**Chapter 1**

**INTRODUCTION**

Nowadays, information technology has been rapidly progressing. It helps human being from doing difficult task and lessens the time consumed in each work. It also provides communication purposes all over the world and help human in storing data's with security. That is why information technology is a reliable companion.

According to Hedges (2009), "The internet is growing rapidly in this era. It seems like many people are using internet to enhance their knowledge about everything". As information technology developed and improved each year, new application software also develop to cope the rapid development. Programmers are requested to develop such an application that is needed in a business, company and even schools.

Many institutions are now shifting from manual to automated system. The Web-based Voting system is a web application for election and canvasing the result. It is fully secured and accurate in terms of counting the ballots.

**Project Context**

The Web-based Voting System is for Mater Dei Academy. The application provides a system that can help in conducting an election in the said campus. This will help to provide accurate result in canvasing the votes made by each student.

Over the years, part of the Mater Dei Academy’s curriculum in developing its students into well-rounded individuals is involving them in extra-curricular activities such as Student Government. This aims to develop the potential and skills of students when it comes to leadership, who in turn, may become future leaders in the different aspects of the society.

Here, the proponents are suggesting the use of a web-based voting system as a replacement for the manual voting system which has been the method that the school has been employing ever since they started conducting elections. A web-based application/system, as defined by Wikipedia, is a type of client-server computer program that runs through a browser, either from a mobile phone, laptop or a desktop PC. The application and the database are being hosted on a server and the user must use a browser and input the correct URL (Universal Resource Locator) to access the website. Alternatively, if the user wants to use the application in a Local Area Network, the software can also be compiled as an executable file which will work just the way a normal desktop application would.

**Purpose and Description**

**Objectives**

Student Government Elections in the Mater Dei has always been conducted in manual fashion. But this method involved lots of preparation and effort from the election committee, candidates and other individuals involved in the event. The proposed

**General Objective.** To design, develop, and deliver a software solution that will help the beneficiary to appreciate and maximize the use of web technology in conducting their Student Government Elections.

**Specific Objectives.** The following are the specific objectives that the system must accomplish.

* 1. To understand how the existing (present) system operates;
  2. To determine the problems encountered in the existing (present) system;
  3. To develop a software application that would:

1. Enable users to login and logout of the system and access its content which would depend on the type of the user access they have
2. enable the election committee to easily input the records that are required for an election
3. enable the election committee to create, manage, and close an election event
4. enable the election committee manage the records inside the database of the proposed system
5. enable the election committee to generate reports and other information that are considered as required outputs based from the existing (present) system
6. let the election committee monitor an ongoing election event, as well as provide real-time partial results of it
7. enable the election committee to create a candidate list and generate ballots that will be used later in voting
8. Let the voters vote in a ballot generated by the system, choosing the candidates from the choices provided by the election committee in the system, and enable them to review their votes before sending it to the database
   1. To determine whether the proposed project will be technically, operationally, and economically feasible to implement; and
   2. To come up with an implementation plan for the proposed software/ system.