



STUDENTS' FINAL YEAR PROJECTS RECORD MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

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Abstract: Computer has attributed to a sequence of growth and advancement of human endeavors over the years. Education in Nigeria can be progressed even further by computer into the monitoring of final-year student projects. Final year student projects are often handled in a manual system in higher education institutions, which means it been kept inside a cabinet inside an office. The manual system will waste time and impede project work because the student carrying out the project work is unable to keep the lecturer up to date on the project's progress. Duplication of previously completed final year project is also a problem due to the lack of a content management system or archive Through manual records system provides accountability, It has its inherent challenges with difficulty of access and it is impossible to swiftly share between different office and maintain for a very long time without destruction of the record of the final year project. In this research, A students final year projects record management system software was developed to monitor and store projects that had been implemented before to enable supervisors detect repetitive projects and guide the student to have access to previously completed final year project so as to guide them during their own and to reduce the stress of storing, retrieving and searching of Students final year projects. The system was developed using Visual Basic.Net as the front-end while MS-Access was used as the back end.

Keywords: Project, Information, Records, Students, Supervisor

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Over the years, education had experienced growth and advancement through to Information Technology ([11]). Record means any document or other source of information compiled or stored in written form or by electronic process, or in any other manner or by any other means ([13]). Record keeping is the process of collecting, inputting, storing, classifying, summarizing and interpreting record. In most of the courses in higher institution undergraduate programmes. It is a must that each student are expected to complete and develop a project in their final year of course of studies. That is the reason why it is known as final year project according to ([1]).

A final year project is a specific task often engaged in by students as a means of applying the acquired knowledge gained in their course of study to achieve a set of objectives. The final year project record is the process of collecting and storing the project done by different student over the years. It is a common existence in higher institutions of learning that final year students' projects are often managed in paper and pen system and it been stored in a cabinet in offices. It requires a lot of paperwork and could sometimes be huge and tiring task for the personnel in charge.

Due to unavailability of a content management system or repository, duplicity of previously carried out final year project is experienced. ([1]) Over the time, it has been showed that students are becoming very lazy and no originality in projects carried out to qualify them for the degree awarded. Student are allocated to different supervisors, a project carried out by a student in a particular year with certain supervisor could be picked up by another student in another year and replicated to another supervisor within the same department without the supervisor's knowledge. The reason for these is often characterized with a manual process which involve a paper-pen method of keeping past projects. There is the need to design and develop a user-easily accessible and robust system for the lecturer to have access to the previously carried out final year projects (basically for each departments) to ameliorate this problem and for the students to have access to soft copies of previously carried out final year projects, so that to guide them through their own projects. This project will reduce repetition of projects carried out by students; encourage ingenuity from students since they are aware that all supervisors have access to all existing projects and it will also reduce the stress of storing, retrieving and searching for Students final year projects.

The department of Computer Science, Federal Polytechnic, Ile oluji is used as a prototype for this study. The application developed VisualBasic.net as the front-end and Microsoft Access as the back end.

2.0 RELATED STUDIES

([6]) develop a system in facilitating the management of Final year project. While, their focus was to higher connect students with potential supervisors before the project allocation starts. Their system additionally enclosed tools for assessment submission and assortment that square measure traditional functions in a very CMS.

([3]) had reported their expertise in developing associated victimization a Final year project management system at Universiti Kebangsaan Malaya. Their system consists of 3 major modules as well as user profile, project observation and appointment setting modules.

([10]) may be a project management system that is developed within the University of Urban Center, Department of Engineering. The system will show project data, news, schedules and project allocation. Within the main page of this technique, it includes functions like blogs, calendar and forms downloading. Also, there's an inventory of students and connected data, yet as some advanced functions like providing a virtual machine for college students as servers for his or her Final year project.

A study by ([5]) developed a Final Year Project Management System for Information Technology programmes and tried to implement an internet platform that facilitates the final year projects method. Project supervisors will also be able to employ the system for keep tracking the progress of the projects with the use of the project management tools, and online chat function.

