

Academic Information System based on Schooltool

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1 Overview

We introduce an academic information system(AIS) this year. It is basically the open source tool, called *Schooltool*, a Python Zope based web application that is hosted on one of our servers. The objectives in implementing the new system are

- to automate the academic process by replacing the paper based attendance journals and the gradebooks with the web based system.
- to enable easy access to academic information by students, parents and instructors
- to enable easy scheduling the academic activities within the time limits
- To achieve transparency in the academic process.

2 Access Control

You can access this server from the [Academics](#) link on the left pane of the website www.ceknpy.ac.in. Each student and faculty are assigned with a unique user name and password with which the user can access his/her page. The parents will soon be supplied with the log in name and password.

3 Features of AIS

The salient features of the AIS are

- Attendance journal
- Simple Grade book
- CanDo grade book (for outcome based evaluation)
- Calendar

3.1 Attendance Journal

It has been observed that the existent manual journalling of attendance has many lapses, especially in compiling. Also it lacks transparency when students and parents are concerned. In the web based system, each faculty sees his/her students in the respective time slots and marks the absence. This is visible to both the student and the parent. When the student/parent logs in, click on the tab **Journal** at the top menu bar, he/she can see in which hours he/she has been absent. Parents and students should take care that the student attends sufficient number of classes. The faculty members can evaluate the participation of each student in the class on a daily basis and the student/parent can appreciate it daily.

3.2 Gradebook

The branch you study is termed **Course** and the paper you study is called **section** by the AIS. For example, Electronics and communication is a **Course** and the subject EC 1506 Digital Signal Processing is a **section**.

The faculty in charge of each section has a gradebook associated with it. The gradebook can be divided into many **Worksheets** for different causes. For example, a teacher may keep one worksheet for the student participation in class, one for the examinations, one for assignments etc.

The instruction for a paper are to be split into many **Activities** by the teacher. All teachers are instructed to prepare a course plan that divides the whole syllabus into 45–50 hours and to highlight the objectives, content and the outcomes of every lecture. *If any of these course plans are missing in any paper, students may contact their advisors. If it is still unrectified, please feel free to contact the Principal's office.* The other activities include, series test, quizzes, assignment etc. If any faculty or student wishes to add any new gradable academic activity, please feel free to contact the Principal's office.

The parents can appreciate the academic activities and the grades their wards are awarded, on a daily basis. This will make the system very transparent and avoids confusions or misgivings about the internal assessment.

3.3 Calendar

The user can see his/her calendar with the events highlighted. Each hour you spend in the institution can be scheduled for effective time management.

4 Expected Outcomes

- Greater transparency and fast access to information
- Greater participation of students in classes
- Streamlining of content delivery