STAND-ALONE STUDENT PLANNER SYSTEM

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This project is submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Bachelor of Education with Honours (Information Technology)

Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology
UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA SARAWAK
2005
DECLARATION

No portion of the work referred to in this report has been submitted in support of an application for another degree or qualification of this or any other university or institution of higher learning.

........................................

Then Nyet Kim  March 2005
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express appreciation and sincere gratitude toward the people who have spent time helping me to successfully complete the final year project.

Miss Chai Soo See, my supervisor who had given her very countless guidance in this final year project. She had been very tolerant to help in every way possible to solve the problems encountered during the development of the system and report writing without hesitancy. Without her guidance, I will not be able to complete this system on time.
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(Dennis A. and Wixom B.H., 2000)

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ABSTRACT

In this Final Year Project, the target user of Stand-alone Student Planner System will be focus on secondary school students. The programming language used for implement the Student-alone Student Planner System is Visual Basic 6.0 and Microsoft Access 2000 is used to implement the database. The implementation of Stand-alone Student Planner System is based on user’s requirements. Thus the users can easily adapt to all of the provided features that help users to manage their time and work easily and efficiently. Even though faced problem that are inevitable during implementation, the objectives of the system is achieved. Comments and recommendation is used to produce a more efficient and effectiveness Stand-alone Student Planner System.
ABSTRAK

CHAPTER 1: OVERVIEW OF PROJECT

1.1 Introduction

In the era of information technology and our nation’s smart school aspiration, the uses of computer become more important in our lives. Therefore, implementation of the computerized system namely Stand-alone Student Planner System is much needed to replace the existing paper-based system that used by students. The existing paper-based systems have some weaknesses such as the systems are not allowed alarms or reminders to be set and the records or information kept in paper is prone to misplaced. The implementation of Stand-alone Student Planner System will provide opportunity for students to keep track of their daily record more effectively. In addition, this system will facilitate students to manage their time more efficiently and be more self-disciplined.

1.2 Problem Statement

Some problems have been found with the existing paper-based system. These problems are as below:

a) Records or information kept on paper are prone to misplaced.

b) Important dates or time are easily forgotten as paper-based systems do not allow alarms or reminders to be set.

c) Updating of information is troublesome.
1.3 Scope of the project

This project focuses on the Stand-alone Student Planner System. This system is designed with a security feature by mean of user ID and password. This system allows users to record the appointments information, routine activities information, important dates and school timetable schedule. It also allows users to set reminder and display the important task information that has to be done. Users can also update the information that has been entered.

1.4 Purpose of Study

This section looks into the objectives of the implementation of the Stand-alone Student Planner System. This project focuses on five main objectives:

a) To develop a computerize system for student to do their daily planning.

b) To create the system that allows user to record the appointments information, routine activities information, important dates and school timetable schedule.

c) To create the system that allows user to view the information that has been entered.

d) To create the system that enable user to set reminder.

e) To provide an attractive organizer to entice students to persistently doing so.

1.5 Significance of Research

Student Planner System is specially designed to replace the traditional system called paper-based system. Through this system students can plan their daily activities more flexible. Hopefully this system can satisfy the students’ needs.
1.6 Methodology

Creating the system can be a complex task. It involves several distinct phases, each of which must be completed before a subsequent task can be begin. To ensure the Stand-alone application system be implemented successfully, the waterfall development methodology is used for the entire development life cycle.

1.7 Project Plan

The project development is divided into two parts. The first part of the project will take 14 weeks to complete up to system design. The next part will start at system implementation up to system testing. The project planning is to review the project goal and objectives to ensure understanding of what is to be produced.

1.8 Outline of Project Report

Chapter 1 is the introduction to the Stand-alone Student Planner System. This chapter deals mainly with the problem statements, scope of the project, purpose of study, and significance of the research.

Chapter 2 elaborates reviews of existing system as well as the existing software and technology. The chapter also compares about the functionalities of the respective reviewed systems. It will contribute in the decision making regarding the most suitable tools for the implementation of the Stand-alone Student Planner System.
Chapter 3 discusses the methodology used in implementing the system, which is the waterfall development methodology. The phases in the methodology include planning, analysis, design and implementation of the system.

Chapter 4 is the System Analysis and Design. This chapter analyzes and designs the proposed system, and its requirements which consist of the user requirements, software requirements and hardware requirements and system design, which outlines the system architecture by way of data flow diagram, ERD diagram, data dictionary, and input and output design.