([1]) within their work "Design and Development of a University Portal for the Management of Final year undergraduate Projects" designed a portal-based system used for the automation of the processes related to the management of final year project in the Department of Electrical and Information Engineering, Covenant University, Nigeria. The processes begin from the allocation of project supervisors to students right down to the ultimate clearance of the students to the project defense. ASP.NET was accustomed produce the online server, C-sharp language (C#), Microsoft SQL server 2005

According to ([2]) there's the requirement to drill analysis skills into students by introducing research components within the college teaching syllabus in the slightest degree levels. The study developed a prototype web-based supervision management system. The model of their work consists of 3 modules, particularly user profile, project observation (of computer code development and report writing) and appointment setting.

([14]) administer an applied math analysis on 'Student Project Performance Management System for Effective Final Year and Dissertation Projects Supervision. The study was tailored towards integrated and cooperative on-line management system for final year and thesis comes. He projected associate degree e-supervision system underneath development that may federate the communication and also the method among all concerned parties in final year project management system.

3.0 SYSTEM DESIGN

1. A desktop application means any software that can be installed on a single computer (laptop or a desktop) and used to perform specific tasks. Some desktop applications can also be used by multiple users in a networked environment. Is created with Visualbasic.net and Microsoft Access, VisualBasic.Net enables developers to target Windows, Web, and mobile devices. As with all languages targeting the Microsoft .NET Framework, programs written in Visual Basic benefit from security and language interoperability.

