**Business Requirements Document (BRD)**  
**Project Name:** Enhasing learning and collaboration at ERU

### **1. Executive Summary**

The Egyptian Russian University Library seeks to develop an online platform that extends the functionalities of the physical library, providing students, faculty, and staff with easy access to library resources, events, and study opportunities. The platform will include a robust catalog for physical and digital materials, an online book reservation system, student activity support, and personalized accounts for users. This document outlines the business requirements for developing, implementing, and maintaining the platform.

### **2. Business Objectives**

* **Enhance Accessibility to Library Resources:**  
  Improve students' and faculty members' access to physical and digital library resources, enabling remote access to materials such as e-books, journals, and academic papers.
* **Improve Library Management and Efficiency:**  
  Streamline library operations through an integrated system that allows staff to manage book inventories, events, and student requests more efficiently.
* **Increase Student Engagement:**  
  Foster student participation by incorporating features like study groups, event announcements, and project showcases to support both academic and extracurricular activities.
* **Provide Personalization for Students:**  
  Offer personalized accounts where students can track borrowed books, set reservation preferences, and participate in events.
* **Continuous Improvement and Feedback:**  
  Implement mechanisms for ongoing user feedback to ensure the platform evolves in line with student and faculty needs.

### **3. Stakeholders**

* **Primary Stakeholders:**
  + **Students:** The main users of the platform, accessing books, digital resources, and engaging in activities.
  + **Faculty Members:** Users who will access resources for research and teaching purposes.
  + **Library Staff:** Responsible for managing the book catalog, reservations, and events through an admin dashboard.
  + **IT Development Team:** Responsible for building, testing, and maintaining the platform.
* **Secondary Stakeholders:**
  + **University Administration:** Oversees the project’s alignment with the university’s strategic goals
  + **External Partners (e.g., Publishers, Software Vendors):** Provide additional resources, technical support, or content for the platform.

### **4. Scope**

#### **In-Scope:**

* Development of a user-friendly online platform (website) for the Egyptian Russian University Library.
* Key features to be implemented include:
  + **Online Book Search & Catalog**
  + **Online Book Reservation System**
  + **Digital Library Access (e-books, journals)**
  + **Student Activity Hub (study groups, clubs, etc.)**
  + **Event Announcements & Registration**
  + **Student Project Showcase**
  + **Personalized User Accounts**
* Integration with existing library resources (e.g., physical catalogs, existing digital content).
* A feedback and suggestion system to gather user input.
* Analytics dashboard for library staff to manage content and track user activity.

#### **Out-of-Scope:**

* Physical infrastructure or hardware for the library.
* Handling payments for book purchases or late fees (if applicable).
* Direct academic content creation or updates.

### **5. Functional Requirements**

* **Library Book Search & Catalog:**  
  Users should be able to search for both physical and digital library resources. Search filters must include options for language, publication year, genre, and availability (physical or digital).
* **Online Book Reservation System:**  
  Users should be able to reserve books online. The system will display real-time availability, and users will be notified when a reserved book is ready for pickup.
* **Digital Library Access:**  
  Students should have remote access to digital resources such as e-books, research papers, and academic journals.
* **Study Group Section:**  
  Students should be able to create, join, or search for study groups based on subjects or academic interests.
* **Event Announcements & Registration:**  
  A section to display upcoming library events, workshops, and student activities, with functionality for students to register and receive reminders.
* **Personalized Accounts for Students:**  
  Students will have personalized profiles to track their library activities, such as borrowed books, reservation history, and event participation.
* **Student Project Showcase:**  
  Students will be able to upload and showcase their research projects, theses, and graduation projects to the platform.
* **Feedback & Suggestions System:**  
  A system for students and faculty to provide feedback on library resources and services, as well as suggest new books, features, or improvements.

### **6. Non-Functional Requirements**

* **Usability:**  
  The platform must be easy to use and accessible for all user types (students, faculty, and staff) with minimal training required.
* **Scalability:**  
  The platform should be scalable to handle increasing numbers of users, books, and digital resources.
* **Performance:**  
  The system should load quickly, even with heavy traffic, and respond to user requests without significant delays.
* **Security:**  
  User data, especially personal and academic information, must be securely stored and protected against unauthorized access.
* **Mobile Compatibility:**  
  The platform should be responsive and work seamlessly across different devices, including mobile phones and tablets.

### **7. Assumptions**

* **University Resource Availability:**  
  The library staff will provide access to up-to-date book catalogs, research papers, and other digital resources.
* **Internet Access:**  
  Students and faculty will have internet access to use the online platform.
* **User Adoption:**  
  Students and faculty will use the platform regularly for library-related activities.

### **8. Constraints**

* **Budget:**  
  The budget for the project may limit some advanced features or third-party integrations.
* **Timeframe:**  
  The project must be completed by [Insert Date], considering academic calendars and the university’s operational timelines.
* **Integration Limitations:**  
  Existing library software or databases may pose challenges during integration with the new platform.

### **9. Success Criteria**

* **User Adoption Rate:**  
  High levels of engagement and regular usage of the platform by students, faculty, and staff.
* **Library Efficiency:**  
  The platform streamlines the library’s operations, such as book reservations, event management, and catalog updates.
* **User Satisfaction:**  
  Positive feedback from students and faculty on the platform's functionality, ease of use, and the value it provides.
* **Operational Efficiency:**  
  Library staff can manage resources and events more effectively, leading to a better overall experience for students and staff.

### **10. Risk Management**

* **Technical Risk:**  
  Delays or issues during development or integration. Mitigation will include regular testing and milestone reviews to ensure smooth progress.
* **User Resistance:**  
  Students or faculty may be reluctant to use the new system. Training, clear communication, and incentives for early adopters will help mitigate this.
* **Data Security Concerns:**  
  Protecting user data and ensuring privacy will be a priority, with the implementation of strong encryption protocols and compliance with relevant privacy laws.

### **11. Project Timeline**

* **Phase 1: Planning & Design**
* **Phase 2: Development**
* **Phase 3: Testing & QA**
* **Phase 4: Launch & Marketing**
* **Phase 5: Post-Launch Support & Maintenance**

### **12. Budget Estimate**

* **Development Costs:** $200
* **Design & UI Costs:** $[50
* **Hosting & Domain:** $20
* **Marketing & Outreach:** $100
* **Maintenance & Updates:** $100