**2.1 Introduction**

This chapter describe the details about the University Eligibility Checking System which is a supporting system developed to help the candidates to apply for higher education more efficiently. The system only provides a helping hand to select the courses when applying for government universities. Review on the system modules, features, technologies of the application submission and recruitment is mentioned.

**2.2 Introduction to the UECS**

When applying for government universities one must be very careful with the filling of application. Because a small mistake is enough to make that person unqualified for the university. And, when selecting courses, most eligible course should be mentioned as the first option in the application form. So, in order to make the right selection, the applicant should be more aware about the available degree programs suitable for his Z-Score. According to the priority given by applicants the courses are clarified and if he or she made the wrong selection the chance for him to be selected into university may decreased.

Most of the time the applicants mentioned the course according to their desire without considering the course most suitable for their z-score. In this case most of them must wait for a second round unless getting selected at the very first round. So as getting selected at the second round is rare most of them give up on government universities and apply for other options like private universities, jobs and foreign scholarships etc. This won’t be happened if they made the right decision when filling the application form.

UGC have given a handbook including all the course details their Unicode numbers and all but going through the book and clarifying given instructions are bit more complex. Some of the rural areas didn’t have computers nor internet. As a solution for this government had open centers called ‘Nanasala’ to help the applicants to fill up their university application. but still when selecting the degree course, one must need to be very careful.

UECS is a supportive system which help to select the most suitable degree program when applying for universities. The user can make the correct decision without wondering around the handbook. This may lead most of them to get qualified for the universities without waiting for a second round.

**2.3 Technologies**

The technologies used in the development are as follows.

Php language

MySQL

HTML

**2.4 Pros and Cons in UECS**

The requirement of the UECS system emerge as a solution to overcome the inconveniences caused during the selection of suitable degree program when applying to the government universities. Since when applying for universities, the candidate must be able to submit their online application according to the given instructions in the UGC handbook.

The online submission of application plays a major role because a small mistake will make the candidate unqualified for the universities. When selecting suitable degree for higher studies, the applicant must be careful to mention the most suitable degree according to their z-score nor the degree that they are most desired to have. In this case, most of the applicants apply according to their desire & it will make them unqualified and to be waited for a second round. Through the UECS system, our main objective was to overcome this challenge. The user of the system can fill up the required fields of the form provided by UECS and have the most suitable degrees (a prioritize list) relevant to their z-scores.

UECS allow candidates to save their time. The candidates can save their time by using UECS to select the prioritize list of degree programs they can apply. If they must do this while referring to the handbook while reading all the instructions manually, it will be time consuming and at the same time can have mistakes when making the selections. This large volume of procedure is minimized to few seconds with the UECS approach.

Another option the UECS is consist was a background analysis of previous years university selections made by the UGC. Most of the candidates didn’t have a idea about how the selections are occurred from each district to each degree program. UECS is providing a statistical data by using most famous degree programs in each stream in order to provide a understanding for the users how the previous applicants are selected with their results. User can have a small hint whether they can be selected or not for a university, for their desired degree program & can made the right decision of being sitting for the advanced level again or another option they want to proceed without waiting for the UGC letter of acceptance.

The UECS consist of user friendly more flexible interfaces that all users can easily interact.However, when selecting the most suitable degree and the background analysis of UGC selections, the usage of UECS will enhanced the performance and effectiveness of overall procedure of application submission process.

**2.5 Appraisal on UECS**

This section will provide a review on the areas covered in the world components related with the UECS system. Most of the systems developed in Sri Lanka are developed based on online application submission in both government and private universities.

All the developed systems regarding the application submission are merged with the official web site of the particular education institute/university or organization. But the users cannot check their eligibility using those systems. All of them provide only an application form.

NSBM Green University is identified national institute which allows students to engage with their higher education. The entrance to the online student registration and recruitment system is provided in the official website with a demonstration of an icon. National Institute of Business Management is also consisting with an online application form but still it didn’t have an eligibility checking option. The online applying facility in NIBM is limited for several course modules. Since NIBM have not indicate any direct link to apply online, system users have to search for the system.

The system implemented by NSBM and NIBM are having application forms to be filled in a very abstract way. (National School of Business Management, 2013) Normally, details regarding the courses are provided in the web site as a separate web page rather than providing carrier guidance. Providence of carrier guidance is an added advantage for the system’s usability. Carrier guidance module is provided in the website of the ESOFT higher education institute. ESOFT doesn’t comprise with online application submission but it comprises of web-based system to place enquiries for particular course program.

Open University of Sri Lanka is another national body which comprises of online application submission system initiated through the official website of the university. The secureness of the entire application submission system is at a high standard. An account must be created in order to access the application to be filled. And then the system themselves allows a secure server to pay the application fee online. This increases the usability, productiveness of the entire system of application submission. (The Open University of Sri Lanka - HOME. 2013)

The **KDU** is the only university in the island which offers higher education opportunities for both military and civilian personnel in a disciplined environment. Kotelawala Defense University is the only university which has the ability to check the eligibility as a part of online application submission. But still it doesn’t able to provide a prioritize list of degree programs according to user provide details.

Online student enrolment is an utterly familiar process in international universities. User guidance is provided in the system providing the details about how to proceed with online application submission. Although they have been provided a user guidance it doesn’t give a prioritize list of eligible degree programs for their universities. The users have to search by their own for the degrees and apply by their self.

**2.6 Conclusion**

Literature review chapter conclude the detailed description about the literatures available in the world about online application submission for each university. Review conducted on prevailing systems emphasized that the most prominent domains where the online application submission systems are used doesn’t contain both the eligibility checking option and the list of prioritize list filtered according to exam results. Therefore, using UECS will enhance the university applying procedure due to more performance.

**2.7 Summary**

Literature Review on the UECS depicts information about the availability of systems with the introduces functionalities of the UECS system in the world, the technologies used in those development and the benefits of the UECS. And finally, the conclusion is given stating the usage of UECS as a supportive system when applying for government universities.