**CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION**

**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

In the last few decades, education has witnessed some advances in technologies involving computer-aided learning that promises to drastically change the methods of teaching and learning. The World Wide Web has played a major role in information storage and dissemination in the educational community.

Today, with the advances in the technology world, it is easy to pass information to a group of people without having all of them being in the same location, We have many universities offering distant learning courses for part-time individuals, we also have many professors looking for better ways to communicate and send information to their students without having to be in a classroom, new ways have also been developed for students to be able to teach themselves various courses without being in a classroom.

Conventional classroom-based teaching involves the delivery of course lectures by the lecturer in a particular place at a specific time. Hence it imposes a constraint of time and place on both the instructor and the student. Due to the human factor, the lecturer may not always be able to put in optimum effort towards preparing and delivering course models. Direct interaction with the student is not easy because of a large number of students needing attention. The remedy to this situation seems to be the learning techniques that are based on modern technologies such as the Internet and WWW combined with traditional classroom teaching.

Many forms of learning have been developed over the years, in an attempt to make learning easy for the students or learners. Let us imagine a world, where getting information is no longer a barrier, a world where it is very easy to learn new things without travelling out of your present location by just accessing an online portfolio.

Bulletin board is one of the forms of learning or passing information that was also discovered over the years, it is more like a noticeboard form of sending information, in which the information is usually meant for a certain group of people, and many people can access the information faster and at the same time.

Now, with the advances in technology, this means of sending information had rapid development and it can be called different names, e.g. online discussion forums, e-bulletin board, online notice board, e-learning system.

In an attempt to make learning stress-free and allow easy access to different learning materials for different individuals, the Multimedia E-Bulletin Board System was formed.

The term multimedia specifically refer to the integration of two or more forms or channels of information, such as auditory (voice and other sounds), visual (still and motion pictures, animation, graphs), and/or text.

The Multimedia E-Bulletin Board System is a system that allows the dissemination of multimedia information eg audio, videos, text, pictures to different bodies, or individuals through the use of electronic devices, and latest technologies. Unlike other e-bulletin board systems that only allow one format in the dissemination of information, A multimedia e-bulletin board system allows the individual to send information in different formats such as auditory, visual and/or text.

This project develops a web-based application that allows the dissemination of information among different people, without allowing location to be a problem.

**1.1 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**

Sending information using the normal notice board has a lot of problems, some of the problems include:

* Location: This involves the inability for individuals to be able to access some information because of their present location
* Destroying/stealing the notice board: Most individuals tend to destroy/stealing the notice board, mostly because the information that is being disseminated have a negative impact on them, or is against their aim eg posting of exam results on a notice board
* Communicating with the information sender
* Pasting Unverified Information: Since the notice board does not create an avenue for other people to send in their suggestions, regarding a particular information, there is every tendency that the person pasting a particular information, may be pasting a wrong information.

**1.2** **AIM**

The aim of this project Multimedia E-bulletin Board System is a create a system that allows the dissemination of multimedia contents and information, using the latest technologies available, without location being a problem, and also allowing users to be able to communicate directly with the information sender, and in other to achieve it, the following objectives are considered.

**1.3 OBJECTIVES**

The objective of this project is :

* to develop a multimedia e-bulletin board system/notice board system using PHP as the server side language and MySql as the database
* to be able to store information about users, bulletin board, subscription and also allow posting of multimedia messages
* to allow users to subscribe and post multimedia messages to subscribed bulletin board/notice board
* to also provide real-time interaction between instructors and students or rather information provider and other users of the system
* to also be used as a tool for e-learning and knowledge management
  1. **SIGNIFICANCE OF PROJECT**

A system helps solve the problem of information dissemination for both the lecturers and the student, government and its citizens, group leaders and their followers, mass communicators, public relation officers, and also the general public.

In other to allow the lecturers, to be able to send information in either audio, video, or picture format, and also allow the easy accessibility to any information from the lecturer by the student from any location, the use of this system is encouraged.

In a time, when the use of hate speech is on the increase, and most media houses tend to propagate more negative information against a particular government, this system helps the government to be able to send verified multimedia information to the citizens.

Creating a group is one thing, managing the group and being able to disseminate information to the followers of that particular group taking into consideration, their different locations and probably different timezones, one of the significance of this project is to be able to solve that problem, thereby creating an avenue for the group leader to be communicate with the different followers without geographic locations and timezones being a barrier.

Mass Communicators would be able to send more relevant information using this channel and also give the users the change to communicate with the mass communicator.

Another feature is the ability for the general public to be able to send information and also check for information on the system.