WEB APP PROJECT

USER MANUAL

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INTRODUCTION & AIM

Innovation is the norm when it comes to technology. Innovation has been with us from the time 'man' first created tools. When programmers think of Innovation, we think...well, programming. Which happens to be the greatest invention since the discovery of fire. Now if one is to combine fire with Programming, there can only be a single outcome. One would simply get the program I have designed specifically for our hard-working Lecturers.

The aim in creating the following program, however, is to bring innovation where it counts. It is about time such a program surfaced from the minds of NWU students.

The program helps Lecturers keep track of resources, reading material, assets, equipment, stationery, where the notes are stored and who has what. Also accommodates the fact that lecturers delegate some of the work to Assistants. The Program saves the information of the assistants and allows them to keep track of work that has been covered already. The system bridges the gap between Assistants and Lecturers for the better. The system keeps track of active users and active Assistants. The system is the ultimate assistant... or personal assistant?

Program Functionality:

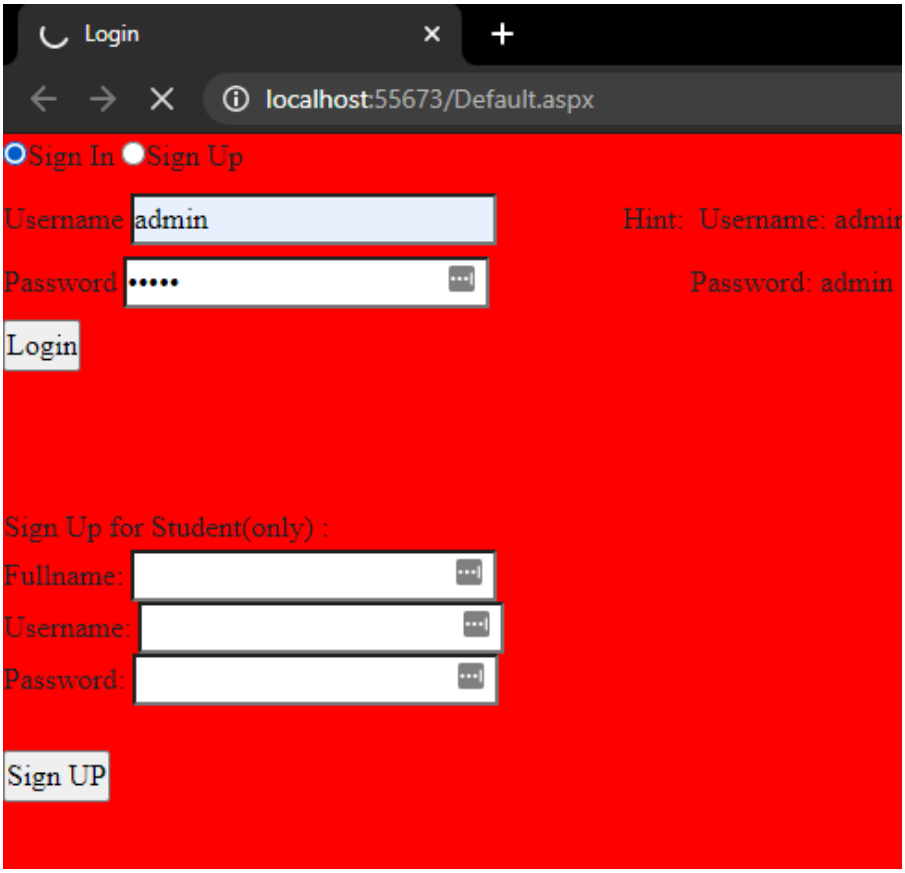
The program has an Authentication Login. This means that the program verifies the Identity of the present User who wishes to access the Application because access control is typically based on the identity of the user who requests access to a resource, authentication is essential to effective security.

