

Automated Minute Tracker

System's Requirements Analysis and Design Group No: 10

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1 Introduction

1.1 About the Client

University of Colombo School of Computing holds a monthly general meeting to discuss about the student matters , operational details and other matters of the board. Every meeting has its agenda and the minute which contains the details discussed in the previous minute.

Each minute matter is discussed twice and after approval of any minute matter in its 2nd hearing is been sent to the Board of study (BOS), Academic Syndicate, Board of Management (BOM) and finally to the Senate. Every matter does not reach the senate. The priority level (until which level a minute matter should be reached) is been decided by the IUD. Whenever a matter is being rejected, it is sent back to the IUD. Then the IUD tries to re discuss it by making relevant changes to the matter. Some urgent matters are being fast tracked directly to the higher board expecting a quick response. This project mainly focuses on a minute tracking process for BOS/IUD (Board of Study/Internal Undergraduate Degree) of UCSC which helps to know what matters are approved and what are rejected, which level the matter is being discussed now etc. Creating this automated minute tracker helps to maintain a very stable way of storing , manipulating and tracking all the minutes of monthly general meetings

1.2 Domain Description

This product will be offered as a web-based platform service. This lets only a limited amount of members (staff members and limited number of students) to login so all the details so that the minutes are well secured. The system sends email containing the information about the next meeting to all the staff members. The editing privileges are limited only to secretary and assistant registrar. The review privileges are limited only to the Head of IUD and Director. whenever a staff member needs to find out which stage the minute matter is situated (IUD, Academic Syndicate, board of management, senate) the system indicates the stage of the minute matter. All the results (approved/reject/hold on) of minute matters are visible to members so that every stage is aware of the result of the minute matter, either it is accepted or rejected.

After every meeting the whole document is being saved in the database .Incase if any member wants to find out a minute of a previous meeting ,the system helps filtering the needed minute. Fast tracked minutes are saved in another format so they can be identified easily.

1.3 Current System

Currently all the minutes are stored physically as files . This has caused storage problems and also cumbersome to search previous minutes. The minute documents also have the tendency to get damaged over time. The main problem the staff suffers is it takes a lot of time when finding previous minutes and the status (approved/rejected/hold on) of the minute. So that the workload on staff members is high.

1.4 Objectives and Goals

- To make efficient the tracking of previously generated minutes which was vainly time consuming due to the bulk physical documentation.
- To make staff member know easily which level a minute matter is been discussed.
- To clarify the status of matters of previous minutes.
- To form an easily accessible portal for the relevant users to state their issues, complaints
 or matters.
- To reduce the workload of the staff members

1.5 Scope of the Project

- The project would create an online system to insert matters into a database.
- The minute will be able to auto generated and sent to all the users.
- The system enables to track whether where the matter is now in the approval process and check whether it is approved or being on hold.
- It will provide a database to store minutes.

1.6 Assumptions and Constraints

1.6.1 Assumptions

- Users should be familiarized with the way of using a web application.
- System is only prepared for the IUD but it also can be used to other stages with some modifications.

1.6.2 Constraints

Time and Security Constraints

This project should be completed within a period of one year. The team has made decisions to complete the half of the project by the end of the 7 months. It includes drawing necessary types of UML diagrams, designing of interfaces, completing 30% of the projects implementation. All data which would be inserted into the system should be given high security. The system should be developed in a safe manner, so that no external user who is not given access by the administrator could use or change important data stored in the system. Eg: SQL injection

2 Feasibility Study

Feasibility study is conducted to assess the practicality of the proposed system. Strengths, weaknesses of the proposed system would be discussed here. The impact the system could have on users of the system and the external people. Feasibility study would also be a measure to what extent people could take benefits over an existing system. Also the opportunities and threats in the external environment for the proposed system and the resources that would be used for development purposes would also be taken into consideration.

By conducting a feasibility study the developers can have a proper understanding on to what extent the project could be made a success and if the proposed system could achieve the set objectives and goals effectively and efficiently.

In order to develop the web application as the solution to the existing system, feasibility study was conducted under the categories;

- Operational feasibility
- Cultural feasibility
- Economic feasibility
- Technical feasibility
- Schedule feasibility
- Legal feasibility

Due to the drawbacks of the existing system the client has expected a solution which would make the operations more effective and efficient. Hence considering all requirements stated by them we came up with the following solution.

2.1 Web Based System

2.1.1 Operational Feasibility

Operational feasibility is a measure of how well the proposed system could solve the existing problem. How it makes use of the opportunities identified to be available in various aspects. It is also a measure on how well the newly proposed system would fit into the existing business environment without hindering the current flow of business and if it matches the existing organizational environment. In order to analyze the desired operational behaviors, reliability, maintainability, supportability, usability, disposability, sustainability and affordability of the proposed system need to be considered. The system proposed to IUD is a web based system. The system to be developed would not hinder the current work flow of the system as it is not connected with any other existing systems. It is an independent system which would be manipulated by the administrator of the system. (System administrators in accordance with the functional policies of the institute will do granting access levels.) Hence the system to be developed would not interrupt the existing system business environment of the organization in any means. Users will have to log in to the system using their user-names and passwords. Authentication of the user will limit the ability of unsecured entrance. Users could access the system and get the necessary information, based on the role of the user there are restrictions. Hence those who are given access to the system could perform their tasks based the tasks allocated to them. Proposed system meets the expected requirements of the client. It would make the manipulation of data easy and as the users would be enabled to access the system easily, requirements will be fulfilled. The system has many benefits that a user could gain. No additional troubles to go through complex installation processes. Will work through the usual web browser. No platform dependency. Any user can access the web site using their existing web browsers. The general users need not to have technical expertise to use the site.

2.1.2 Cultural Feasibility

Cultural feasibility would be a measure of how well the proposed system would adapt to the organizational environment. How the users will accept the new system how effectively it will work in the organizational environment. The system would be developed in a user friendly manner with attractive user interfaces (UI). Also the system would give easy access to important information which would be useful to perform day to day IUD minute related activities effectively and efficiently. It will reduce manual work and reduces the workload of users. System increases efficient functioning of other related organizational activities as well. Therefore it saves time.

2.1.3 Economical Feasibility

Economical feasibility is an assessment of the possible positive economic benefits that the organization could gain out of the proposed system. It includes the cost or benefits analysis. All software that would be used in the development process are open source and available free. No costly hardware devices would be used. All required tasks would be performed by the team members, hence outsourcing would not be necessary.

Cost Benefit Analysis

- Reduces manual work
- Very high levels of readily available information
- Very interactive user interface
- Facilitates users to access the information efficiently
- All data would be organized

Costs

- Hardware cost Not necessary to purchase new hardware. Existing resources and hardware which belongs to developers would be used.
- Software cost Free and open source software would be used for development purposes.
- Operational cost(to the client when using the site)- PCs and other technical equipment cost Internet access Software costs in development

2.1.4 Technical Feasibility

Technical feasibility should be considered in 3 aspects

- is the proposal practical?
- Do we currently possess the necessary technology?
- Do we have the expertise needed to develop the solution?

Technologies that would be used in order to develop the system Currently there are plenty of resources available to develop a web based application and an android application

- Web development Client side scripting: HTML, javascript, AngularJS, CSS Server side scripting: PHP, Codeigniter
- Web servers : Apache
- Database management systems : MySQL

Is the proposed solution practical?

All technologies mentioned above are matured enough to build a stable web application which will be recognized. Every single module that would be implemented in the system have been implemented previously in certain systems, hence development of this system is a possible task.

Do we currently possess the necessary technology?

All the technologies mentioned above are open source and available free. Hence possession of technology will not be an issue.

Do we have the expertise needed to develop the solution?

All members are familiar with technologies which will be used in the development. And the members are willing to share the knowledge they possess with other members when necessary. All members will put their maximum effort in order to make this project a success.

2.1.5 Schedule feasibility

Schedule feasibility measures if it is a possible task to complete the project within a particular time frame.

The Gantt chart prepared shows the mandatory deadlines that all group members are expected to achieve. Tasks are allocated to each member based on the capacities considering all other external factors.