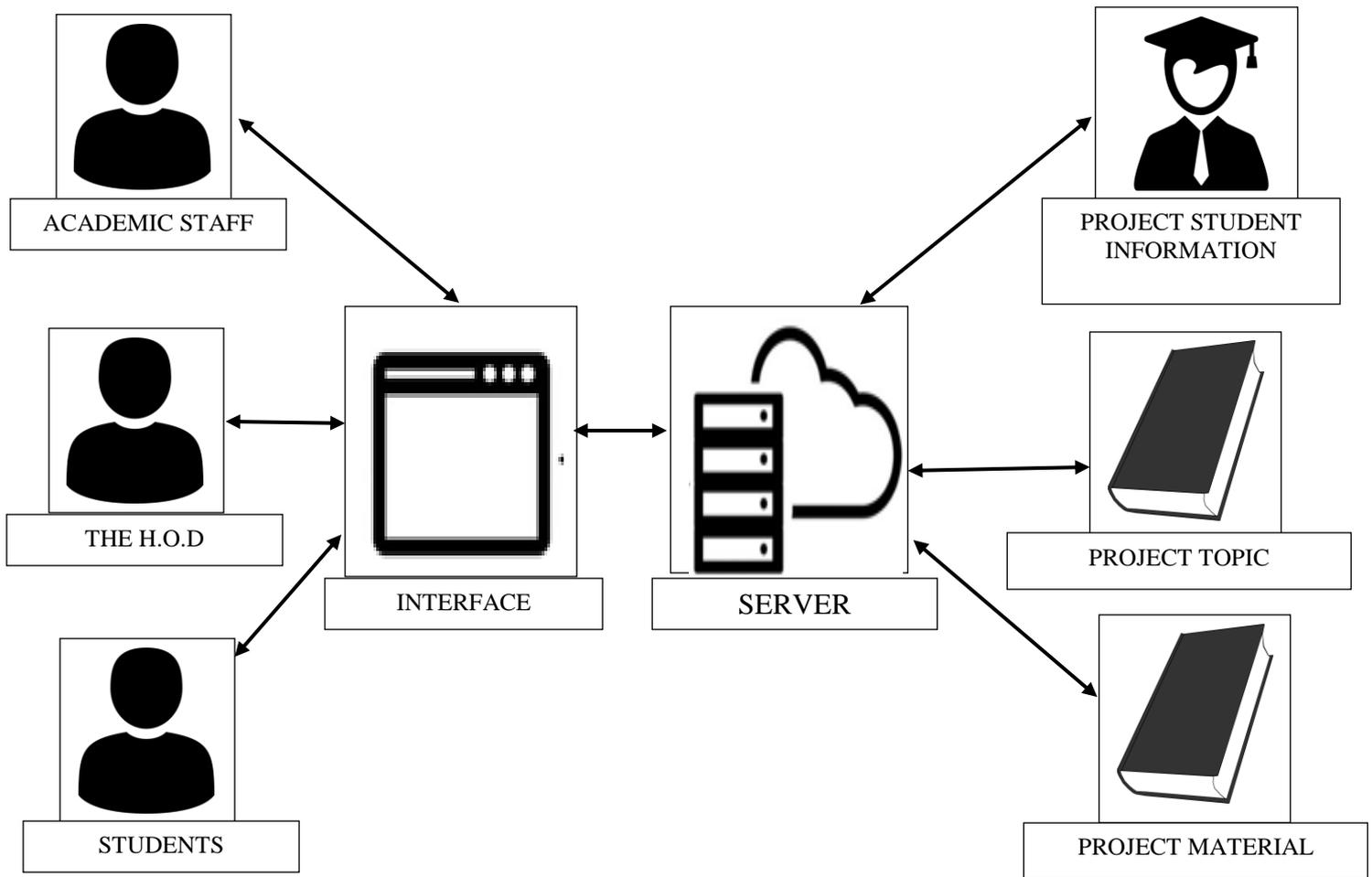


Figure 3.1 Architecture of Students final year projects record management system

In the system architecture, the admin will add students, projects, admin, categories, and subcategories. The admin can also manage students, projects, admin, categories and subcategories. After that, the students will login and will be able to view pools of projects, search projects and also download.

The system database was designed with Microsoft Access database. Microsoft Access Database, is a relational database management. It is easy to add, remove, edit, backup and view the databases using this and it is especially useful when trouble shooting the databases. Microsoft Access (Back-End software) provides the database for this hardware requirement for the students final year projects record management system. The database is responsible students final year projects record management system for keeping the record of students, lecturers and the projects uploaded. The choice of MS-Access as the back-end software is because it is a Relational database system which can be downloaded and used by the developer for free. It occupies very less disk space and can easily be installed in all major operating systems like Microsoft windows, UNIX and LINUX. It is secure as it includes solid data security layers that protect sensitive data from intruders. It is also scalable and can handle almost any amount of data.

4.0 RESULTS

The basic function of the developed application include user management which include registration of students, Admin and lecturers respectively, uploading completed students project, downloading existing student project. The Figures 1 to 8 shows the implementations. The main database of the system consists of Student data, Admin

data and projects available. As student login to upload, view or download projects, they enter their data for identification (login if already registered or register as a new user), which is authenticated by the system to ascertain the users' eligibility. The design of the Students final year projects record management system was developed with the use of VisualBasic.net for the programming, Microsoft Access as database for dynamism, Implemented on the Federal Polytechnic Ile Oluji, Department of Computer Science Laboratory.

4.1 There are two interface implementation

These are:

- i. Admin interface implementation
- ii. User interface implementation

i. Admin interface implementation



Figure 1 : The Homepage

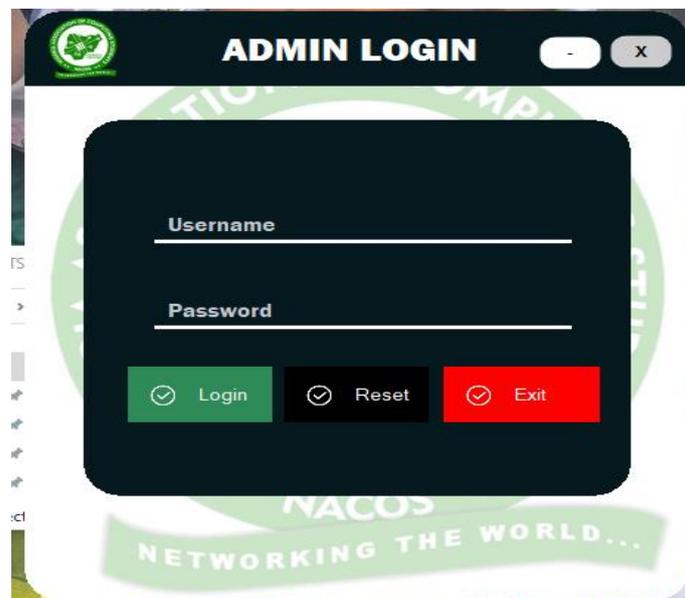


Figure 2 : The Admin Login Form

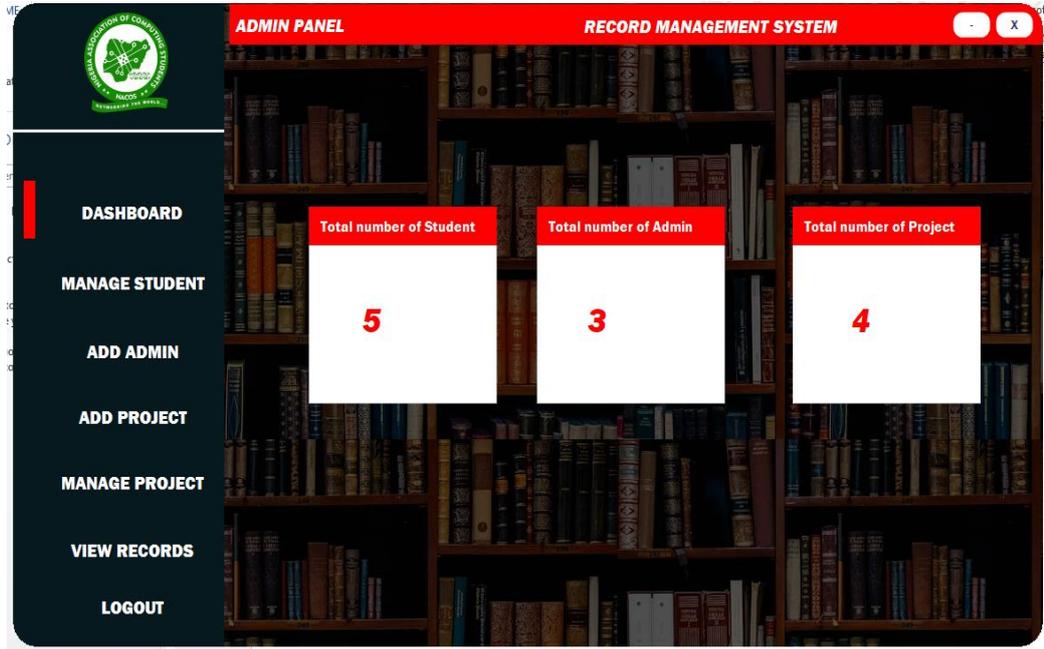


Figure 3: The Admin Dashboard

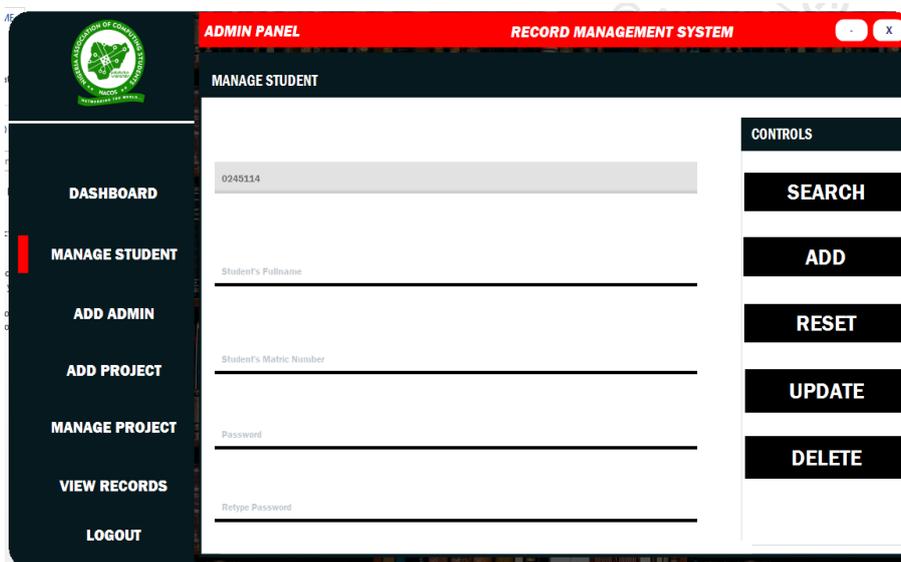


Figure 4: Add Student Interface

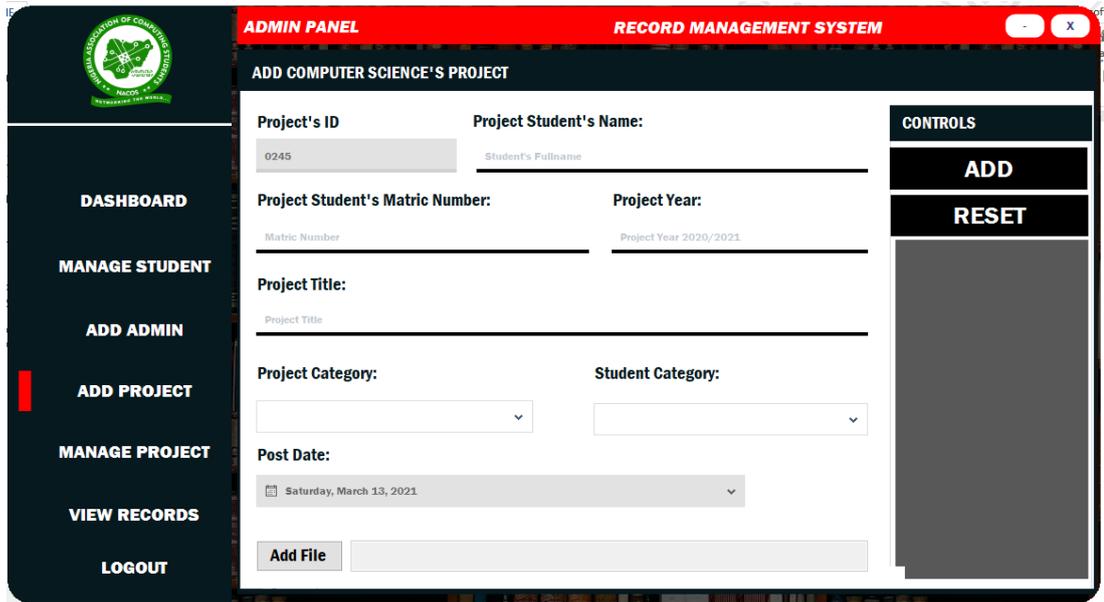


Figure 5: Add Project Interface

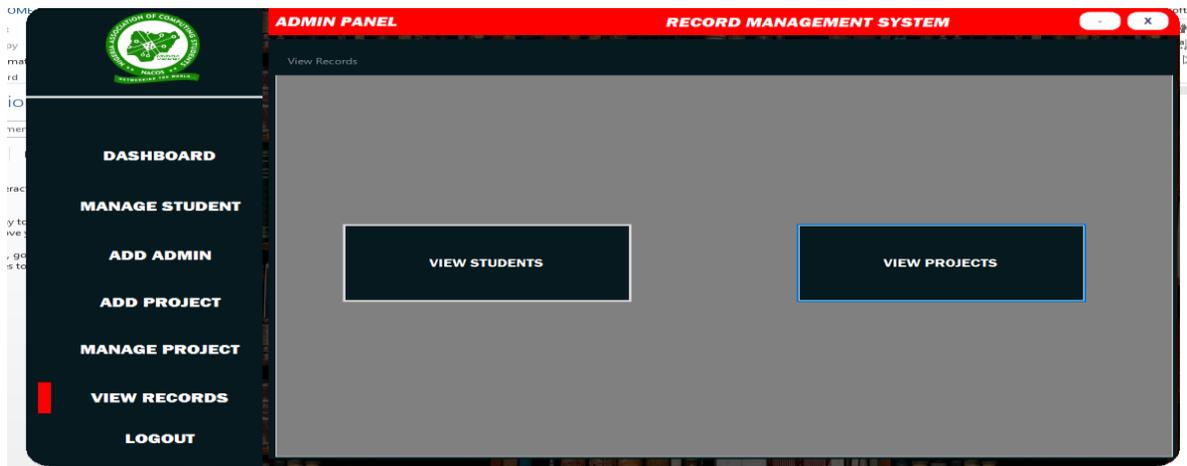