To access the Web App, navigate to the Sign In:

Username: admin

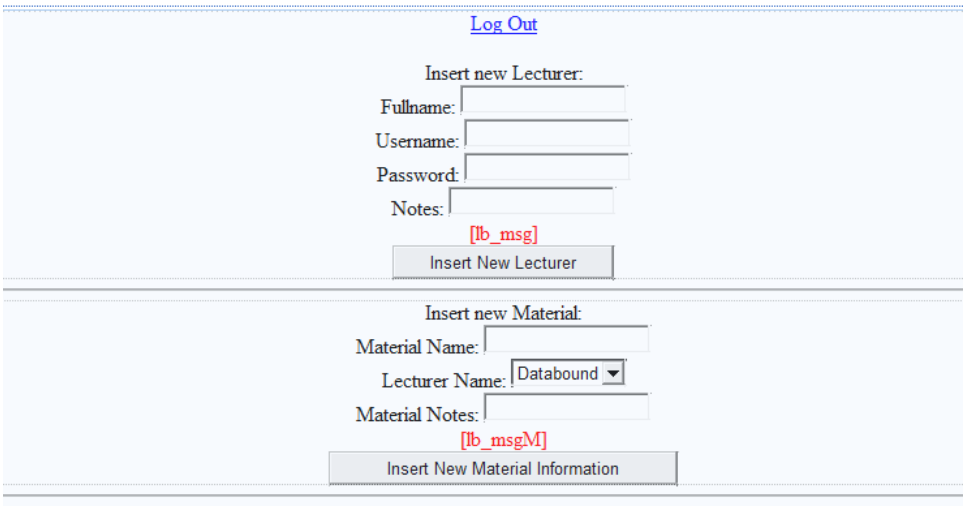
Password: ***** (admin)

The password is hidden for the convenience of the user, to avoid unwanted eyes.