Gantt chart (2017/2018)

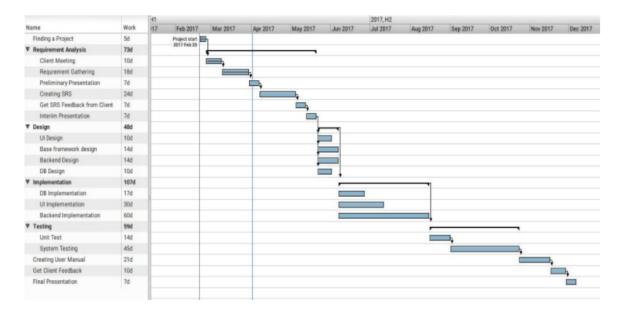


Figure 1: The Gantt Chart

2.1.6 Legal Feasibility

Determines whether the proposed system conflicts with the existing legal requirements. Legal feasibility verifies the legal validity of the proposed system.

Copyrights Issues

We will be using free and open source technologies and tools for developing purposes. Hence there would be no violation of laws. We would not be using any articles or images from any other publications.

Government Constraints

The proposed system will be implemented in a government organization. Hence it may be subjected to rules and regulations imposed.

All the information will be under the authority of the system administrator. Hence all the information is secured. Only the people who would be granted access by the administrator could access the system. Based on the role they would be performing privileges would be given.

3 Requirements

3.1 Stakeholders

There are four actors are involved with the system.

• Administrator

Person who is responsible for all the functions of the system. He is the person who could grant access to others to use the system under conditions.

• Secretary, Assistant Registrar

Apart from the administrator, the secretary of IUD and assistance registrar is given authority to handle the system performing all operations. For example recommending matters, amending minute, generating minute.

• Director

Auto generated minute will be produced to the director for different purposes

• Members,IUD

Members of IUD who submits memos to the online system, which are related to different matters.

3.2 Use cases

Use case narratives We need to have 15 use case narratives.

3.2.1 Use case Diagram

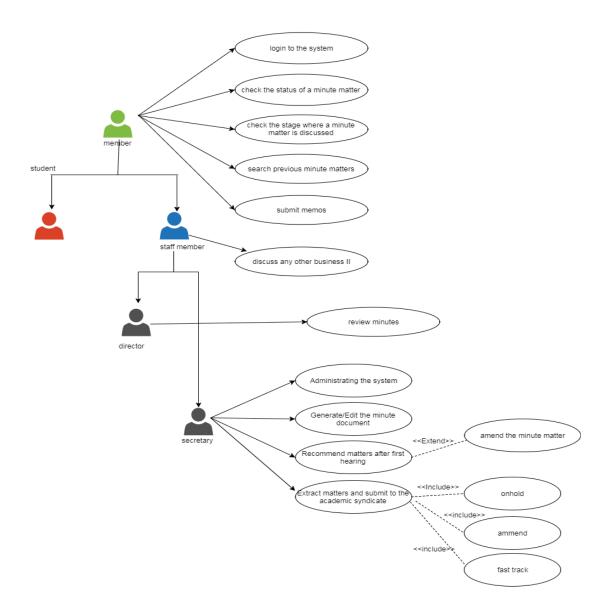


Figure 2: The Use Case Diagram

3.3 Functional Requirements

1. Login

Different users can access the system. Each user will have a role which defines the set of tasks which he/she can do. They are bound to certain conditions (based on their role) Administrator, Secretary, Staff member and Students can access the system. Privileges limit based on the actor. Example: Administrator can authorize access for a student to the System. But staff member cant authorize access for the students.

2. Adding User

Administrator can add users to the system and grant access to certain operations in the system.

3. Privileged Accessibility

Every user is within a certain privilege criteria. For an example when the Administrator adds a student, he/she is not given the accessibility to reach out for the Any Other Business II category.

4. Entry of Memos

A Digital portal is provided for the users to forward the relevant memos.

5. Amending of memos

The Secretary is given the privilege to amend any memo after being decided to amend by the Board.

6. Manipulation of memo proceedings

The Secretary has the option to recommend, hold or reject a memo.

7. Auto Generation of minutes

The minute relevant to the most recent BOS/IUD meeting would be auto generated monthly.

8. Storing of Previous Minutes

The previously auto generated minutes are stored in a database to be checked if necessary in future.

9. Tracking the minute

The generated minute could be tracked, which means that the user would be able to be acknowledged of the fact that what sort of a feedback has it been received by the higher levels and so on.

10. Reviewing the minute

The Director should be able to review the auto-generated minute before it being released.

11. Searching

The users can search for a certain matter within a previously generated minute via an ID or a Keyword.

