

DESIGN AND MANAGEMENT OF ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS' INFORMATION SYSTEMS

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Abstract

In the last two decades, for almost all types of organizations, information systems have turned into the most critical part of every significant constitution. Information systems support nearly all activities in business, transportation, health, army and in every other major sector of modern life. The same happens in academic institutions. In this case there are some peculiarities regarding the implementation and use of the information systems.

Academic institutions are large organizations characterized by diversity of form. There are many ordinary administrative and managerial issues that have to be supported.

Apart from that, research, which is the main assignment of the institution, has its own demanding needs. The information system has to offer the infrastructure needed by scientists in order to conduct their research.

Also there must be an authentication system which will be able to cope with a large number of users, who are separated into many groups with different needs and rights. Usually the institutions rely on heterogeneous resources in terms of hardware and software, a fact that hinders the administration and the support of the whole system.

In this paper we will examine the design and management of academic institutions' information systems keeping in mind all the above.