Group name: R.O.K.S.

**Group members:** - **R**aphael Superville (816010927)

- Joshua **O**xley

- **K**enaird Saunders

- Adrian **S**anto

**Project Name:** Student Assistance Portal

Project description (At most 300 words):

Our proposed project entitled, Student Assistance Portal, seeks to provide easier access to an important service provided by the university which is the consultation and advice with respect to the selection of courses. This will be done done through a student profiling feature which automates the recommendations on what course should be done and credit amount targets in the coming semester. In addition, our project will utilise a forum that provides an avenue for discussion on topics of similar concern or interest between students and a virtual help-desk where students can communicate any desired query with relevant personnel. To add this, the provision of information with respect to degree statistics (e.g. current GPA score, maximum GPA score, minimum GPA score, projected GPA score) and degree audit reports is included with the aim of informing students on the current academic standing. Degree audit reports, in collaboration with academic record units, will present information about the academic requirements needed for graduation. This information can range from the amount of credits obtained and still required; core, elective, foundation/compulsory courses completed and still required; and exceptions approved for a student (e.g. course overrides). The project can be summarised into following modules:

* Forum:
  + Students’ Workspace
  + Virtual Help-Desk
* Student profiling:
  + Course and credit recommendations
  + Provision of degree statistics
* Degree Audit Reports

**Rationale for the project: (Problem definition, need for your solution)**

* Uncertainty with the most suitable selection of courses per semester.
* Inconsistent information communicated various sources without an avenue for review or vetting
* Eliminates the need for mandatory face-to-face and physical interview or meeting.
* To meet the demands or requests made by internal or external stakeholders for a comprehensive profile of a student.
* Need for a virtual assistant or workspace which monitors a student’s progress towards graduation

**Business Benefits:**

* Improved quality of services provided by the university (timely advice (e.g. course selection)) that can be done without the need for face-to-face interaction.
* Allows external stakeholders (e.g. MOE, GATE officials) authorized and managed access to student’s degree and GPA information.
* Allows for transparency and consistency of information communicated to various users.
* Timely feedback
* Increased accessibility and convenience for users
* More efficient administrative procedures (e.g. registration)

**Stakeholders**

**User stakeholders: (Who will be using the system?)**

* Students
* Administrative staff
* Deans and H.O.D
* Staff assigned to Student Advisory services.

**Non-user stakeholders: (Who will not be directly using the system but benefits from the system?)**

* External stakeholders (M.O.E, GATE officials, Sponsors, Scholarship officials for students on scholarship)
* The University of the West Indies

**User Environment: (Environment refers to the collection of hardware and software tools a system developer uses to build software systems.)**

* Web-based platform
* Portal environment presented as the front-end interface
* Linked back-end database system (i.e. academic record units)

**Alternatives and Competition to your solution: (Are there ways the problem can be solved? Are there already products on the market that provide a solution? If yes, what are they?)**

* Genius SIS for Virtual Schools
  + Deployment: Cloud, SaaS, Web
  + Designed specifically for online / virtual and blended schools, Genius SIS is customized for each client. Students and guardians use a portal to track academic progress, request new courses, make payments and much more. Genius SIS also handles the admission and registration processes and supports open enrolment.
* PCR Educator School Administration Software
  + Deployment: Cloud, SaaS, Web
  + US $6,000.00/year (Starting Price)
  + PCR Educator provides a family of customized web and client-based software modules that allow teachers, parents, students, alumni and administrators to access, update, maintain and report school, classroom and student information with ease while integrating the information directly into the school's records management database, eliminating duplication of entries and costly transfers of data.

**Estimated Project Duration:**

**For each group member**

**Key skills (e.g. Databases, Web programming, etc.) –**

**Raphael Superville: - Research and Web Programming**

**How you each member contribute to the project**

Statement of how you plan to work together (When you will meet, Collaboration tools you will use)

Time on Tuesday between 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. that you and all your group members are available to meet: