BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER ENGINEERING

FINAL YEAR PROJECT REPORT TITLE: SMART MOBILE EXAMINATION PERMIT SYSTEM CASE STUDY-BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY

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A Final Year Project Report Submitted to the Department of Computer Engineering in Partial Fulfillment for the Award of Bachelor of Computer Engineering Degree

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1.2.1.2.3.1

DECLARATION

I **KISAKYE KENNETH**, do hereby declare that this project report is my original work and has never been published and/or submitted for any other degree award to any other university or institution of higher learning.

Kisakye Kenneth

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APPROVAL

This is to certify that the project report under the title "smart mobile examination permit system"

has been done under my supervision and is now ready for examination.

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MS. ASINGWIRE BARBARA KABWIGA

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My Supervisor, Ms. Asingwire Barbara Kabwiga who has continuously guided me throughout this project. My parents for the continued provision, support and encouragement. All my friends who believed in me and continually encouraged me. The almighty God who has made a way when things seemed hard and for providing me with the right people and information even during research.

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ABSTRACT

The education landscape is changing, higher education is being reshaped by globalization and the digital revolution. There are growing pressures related to declining sources of income and rising costs. Student enrollment to higher institutions of learning has increased, however university face a challenge of service delivery to search large numbers. Students are issued with various permits like examination cards, to authenticate them to seat for their semester examination, despite improvements in the systems used, there challenges like fraud, impersonation and high operational costs directed towards these permits.

Higher institutions of learning need to invest in digital systems that makes use of current available technologies to help in saving expenditures on stationery like paper and associated costs and verify students who access exam rooms.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

| AR | Academic Registrar |
|-------|--|
| CLF | Contactless Front End |
| ID | Identification |
| ISO | International Organization for Standardization |
| IT | Information Technology |
| Kbps | Kilobytes per second |
| LAN | Local Area Network |
| NFC | Near Field Communication |
| QR | Quick Response |
| RFID | Radio Frequency Identification |
| Wi-Fi | Wireless Fidelity |
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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The education landscape is changing, higher education is being reshaped by globalization and the digital revolution. There are growing pressures related to declining sources of income and rising costs. There is heightened competition for share of the global student market. Institutions are seeing a lasting effect from the global financial crisis impacting both enrolment numbers and philanthropy, and students have increasing demands and expectations of their educational experience [1].

The Ugandan higher education sub-sector has continued to expand in terms of students enrolment and the number of institutions. These increases, however, have occurred in the face of declining or stagnant unit cost funding for education facilities, infrastructure and academic staff [2]. The state and other stakeholders must address the problem of the funding of tertiary education before standards are compromised [2]. With these ever increasing numbers, the universities face a big challenge of providing quick and quality services like admissions, registration and examination permit issuance to these large numbers in less time and at low operational costs. Students are looking for access to services and education across new technologies and more flexible delivery options. In order to be competitive and to meet these expectations, universities will need to invest in expensive facilities and infrastructure. Some education institutions have developed applications like online registration systems and online examination result display systems. Online registration system provides services for new admission intakes and registration for continuing students so as to limit the operational costs involved, time in queues to acquire forms and permits. However, these institutions have not yet done enough to curb the issue of paper examination permits yet they have shortcoming to the universities. For years, a well-organized racket of fraudsters, working through a network of brokers, have been forging the permits for students. The scam has been causing financial loss to the university [Makerere University] by enabling students to sit for examinations for several semesters without paying tuition [3]. Therefore, this issue of paper permits needs to be tackled since other institutions are likely to suffer the same effect.

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