Figure 6 : View Records Interface

ii. User Interface Implementation

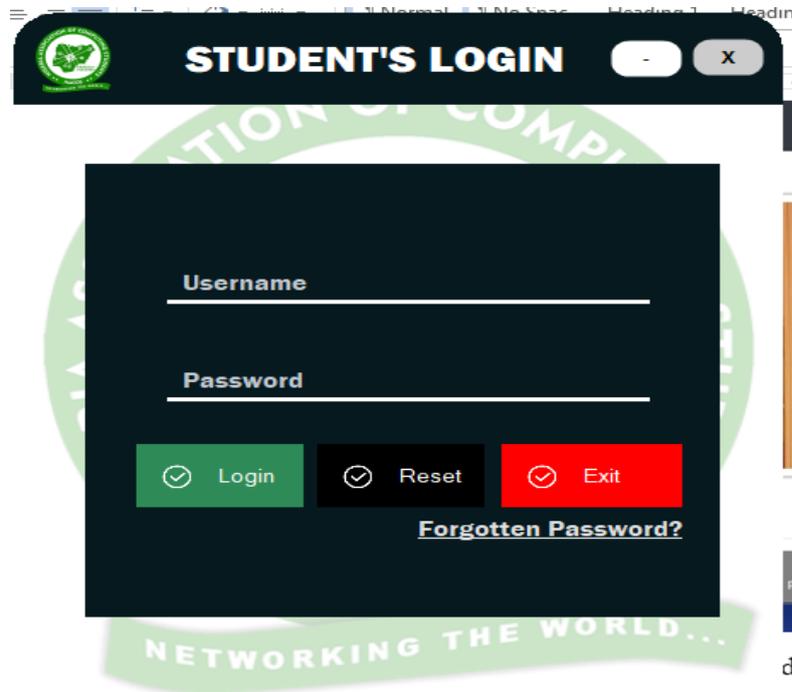


Figure 7: The Student Login Form

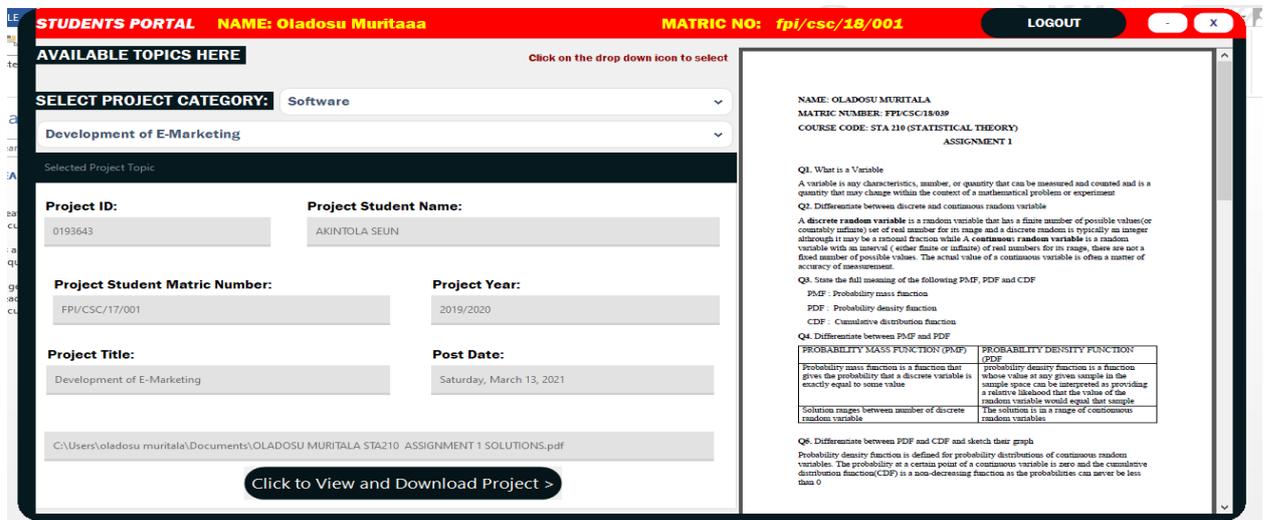


Figure 8: The Student Dashboard

5.0 CONCLUSION

Manual method of keeping student final year project is challenging and time consuming. The Software allows lecturers to have access to existing projects, download projects and project topics to guide the students in choosing the right project topics to bring out great contribution that will add to their knowledge. Also, students will also have access to some project topics and project write-ups to guide them in picking their own topic and guide them towards successfully completing of their own project. Finally the department at the end of the day will have records of past projects that will be easy for them to search and get any information on the past project.

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