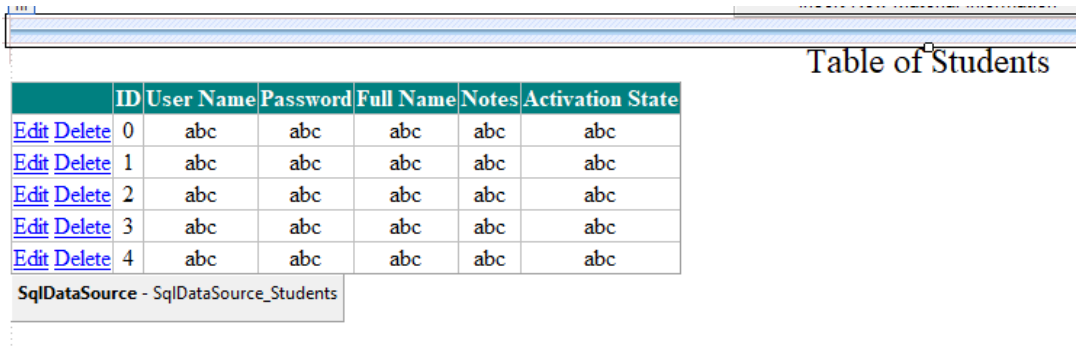


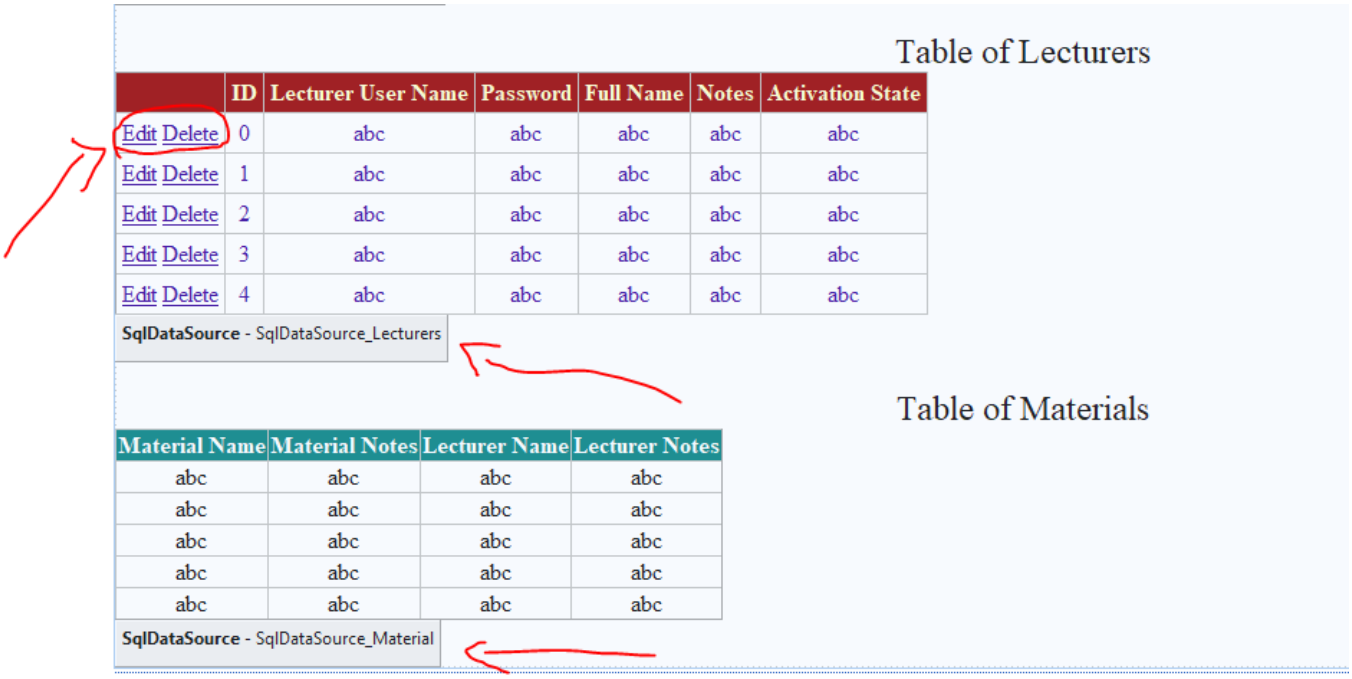
The student sign-up is meant for the assistants. I wanted into depth with it by including the Degrees form (which degree each of them does) but then again, I didn't see the point since the lecturer is well-aware of this. I should've invested my time in the CSS style Sheet because that is where the marks are.

This allows you to insert new info into the Database and has a Log Out button at the top to make it easier to see:

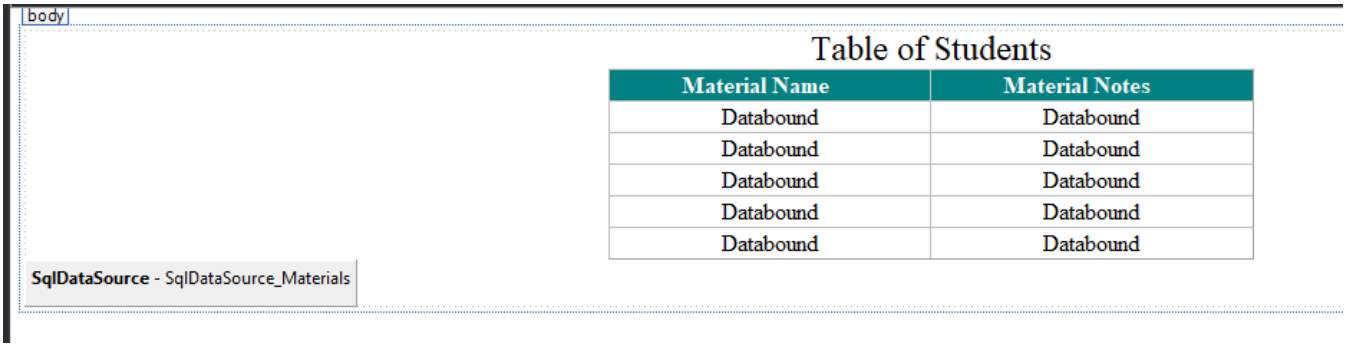


The following are all DataGrids linked to different tables in the same database, allowing the user to edit, update and delete information at will:

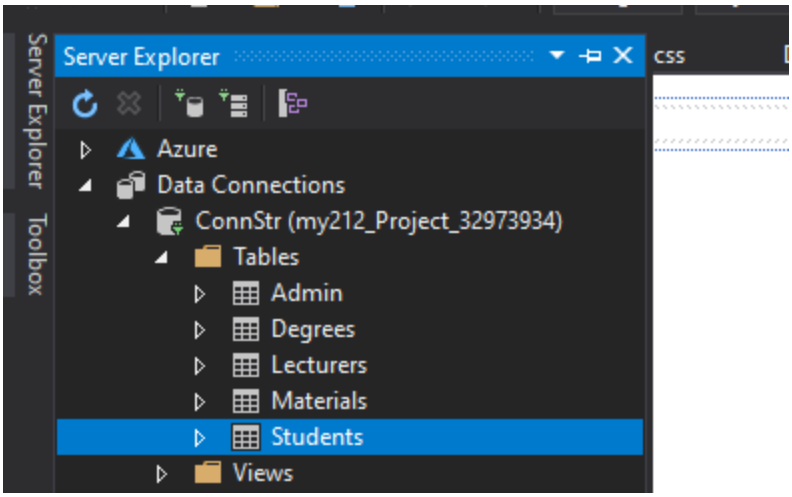




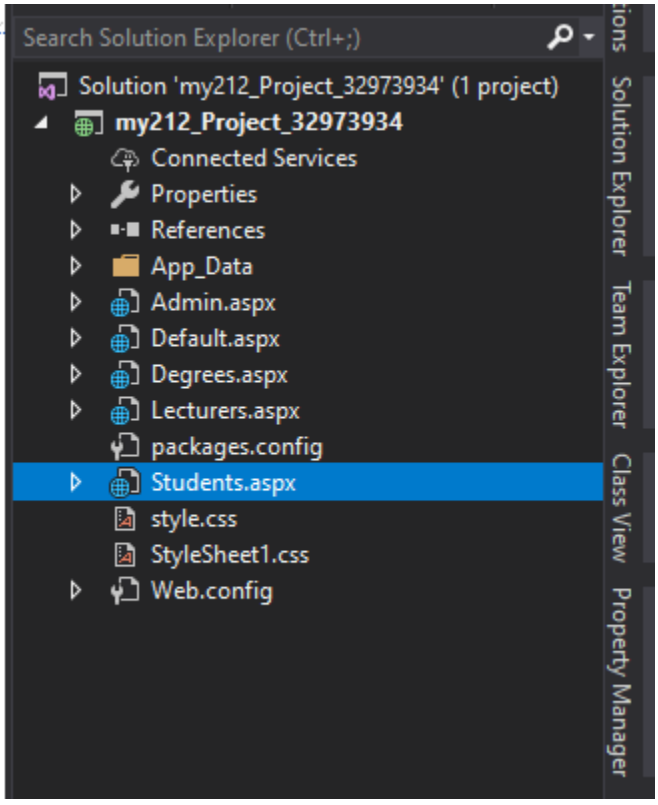
This is another form:



This is the main DataBase(connected successfully)



There are 5 Forms in this program



Reflection

I encountered various problems but strived through it all and created this program. I had problems connecting to the database and the PC speed is ridiculous.

Broadly there were 2 main issues with my SQL Server application:

Network issues – relating with the speed and capacity of the Network connectivity in association with my SQL application client to the database and troubleshooting errors i did not understand. I have tried my all means to include algorithms that are new to me and the internet played a big role.

Slow processing times – relating with the speed, efficiency and effectiveness with which requests were prepared and processed. This part of the journey was draining. I think there was a moment during this project I was so angry you'd think I hated programming, until I found that tiny little bane of my existence was just a minor syntax error.

I also experienced problems with my CSS Style Sheet. No matter how I tried to add it to my project, nothing would work. I became frustrated and saved it for the last bits of touch ups to the system. Unfortunately, I could not find the root of the problem and concluded that the PC was at fault. When I began the Style Sheet, I had a sort of mind map for the algorithms, I tried too hard, then confused myself. I eventually decided to use HTML to add some color to the Web App.

Most of my solutions came out of frustrations and the Stack Overflow community. My program may not be all that fancy, but it delivers quite well. I actually began to feel attached to it. Most of my errors were syntax errors which were not that difficult to solve, just frustrating given the PC speed.

The system may not look all that fancy but that could be an advantage on its own:

- Quick Log In
- Quick Log Out
- Simple User Interface
- Easy to use and understand
- Not too many functions, just enough. Straight to the point.
- Different tables to avoid clustered information
- Creation and use of a database(10 records, 4 and more fields)
- The database’s connectionstring path is relative.

Disadvantages

- Could not figure out Style Sheet problem
- Possible redundancies in code