Online Class Alert System (OCAS)

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ABSTRACT

Mobile technologies are rapidly growing, and they play an important role in the management of relations between people in social, economic, education, and everyday life. The study aims to improve communication method between lecturer and students by designing a web-based system to help lecturer and students to get news about the new events. Charging scheme for SMS is out of the study scope. The study aims to provide an effective utilization of WEB technology for easing and improving process of communication and alerting between the lecture and students. The prototype of Online Class Alert System (OCAS) is introduced to be used by lecturers at UUM. The system covers two main functions: First function is to review classes and groups of the lecturer, and second is to send SMS to students. The General Methodology of Design Research is adopted to achieve the research objectives. Results of user evaluation on the MBTS indicate that it has good usability in terms of Usefulness, Ease of Use and Outcome and Future Use. An independent samples t-test was conducted to compare the Usefulness, Outcome and Future Use and Ease of Use for participants who send SMS hourly and daily. The t-test results indicate that there is no statistically significant different in the mean Usefulness, Outcome, or Future Use, and Ease of Use on two groups of participant who send SMS or Email, hourly and daily.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1   Background

Throughout history, people need to communicate and interact; and during the past decade every area of education has been affected by the introduction and use of technology. Moreover, mobile technologies are rapidly growing, and they have played an important role in the management of relations between people in social, economic and everyday life (Goh, Kim, Lavanya, Kim, & Soh, 2006). It is undeniable that many benefits can be realized through exploitation of the new and distributed technologies such as greater independence, self-confidence, ease-of-living, quality and equality of life. With the rapid growth of the means of communication, the learning and education has adopted such technology. However, in order to develop technology to the levels whereby these benefits can be realized by the users in-the-large, there are a number of issues which must be considered in addition to the already complex development and intensive processing requirements of digital distributed systems (McCrindle, 1999).

A survey conducted by Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) in 2007 investigated users internet access using hand phones in Malaysia found that for the Internet 13.7% of users accessed the internet through their hand phones. Moreover, the survey found that Malaysia has 51.98% Internet user in 2007, while

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