MAKERERE UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF COMPUTING AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

THE PAN AFRICAN E-LEARNING PROJECT

Introduction

The Government of the Republic of Uganda and the Government of India signed a Memorandum of Understanding to implement the Pan-African e-network Project. Under this project, universities in India deliver courses leading to the award of different Degrees and Diplomas to some selected countries from the African Union using e-learning technology and video conferencing facilities. Makerere University, Faculty of Computing and Informatics Technology (CIT) was selected by the government of Uganda as the National e-learning centre and by the Government of India as the Regional centre to host the students on courses under this project.

An e-learning centre and a well equipped video conferencing laboratory were set up at CIT, Makerere University to support the students on the courses under this project.

A memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Amity University, India and Makerere University, Uganda was signed on the 16th July 2009. Under this memorandum, Amity University would among other obligations offer all the Academic Programmes while Makerere University would advertise the programmes, recruit the students and offer learning support to the recruited students.

Amity University, Uttar Pradesh (AUUP), India is a private University established under State Legislature. It is the largest private university in India and southern Asia offering a wide range of courses through E-learning.

Courses Offered

The following courses were agreed upon to be delivered by Amity University and they were advertised in the newspapers in the last week of July 2009.

Course	Admission requirements	Duration
MBA in International Business	A good bachelor's degree in any discipline.	2 Years
Master's in Financial Control	A good bachelor's degree in any discipline	2 Years
Post graduate Diploma in Information Technology	A bachelor's degree in any discipline	1 Year
Bachelor of Science in Information Technology	Two principle passes at A'level and good credit passes in English and Mathematics at O'level.	3 Years
Diploma in Information Technology	Two principle passes at A'level and good credit passes in English and Mathematics at O'level	6 months

The response to the advertisement and the applicants that were admitted and the current attendance status is summarized below.

	BSC IT	Dip IT	PGD IT	MFC	MBA IB	Totals
Total Applications Received	142	29	33	31	92	**327**
Total Admitted	112	16	28	31	90	**277**
Picked Admission letters	108	16	27	31	88	**270**
Withdrew after admission	9	4	3	3	10	**29**
Regular attendance	99	12	24	28	78	**241**

The lectures

Live lectures started to be delivered on 14th September 2009. During these lectures the students get to see the lecturer on the screen in front of the classroom and the lecturer sees all the students through an overhead camera. There is therefore full interaction between the lecturer and the students.

Students also interact with other students in the other countries which are also offering similar courses since they all attend the same lecture at the same time.

Every lecture is backed up and students can re-play any lecture at their own pace from any place so long as they have good internet connections. All the course contents and power point slides are also provided to the students in their portals.

The students undertook their first semester exams from 24th February 2010 and they ran smoothly until the 5th March 2010. Currently all the students have got their first semester results and the second semester is running until late June 2010 when the students will sit the end of second semester examinations. Students who were enrolled for the Diploma in IT course have completed their course and they are waiting for their certificates.

Next intake

A new round of intake is expected in August 2010 and enrolment of the potential students will end in mid July 2010. We will admit new students on all the courses that are currently running; in addition we also expect to take on two new course; a Bachelor's degree course in Finance and Investment Analysis to be provided by Amity University and a Master's degree course in Business Administration majoring in Human Resource and Marketing which will be provided by the Indira Ghandi National Open University (IGNOU).

Compiled by:

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