3.4 Non-Functional Requirements

Performance

The system must be quick to respond to an action by a user. Retrieving information should be fast and users should be able to search queries fast. (Evaluated using response time)

Usability

The system should be usable by all the users (Administrator, Manager, Depot and General public) with minimal training. Interfaces must direct with a description briefing the usage of it.

Security

The main non-functional requirement of our system security. System must be capable of preventing SQL injunctions. Sensitive data must be properly encrypted. System components must be restricted and be accessed only if the user is privileged.

Accuracy

System must contain accurate data and produce accurate outputs after processing data.

Maintainability

System components must be easy to modify, to correct faults and to adapt when new requirements are observed. System must contain separate storage for testing with real data before changed components active for the systems use.

4 System's Architecture

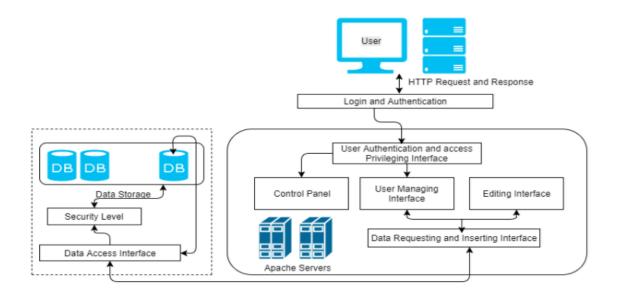


Figure 3: The Component Diagram

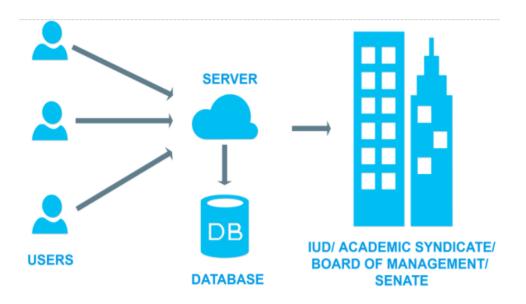


Figure 4: The Higher level Architecture

4.1 Components and their Responsibilities

- \bullet Login & authentication Validates the credentials of the user
- UAAPI Assign access privileges and roles to the user.
- Control panel Generating the system log.
- User management interface Add/Edit Users.
- Restricted viewer Generate details available for the normal user
- Data requesting and inserting layer Validates whether the data is in correct format.
- Data access layer Check user privileges
- Security layer Establishing security measures

4.2 Component Interactions

Should have an image

5 System's Design

5.1 Class Diagrams

5.2 Sequence Diagrams

For few important functions we should have the sequence diagrams. (4 diagrams) **Log in** When a user who has access to the system enters his username and password, the system checks if the entered credentials tally with that in the database. Once the credentials are verified the user could log into the system and perform necessary functions.

5.3 User Interface Flow Diagram

5.4 Entity Relationship Diagram

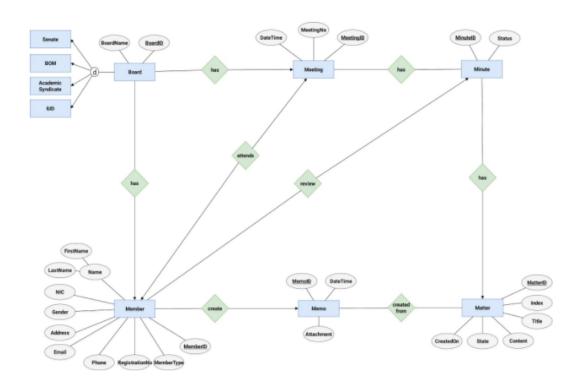


Figure 5: The Entity Relationship Diagram

5.5 Data Flow Diagram

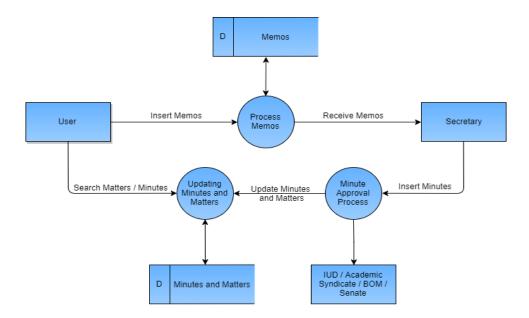


Figure 6: Data Flow Diagram