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Software Requirements Specification and Technology Neutral Process Design

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1 Vision

This projects aim is to provide a system to facilitate the administration of postgraduate publications, including but not limited to journal articles and conference papers. It should be able to store information on Users, Authors and Publications as well as employ a authentication system to ensure only specified parties within the system have access to operations on the stored information. The purpose of keeping track of the publications is, in part, to keep track of the DoE and UP weighted units earned by Users and/or authors. The reason for this is that these users/authors are required to publish a certain amount of units each year in order to determine pay, research funding, and maintaining their research position.

2 Background

Currently the publications are kept track of with a complicated excel spreadsheet. The purpose of the spreadsheet is to keep track of the status of publications in order to generate a report detailing the units earned by a researcher. There are many drawbacks to this system. It is tedious to maintain the spreadsheet. Data is spread over multiple sheets. The larger the database gets the slower it performs. The information is displayed in a raw textual format which makes it a daunting task to sit through and analyse. It is difficult to add new functionality and change or enhance existing functionality. When pulling in data from multiple sheets it becomes difficult to debug the Lookups.

3 Architecture

3.1 Access Channels

This service should be accessible via web based clients. i.e. web based clients, mobile browsers. As well as an Android application.

3.2 Quality Requirements

- Reliability - The reports generated from the data provided to the system should be
- Scalability - It is estimated that there will be approximately one hundred users. The system should be able to handle each user being active at the same time even though it is unlikely.
- Cost - Generating a report for all data in the system will be the worst case scenario in this system and thus have a high cost. The system should however be able to produce subsets of the report at a relatively low cost. For example a report for all researchers under a specific research group.

- Security - There should be strict access right applied to each of the sub-systems and their components. This means that if a user, by definition of the business rules, is not allowed to access a certain functionality, then they will be denied access.
- Auditability - Actions performed on the system should be logged in a manner that would allow one to trace back the history of actions performed on the system.

3.3 Intergration Requirements

The system will operate in a standalone fashion. In the future, however, it may require intergration with google calender.

3.4 Architecture Constraints

Client has not provided any architecture constraints.

3.5 Open Issues

- What does DoE stand for?
- Specifics with regard to the DoE and UP weighted contributions
- Researcher funding