guided by user feedback (Laoyan, 2024).

RESPONDENTS



COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

DATA COLLECTION AND EVALUATION APPROACH

- **Sampling Method**: *Simple random sampling* ensured equal representation across programs and sections.
- **Respondents**: *248 students and 4 faculty members* from the College of Science (for TAM-based acceptability evaluation).
- **Data Collection**: Conducted from the last week of February to the last week of March via face-to-face and Google Forms surveys
- **System Quality Check**: *5 IT experts* evaluated the system based on ISO/IEC 25010 standards.

SYSTEM EVALUATORS

COLLEGE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

KEY FEATURES OF INTERNCONNECT

- Categorized List of HTEs
- HTE Profiles
- Class Spaces
- Document Submission
- Document Tracking
- Internship Status Tracking
- Internship Templates and Guidelines
- HTE Reviews and Ratings
- HTE Bookmarking
- Student Internship Program (SIP) Data Report

Based on ISO/IEC 25010

Grand Mean Rating of IT Experts

CRITERIA	*Descriptive Rating*	
Functional Suitability	*Very Good*	9.53
Performance Efficiency	*Very Good*	9.60
Compatibility	*Very Good*	9.20
Usability	*Very Good*	9.40
Reliability	*Very Good*	9.65
Security	*Very Good*	9.64
Maintainability	*Very Good*	9.60
Flexibility	*Very Good*	10.00

Based on Technology Acceptance Model (TAM)

Grand Mean Distribution of Evaluation Respondents

CRITERIA	*Students*	*Faculty*
Perceived Usefulness	4.68	4.85
Perceived Ease-of-use	4.62	4.94
Attitude Towards Using InternConnect	4.64	4.75
Behavioral Intention to Use InternConnect	4.52	5.00

OVERALL MEAN: **9.58** IT EXPERTS | **4.61** STUDENTS | **4.88** FACULTY MEMBERS

InternConnect successfully met its main goals:

- Improved internship coordination
- Easier access to HTE information
- Streamlined document submission and tracking

Evaluation based on ISO/IEC 25010 and TAM:

- **IT Experts**: High quality ratings based on ISO/IEC 25010.
- **Students & Faculty**: Strong acceptance based on TAM.

Implications:

- **Practical**: Scalable model for managing academic internships
- **Theoretical**: Validates ISO/IEC 25010 and TAM use in edtech; supports agile development

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

InternConnect was designed to solve the problems with the current manual internship processes at the College of Science at BulSU. It aimed to make document submission easier, organize HTE information, and help faculty track student progress. Features like HTE listings, user dashboards, and automated workflows were created to improve coordination and reduce admin work.

The evaluation showed that students, faculty, and IT experts gave positive feedback, confirming that the system is easy to use, works well, and is secure. This study shows how web-based systems can help schools improve their internship programs by making processes easier and more organized.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Optimize the system for mobile and tablet use to enhance accessibility
- Expand cloud storage to prevent lag and ensure smooth performance
- Simplify the user interface by removing unnecessary buttons and improving navigation
- Expand InternConnect university-wide to standardize internship processes and boost interdepartmental collaboration

References

Boton, M. C. (2024). Internship performance of information technology students at bulacan state university – bustos campus. International Journal on Culture, History, and Religion, 6(2),66. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.13489475

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InternConnect