

CHAPTER SEVEN

CONCLUSION

This chapter presents the findings and conclusions of the whole research work which include the result, the strengths of the Integrated Graduate Portal (IGP), limitations and future recommendations.

7.1 Introduction

The summary of the results and discussion of the important aspects related to the addressed problems in this thesis are presented. Ideas for future work and how the portal that has been developed can be improved are also discussed.

7.2 Summary of Results

The main aim of this research is to propose and develop an integrated portal which can be used to facilitate graduate marketability. The integrated portal was therefore developed and evaluated in this research.

There are three objectives to be achieved in this research. The first objective is to identify the user requirements from the stakeholders that will be incorporated into the integrated portal. This objective had been achieved through the user requirements survey which was conducted to obtain the user requirements for the graduates, employers, lecturers and administrators. At the end of the survey, the user requirements for all stakeholders have been identified in chapter 4.

The second objective is to develop an integrated portal that can be used to facilitate graduate marketability. Based on the results obtained in Chapter 4, an Integrated Graduate Portal for facilitating graduate marketability has been

successfully developed in chapter 5, where identified user requirements of all stakeholders have been incorporated into it. For example, the admin has the highest access rights in the portal as they are the manager of the system. They are also in charge of running and managing the portal, adding features and giving permissions to users.

The third objective is to evaluate the use of the IGP in facilitating graduate marketability and the IGP has been achieved in chapter 5. In order to evaluate the IGP, an evaluation survey was carried out on two groups of stakeholders that will make use of the IGP. The two groups of stakeholders are the graduates and employers. Based on the evaluation survey in chapter 6, the result showed that ninety eight percent (98%) of the graduate respondents and ninety two percent (92%) of the employer respondents are of the opinion that the Integrated Graduate Portal (IGP) can assist in facilitating graduate marketability with its integrated features.

The findings from this research showed that the integrated features in the IGP may assist in facilitating graduate marketability. These features include showcasing graduates' e-portfolios and resumes to employers, providing employers requirements for graduates, verification of graduates through the provision of reference letters for graduates by the lecturers for the employers to access, possession of employment skills by graduates, creating collaboration between the graduates, employers lecturers and administrators in the IGP via private messaging, discussion forums and online chats and rating of uploaded graduate content by lecturers.

The researcher faced some challenges in the development of a portal prototype that may facilitate graduate marketability. The strength of the portal lies in achieving the main aim targets of this research which is to develop an integrated portal that may

facilitate graduate marketability through its integrated features. One of the system limitations that have been identified by the author in this research is the limited integrated features. The author believes that more integrated features such as creation of blog by graduates or identification of other stakeholders which can be added to the developed portal to assist further in facilitating graduate marketability. In addition, the author believes if a larger sample of respondents were made use of, more user requirements can be obtained from the stakeholders of the IGP and integrated into the IGP. Nonetheless, it is hoped that this research findings may spark a further research interest in finding other necessary stakeholders and their user requirements if it is necessary that may facilitate graduate marketability.

7.3 Further Work

This research focused on how to facilitate graduate marketability through the development of an Integrated Graduate Portal (IGP). This portal may be improved on according to the areas mentioned below.

- The interface design needs to be improved to make it more attractive and improve the way contents are displayed in the portal.
- The Integrated Graduate Portal (IGP) should be linked to the other university websites to improve information sharing.
- Evaluation of the portal should be carried out on the lecturers as part of the stakeholders to find out their opinion of the portal.

7.4 Conclusion

The summary of the thesis has been presented in this chapter. In conclusion, all the objectives of this thesis have been achieved. The primary aim of this research is to develop an Integrated Graduate Portal for graduate marketability. The Integrated

Graduate Portal was developed successfully and evaluation of the IGP was carried out on two out of the four groups of stakeholders successfully.

