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Forum Website

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I. INTRODUCTION

This “forum website” is aimed at developing online form for the group discussion. This is a web-based application to manage group discussion forum. Whenever a question is asked by the end-user to get information, it is received by the administrator. Any user can post the doubts topics and can reply for the other user doubts.

There is a centralized database in which all the information is managed. The user can invite others for Discussion and submit query. The administrator has the rights to update the database. This is useful for a small office, school or a department or for that matter any group who is interested to organize it effectively.

There are also connected user who acts as an intermediate user who can also answer the questions of the end-user if they know it. Facility to share the resource and post articles that can be viewed by registered user.

Whenever the new information is arrived it is updated by the end-user. “Forum website” is the place where persons after creating their account can share their ideas and make discussions on various topics.

It’s a technical discussion form, where users will able to enter questions and get answers on various technical and other topics. For example, the topic can be related to PHP, java, python, html, etc.

II. LITERATURESURVEY

Communication and participation are two crucial determinants in the quality of teaching and learning (Durairaj & Umar, 2015). One of the drivers in the increasing utilisation of the internet for teaching and learning is the way text communications enable people to interact more deeply with live information (Kent, M 2013).

Online education thus widens the ways in which adaptable, suitable and collaborative instructional techniques make it possible to share ideas, make inquiries and present individual discoveries as they happen, and at the convenience of the students (Taye, 2014).

One element in computer-mediated communication has been the evolution of the online discussion forum, which is a web-based application widely used to bring together people with a shared interest, making it a useful tool for facilitating communication in large student classes (Biriya & Emmah, 2014).

The benefit it provides is effective consultation and collaboration between instructors and students, and among the students themselves (Biriya & Emmah, 2014; Haris, Mahmud & Wong, 2014).

Online discussion forums enable asynchronous communication that supports social interaction and teamwork without confining learners to set communication times in the way that online chats do (Alzahrani, 2017). The fact that students can participate in the forum whenever it suits them is a strong drawcard for those who think of signing up for an online module (DeNoyelles, Zydne & Chen, 2014).

Haris et al. (2014:98) define asynchronous online communication as “a text-based human-to-human communication via computer networks that provides a platform for the participants to interact with one another to exchange ideas, insights and personal experiences.” According to Dexter and Tucker (2009) case methods of teaching have long been used as the signature pedagogy in business schools. Nowadays, these instructional methods have been extended to also include the field of education. Faculties that offer business and/or marketing education modules are undoubtedly most likely to combine research, group work and discussion-based knowledge acquisition and online activities in their courses (Fletcher, 2013).

Alzahrani (2017) suggests that the online discussion forum encourages students to work together and share learning experiences as they learn from each other through social interaction in the forum. Maboe (2016) cites a case in which students who had problems directing questions to the lecturer instead published their questions in a forum where they were able to help one another.

This confirms how the asynchronous online discussion forum inspires students to engage in discussions on course content and gives students a chance to share, question and construct knowledge through interactive communication and varied understandings (Redmond et al., 2014). Oztok, Zingaro, Brett and Hewitt (2013) argue that asynchronous communication enhances cohesion and structure when used in online discussion learning domains centred on course content

III. ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES

A. Advantages

- 1) *Content:* Google (and other decent search engines) love content, so having a forum with lots of people all contributing and adding new posts and replies can generate enough content to really push your site forward
- 2) *Visitor Retention:* A forum gives visitors, clients and potential customers a reason to return to your site, especially if they need help or advice on a certain subject.
- 3) *Commercial Opportunities:* The more people you have on your site, the more money you can make, so by having more people and more returning visitors using your site, you immediately increase the chance of making a decent income from your site.

B. Disadvantages

- 1) *Moderation:* Whenever you open up a public forum then you are going to have to think about moderation, because not everyone will be as well behaved as you are! From petty arguments right the way through to dodgy posts and naughty items, you need to make sure that you are on top of the forum or have people doing this for you, which will of course take either a lot of your time or will mean you have to put trust into often non paid members to do it for you.
- 2) *Spam:* Like the majority of things on the World Wide Web, a forum is just an open target for any spammer because if your forum gets big then it could have some weight in Google.
- 3) *Security Vulnerabilities:* Because the majority of forums will be an addition to your site, you need to make sure that you regularly update the software that runs them else you could be opening yourself up to some massive security issues

IV. CONCLUSION

This “forum website” is aimed at developing online form for the group discussion. This is a web-based application to manage group discussion forum. Whenever a question is asked by the end-user to get information, it is received by the administrator.

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