Chapter 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Announcements are frequently made to member of a clubs to notify them on various events such as competitions, workshops, enactment of meetings, etc. In DIEMS, the delivery of these announcements have been made through various ways namely the use notice circulations in each class, whatsapp groups, personally, notice boards except for one – Android application.

The use of Android smart phones has been increasing enormously due to its variety of features which come in various design and prices. As a proof, based on an analysis of global smart phone sales made by Gartner, Android has been dominating the market share followed by iOS. With that report, it can be seen that Android has remain at the top of the smart phone market, defeating other operating systems namely Windows, iOS. As technology will never cease to improve, Android platform will be frequently updated into newer and better version to attract new consumers and maintain the loyalty of existing ones.

Thus, making use of the capabilities of Android technology to convey public statements or alerts to club members in an effective and efficient way should not be missed. Under this project, a survey will be performed on the technology behind which can be used to create an Android application that fulfill all the scopes mentioned. As this method of conveying announcements is a pioneered method, the target audience aimed for this project involves club members of DIEMS who owns a smart-phone installed with Android operating system and has their own Internet data plan (or Wi-Fi enabled).

Problem Statements

For a couple of years, communicating vital information and announcements to the student has been a major problem faced by most faculties in DIEMS. Many approaches have been used previously but still messages were not delivered effectively and efficiently to club members due to various reasons. As a result, club members are unaware of essential messages.

The major reason club members are not likely to view these announcements published in notice boards is due to attractiveness. The announcements are poorly organized

and categorized leading to club members having difficulties in finding important messages or alerts only related to them. Besides, the informality of some members also leads to avoid them, decreasing student's loyalty to assess to these announcements regularly.

Plus, notifications of announcement updates are also not acknowledged by club members effectively. In other words, club members will most likely be unaware of newly posted announcements or notices unless being notified by friends, lecturers or any other coincidental situation.

Announcements posted in the existing approaches also do not promote interactivity. For instance, club members could not make any enquiries, comments or suggestions for any announcements posted on the notice board. Hence, the student's doubts or confusion could not be cleared on the spot leading them to be uninterested of getting details of the particular announcement. Even approaches such as Whatsapp provides a platform for interactivity, many third parties are involved, causing a high probability for the announcement posted to lose its credibility and accuracy.

Certain tasks such as editing personal details also cause a hassle for members as they need to travel back and forth to their own faculty to complete them. With the existence of an Android application specially tailored for member use, the stated tasks could most probably be performed in a timelier manner. Plus, usage of unnecessary forms could be reduced; promoting an environmental-friendly culture.

1.2 Objectives

The objectives of this study are summarized below:

- The main objective of the project is to design and develop a user friendly efficient portable Club app.
- Delivering messages, announcements and news updates to club member club members effectively and efficiently.
- Being able to attract or encourage club members to frequently use the application thus ruling out chances for them to miss any important bulletins or alerts.
- Providing a more flexible and interactive announcement platform compared to existing ones for club members.
- Allowing club members to access to list of related announcements with just a few simple clicks anytime anywhere as long as the application is installed and Internet is available.
- Reducing the gap between club members of different clubs within DIEMS thus enhancing a friendly study environment.
- An accurate system without any data redundancy.
- Secured data storage for Authority end.
- Secure the user ends data by providing each user's own personal credentials.
- A flexible system which can maneuver the customer-staff relationship in an effective manner.

- **Automation:**
  - The DIEMS Club automates each and every activity of the manual system and increases its throughput. Thus the response time of the system is very less and it works very fast.

- **Accuracy:**
  - The DIEMS Club provides the uses a quick response with very accurate information regarding the users etc. Any details or system in an accurate manner, as and when required.

- **User-Friendly:**
  - The DIEMS Club System has a very user-friendly interface. Thus the users will feel very easy to work on it. The software provides accuracy along with a

pleasant interface. Make the present manual system more interactive, speedy and user friendly.

- **Availability:**
  - o The transaction reports of the system can be retried as and when required. Thus, there is no delay in the availability of any information, whatever needed, can be captured very quickly and easily.

1.3 Scopes

The following are the scopes and requirements of the chosen software development project:-

a) User Verification

In order to further explore the contents of the application, a verification process will firstly be initiated to determine if the user is a registered member in DIEMS Club. This verification process will be performed with the aid of a firebase database. Successful verification of a member will eventually bring him to the main screen where all the personalized and customized settings are being displayed. As for admin who is responsible to channel out posts, a fixed screen which allows them to do so will be displayed after successful login. Failure in verification will result in an error message.

c) Attractiveness and Simplicity

The application will be designed in such a way that it incorporates attractive and creative elements which could eventually promote user exploration and maintain student's loyalty towards the application. In contrast with the complexity of existing platforms in displaying announcement to students, announcements presented via this application will be done in a much simpler manner in terms of organization and ease of access. Every module available in DIEMS Club shall be accessible via fewer clicks when compared to existing platforms.

e) Profile Edit & Digital Forms

Within the application, students can also update their personal information such as profile picture and e-mail address anytime anywhere as long as there is an Internet connection, thus, avoiding the need to travel back and forth to the faculty just for profile updates. Any other simple registration or transactions will also be made available in the application, replacing the need of paper forms to digital forms.

h) Platform to Post or Update Notices

There will be a single way which will be provided to the administrators who wish to post or update notices namely via app itself. This method requires user verification process before users can actually proceed to the next displayable. As soon as login is successful, the particular admin will be able to check previously posted notice, each notice's comments and also post new ones.