Format of the Final Year Project Proposal
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A. Structure of a project proposal

The structure outlined in this document is intended to be used for the programme *B.E. in Computer Engineering* and *B.E. IT Engineering*. A project proposal should have the following components and in the order listed here.

1. Title Page
2. Introduction
3. Statement of work
4. Expected outcomes
5. Evaluation plan
6. Conclusion
7. Additional Requirement
8. References

1 Title Page

Please use the sample title page provided at the end of this document as a guide. Use appropriate font sizes. Include the APPROVALS section in your title page but leave it blank. It is to be filled in by the department.

2 Introduction

You have to provide with an overview of your proposal. This usually includes the description of the application domain and the primary needs addressed by your project topic. Try to convince the reader why this project should be done and why it is interesting. A paragraph should be enough.

3 Statement of work

This is the longest section in your proposal. Here you state the work that you plan to do. Try to write in as much detail as possible. Detail means trying to give as complete a picture of the work you want to do as possible. Think of writing two or three paragraphs. Again, focus on clarity and writing concisely. Points to include are (but not limited to):

Aims and Objectives

Aims identify at the highest level what it is you hope to achieve with your project – what you intend to achieve overall. An aim is a broad statement of intent that identifies your project's purpose. Objectives, on the other hand, identify specific, measurable achievements that build towards the ultimate aim of your project. They are more precise than aims as they are 'quantitative and qualitative measures by which completion of the

project will be judged'. They represent major components of your project that direct your work activity.

Example:

Aim: "Evaluate artificial intelligence techniques for modelling weather patterns."

Objectives:

- Identify and evaluate existing weather pattern modelling techniques.
- Identify artificial intelligence approaches suitable for modelling weather patterns.
- Design and develop the artificial intelligent systems for modelling weather patterns.
- Compare and contrast the developed systems with existing approaches to modelling weather patterns.

Related Work

This section identifies other work, publications and research related to your topic. It will demonstrate that your project does not exist in an academic vacuum but relates to other research topics and fields of current interest. Related work can also help demonstrate your understanding of your topic area, showing the reader that you are aware of what is currently happening in the field.

4 Expected Outcomes

At the proposal point you most likely do not know precisely what the outcomes will be. However, you should have an expectation of what they might be. This is what many refer to as the hypothesis (what you expect to see). It is very unlikely that you would have chosen a particular work if you did not think it will produce some desired outcome. The literature you have studied and your own experience in the area can help you form the hypothesis. For example, you might expect your weather prediction system to do better than a chance system (random guess).

5 Evaluation plan

In a project you do not know the final results of your work until you actually do it. So you should have a plan for testing how close the actual results are to your expected outcomes. More objective (rather than subjective) the evaluations, the better it is. Staying with the weather example, evaluation include training of your system, the chance system and analysing the two systems. This could require you to collect data for training and testing the systems. You will also need to find an approach to compare the results.

6 Conclusion

Summarise the overall proposal here: background and motivation, the actual work that you propose to do, the results that you expect, and how you will test these results.

7 Additional Requirements

If your project requires specific hardware or other resources, you should specify the details with cost estimations.

8 References

The proposal ends with a list of references that you had cited in the body of the proposal. The sources you might have consulted to prepare the content of your proposal could include books, conference papers, unpublished papers, thesis, reports and WWW. Use the IEEE citation style for each type of sources (you can find it here: http://www.ieee.org/documents/ieeecitationref.pdf).

B. General guidelines

- The proposal should not be more than 2000 words (approx. 4 pages) in length. The student should aim for a 2-page proposal that is clear, concise and persuasive.
- Print single sided sheets only. Use 12-point Times New Roman font.
- All tables and figures should be centred. Table captions should be centred above the table.
- All figure captions must appear centred under the figure.
- Proposal should be free of typos, spelling, grammatical errors and other editing errors.
- It must contain the sections that were outlined in the Structure section.
- An abstract and a table-of-content is not necessary but the students can decide to add these if they think it helps the reader.