***Purpose:***

Understand the pros and cons of a database information system to solve an information need.

***Tasks:***

1. In section 1 you were presented with a scenario of a database implementation with Microsoft Access. Answer the following question:  
    “Did Jack handle the information needed correctly? How would you handle such a problem if you were to design a database for a University? Justify your response.”

I believe that Jack technically handled the information correctly, but it definitely could be improved. Microsoft Access will store the data, and it can become an information system by adding forms and reports, as described in the module. However, Microsoft Access is a locally hosted database, meaning that others will not be able to access the information without using his account and machine. Best case scenario, the Access file is hosted on a network drive and others will be able to access it assuming they are on the same network, but I know from personal experience that it doesn’t handle concurrent changes very well.

If I were designing a database for a University, I would create a relational database with a DBMS (assuming a large university with multiple actors needing to use the system). This is because the data related to the university will most likely be structured, which suits relational databases quite well. A relational database will also handle concurrent data manipulation and access. A DBMS will also make it easier for others to maintain the system as it grows instead of a singular person.