Chapter 5 discusses system implementation, which include implementation hierarchy model.

Chapter 6 will provide an evaluation of the developed system. There are various topics will be discuss under this chapter including system testing, system evaluation, user acceptance test, result analysis and system limitations.

The last chapter will provides information on the achievement and suggestions for future work of the system.
2.1 Introduction

The literature review is to support and to justify studies done on material collected from sources such as books, and the internet. It consists of information on technology, the tools used, previous finding or history and other related information.

The review was conducted on existing organizer systems. These reviews will be the basis for providing better understanding about the technology and concept used to implement the system.

2.2 Review of Existing Systems

2.2.1 Student Life System

Student Life System helps users to organize everything from class schedule to social life activities. Student Life system can be used to organize or keep all the class related information such as class schedule, instructor’s name, class notes, test schedules and social activities. Users can also setup reminders for the activities. Figure 2.1 is the main page of Student Life System. Users can use both keyboard and mouse to communicate with the system. Table 2.1 is a summary of features of Student Life’s System.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Features</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Scheduler</td>
<td>▪ Keep track of class days / times.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Store instructor office hours and contact information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Organize notes for every class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework and Test Organizer</td>
<td>▪ Keep track of homework assignments and set reminders for their due dates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Keep track of test dates and set reminder for them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Activities Organizer</td>
<td>▪ Organize social activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Organizer to do list.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Keep track of job schedule</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calendar</td>
<td>▪ Weekly calendar view of activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Monthly calendar view of activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Reminder Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Manage all homework, test, social life and any other reminders.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2.1: Features of Student Life’s System

![Main page of Student Life System](http://www.downloadfreetrial.com/business/busi12105.html)
2.2.2 Acute Software Network Diary

Acute Software Electronic Diary was developed to replace the paper-based diary. User can use it to jot down notes, appointments, websites and set reminders; and it can also be retrieved instantly. The Network Daily features and benefits are illustrated in Table 2.2. The main page of Acute Software Network Diary is illustrated in Figure 2.2 and Figure 2.3 shows the interface for adding task.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Features</th>
<th>Benefits</th>
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<tr>
<td>Enter appointment with reminders</td>
<td>Never forget important date and time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add Notes, Tasks and Events quickly via the toolbar or the menus</td>
<td>No more Post-it notes laying around the desk, and it is faster than reaching for a pen and paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Meetings with Other Users</td>
<td>Plan meetings without making phone calls, and see when others are busy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2.2: Network Dairy Features and Benefits.
Figure 2.2: Main page of Acute Software Network Diary
(Source: http://www.downloadfreetrial.com/business/busi9924.html)

Figure 2.3: Interface of adding task
(Source: http://www.downloadfreetrial.com/business/busi9924.html)
2.2.3 Ajour System

Ajour is an easy-to-use personal information manager (PIM). This system can be used for keeping information such as diary, appointments, and reminders. Four languages are supported in the user interface: English, French, German, and Danish. In the package users also get a program that starts automatically when users log on/start the computer (this behavior can be turned off). It will show whatever upcoming appointments and events in the following week as well as any “tagged” to-do items that users have entered. The main page of Ajour system is shown in Figure 2.4.

![Figure 2.4: Main page of Ajour System](http://www.downloadfreetrial.com/business/bus3526.html)
2.3  Comparison of Existing System

2.3.1  Comparison of User Interface

All the reviewed System has graphical user interfaces (GUIs) with icons and menus through which a user gains access to the functions of a system. Users can use both keyboard and mouse to communicate with the system. Keyboard is mainly used for user data input, while mouse event is for the option selection. The GUIs design of Student Life System is more attractive than Acute Software Network Diary System and Ajour System. Student life system uses the meaningful icons to design the user interface. The graphics are used as visual elements in the system and enhance the interaction between users and system.

2.3.2  Comparison of Functionality

All functions of Student Life System, Micro-System Ajour and Acute Software Network Diary System are satisfactory, and perform well. However, these systems do not possess any security feature. Therefore, the privacy of users is not guaranteed as other users can directly access or entering these systems without permissions. Table 2.3 shows the comparison of functions of Student Life System, Micro-System Ajour and Acute Software Network Diary System.