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Institute of Advanced Studies Research Link: A Web-Based Thesis and Dissertation Management System for Davao del Norte State College Using Advanced Web Technologies

PROJECT TEAM

Project Manager: HONEY MAE O. ESTRAZA

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COMPANY OVERVIEW

The Institute of Advanced Studies (IADS) at Davao del Norte State College (DNSC) serves as the academic division dedicated to graduate education and research development. It offers master's and doctoral degree programs aimed at producing skilled professionals, educators, and researchers who contribute to various fields. The institute exists to provide advanced learning opportunities for professionals and researchers, reinforcing DNSC's commitment to academic excellence and innovation.

The institute operates within the main campus of DNSC in Panabo City, Davao del Norte, Philippines. While it does not have multiple branches, it accommodates students from different areas through on-campus and blended learning. IADS functions under the leadership of DNSC's administration, ensuring compliance with national higher education standards set by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). Faculty members at IADS are highly qualified, with most holding doctoral degrees and extensive experience in research and academic instruction. IADS follows a structured academic and administrative workflow to manage student admissions, course enrollments, and research submissions. Graduate students undergo a rigorous thesis and dissertation process, including proposal submissions, faculty reviews, panel defenses, and final

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approval before completion. Faculty members actively engage in research and development projects, contributing to academic publications and industry collaborations. However, the current process relies heavily on manual submissions and approvals, leading to inefficiencies, delays, and challenges in document management.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

The Institute of Advanced Studies (IADS) at Davao del Norte State College (DNSC) currently relies on a manual and paper-based system for managing thesis and dissertation submissions, approvals, and monitoring. This outdated process causes inefficiencies, delays, mismanagement of research documents, and difficulty in tracking the progress of submissions. The absence of a centralized digital system results in lost records, slow communication between students and faculty, and an overall lack of transparency in the research approval workflow.

This section highlights the core issues that need to be addressed by implementing a web-based thesis and dissertation management system to streamline operations and enhance efficiency.

- Lack of a centralized digital system causes inefficiencies, miscommunication, and a lack of transparency in the research approval workflow.
- Manual routing of research documents leads to bottlenecks, prolonged reviews, and delays in academic progress.
- Students and faculty struggle to monitor the status of thesis/dissertation submissions, leading to confusions and inefficiencies.
- Inefficient timely notification for students to acquire required status, approval status, and submission deadline
- Panel members and faculty reviewers depending on hard copies increase the risk of misplaced or damaged files, affecting data security and retrieval.
- Reliance on a manual payment system for verifying submission fees leads to processing delays, miscommunication between students and the administration, and difficulties in tracking payment records.

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- How does the manual and paper-based system contribute to inefficiencies and delays in thesis and dissertation management at IADS?

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Web-Based Thesis and Dissertation Management System is suggested to solve the inefficiencies in the existing manual system at the Institute of Advanced Studies (IADS) of Davao del Norte State College (DNSC). The current system involves document submission via paper, manual approval, and unstructured monitoring, which causes delays, missing files, and challenges in tracking research status. Since research plays a crucial role in graduate school, it is important that there is a seamless, transparent, and accessible platform wherein students, faculty, and administration can submit, review, and monitor research work efficiently.

Through this system, IADS is able to computerize the submission and approval process, send automatic reminders, and have secure document storage and retrieval. This project will not only enhance operational effectiveness but also boost academic productivity and cooperation between researchers and faculty members. The system will offer a friendly interface in which students can upload their research with ease, monitor progress, obtain real-time feedback, and achieve deadlines without unnecessary delays. Moreover, administrators and faculty members will have a single platform where they can review, approve, and manage submissions effectively.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of this project is to develop a web-based Thesis and Dissertation Management System for the Institute of Advanced Studies (IADS) at Davao del Norte State College (DNSC) to streamline the submission, review, approval, and monitoring processes. This system aims to eliminate the inefficiencies of the manual and paper-based workflow by providing a centralized digital platform that enhances tracking, communication, and document management.

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To effectively address the challenges faced by IADS, the proposed system will incorporate key features that directly resolve inefficiencies in thesis and dissertation management:

- Students can upload their research papers online, eliminating the risk of misplaced or lost documents while allowing real-time tracking of submission progress.
- Faculty members and panel reviewers can digitally review, approve, or request revisions, significantly reducing delays caused by manual routing.
- The system will send real-time alerts to students and faculty regarding submission deadlines, approval status, and required revisions to prevent missed requirements.
- A secure, automated payment tracking system will ensure submission fees are verified in real-time, reducing miscommunication and processing delays.
- A digital archive will store approved theses and dissertations for easy access and reference, preventing document loss and ensuring long-term record management.
- Only authorized faculty and administrators will have access to approve and manage research submissions, maintaining data security and academic integrity.
- Displays research status (pending, under review, approved, or needs revision) for students and faculty.

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PHOTO DOCUMENTATION

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