

DEVELOPMENT OF UITM ARAU STUDENT FORUM USING WEB- BASED APPLICATION

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ABSTRACT - Technology changed work, entertainment, and communication. A Pew Internet poll found that most adults in 11 countries utilised at least one of seven social networking or messaging apps, with Facebook and WhatsApp being the most popular (Silver et al., 2019). This highlights how individuals communicate with technology and how important digital communication is today. A UiTM Arau student forum is proposed to let students get closer among the community when communicating with each other and share one's interests. While students interact with each other, they also can report any inappropriate behaviour of other students in the system so that admin can block them, while taking other suitable measures. Agile Methodology was employed in this project as it is better suited for projects that need to modify often since it is more flexible than other traditional approaches (Chaudari & Joshi, 2021). Then the system is evaluated using Usability and Functionality Testing by 17 respondents from UiTM Arau and the results are then used to improve the system.

Keywords: Web application, forum

1. INTRODUCTION

An online forum is a web site designed and focused to interact, by allowing participants to propose an issue for discussion and then begin posting, commenting, voting, and seeing the posts of other participants on that matter (Chiu & Hew, 2018). Some internet forums are centred on a specific topic, such as book and movie recommendations or technology discussions. The objective of this project is to develop a web application for the student forum for the UiTM Arau community and evaluate the usability and functionality of this forum. This project's main scope is that students can join any forums that suit their interests. Only administrators can create a new forum, but students can make suggestions through the web if they want a new forum category.

2. METHODOLOGY

During the requirements phase, a questionnaire was completed by 28 UiTM Arau students, asking them about their own experiences in using college chat groups. In the development phase, the code was created and edited in Visual Studio Code, and the web application was built and managed locally using Laragon. The npm modules for using Bootstrap were installed after creating a new Laravel application. PhpMyAdmin was used to manage databases for the system. In the test phase, few users evaluated the system and gave feedback so that any errors or flaws can be rectified right away.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

At the end of the project, two interfaces were successfully developed, which is admin and user interface. Admin can manage users and forum categories using the create, read, update, and delete (CRUD) system. Moreover, admin also can block certain users who display inappropriate behaviour when using the forum. While users can join any forum they want and interact with members of the forum. Based on the Usability Functionality Testing that has been made, most students mentioned that they will highly consider using the system due to its functions.

4. NOVELTY OF RESEARCH / PRODUCT

There are currently three forum categories available, which are K3 Reports and Complaints, Arau Marketplace, and Australia Info. In these forums, students can interact and see what others are thinking about. With the help of the system, students can stay aware of any issues concerning their residence. Furthermore, this system encourages those

looking for side income while attending university. Those who value time and convenience can also benefit from this system.

5. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, this project met all its objectives by developing a UiTM Arau Student Forum using Web- Based Application. A student forum will make students interact with each other more, while still staying up to date with college info.

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