Research Article

An Online Alumni Tracer System for the Graduates of Cavite State University

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ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
	Technology implementation can be seen in a variety of professional disciplines, industries, and even the average home. Different sorts of technology are now being used to improve efficiency, increase output, and bring answers to present concerns and problems. Graduates is one of the important supports in the development of a university. Graduates have a role to assist universities in developing the university into the community through collaboration in academic terms. Employability of graduates is one of the indicators being assessed by Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) to find out whether the quality of education they provide is suitable to the needs of the industry. The researchers developed an Online Alumni Tracer System for the Graduates of Cavite State University Imus Campus to allow the university to trace the CvSU-Imus alumni employment status, work alignment, and job whereabouts. The web-based application system can be used as a tool in finding out important information about them and it aims to track the professional development of graduates with regards to the relevance of their skills and training acquired from the university. The information in return can help the administration determine the improvement that they need to do with the existing curriculum. It can also generate comprehensive reports which are necessary for planning, program implementation and any decision-making purposes. The Agile Methodology was adopted by the researchers during the system development of the Alumni Tracing system. The software used for developing a system are PHP, CSS, Javasript and MYSQL as a database. The evaluation of the CvSU-Imus campus Alumni Tracing system revealed that the developed system met its requirements by utilizing a modern method of recording information and reports generation. **Keywords:** Alumni, Graduates , System, Tracer

INTRODUCTION

According to Nelson Mandela, "Education is the most important weapon to change the world". Education plays an important role in the development of an individual and making him a knowledgeable citizen. Education improves a person's ability to use technology. It enables us to understand and improve the working of the society and creates conditions for a better life.

The Cavite State University Imus Campus has been producing professionals that graduated from different courses. These professionals are ready to compete for a job and career. Some of them are employed in jobs which fit their fields of expertise; others are not related to their areas. The number of graduates produced by the university is one of the factors of difficulty in tracing graduates and their careers. This is the reason why an Online Alumni Tracer System was conceptualized.

One of the factors that determine the effectiveness of an academic institution is through the employability of its graduates. The quality of graduates is very much a function of quality instruction and facilities because these will help ensure that graduates are equipped with the knowledge, skills and values that will enable them to work in their respective field. In an increasingly globalized world, there is a growing pressure for fresh graduates to compete for jobs which are not growing at the same pace as the growth in the population of young people seeking gainful employment.

For numerous reasons, alumni connections are a crucial component of a school's advancement efforts. The most devoted supporters of an institution are its alumni. Graduates are generally in a position to utilize the institution's

knowledge and expertise in their professional careers. Alumni serve as the school's representatives abroad. By keeping in touch with your alumni, you can ensure that the words they spread about your school are both positive and up-to-date

The Commission on Higher Education is now requiring the Institution to submit the information of the graduates together with their job status. The purpose of this report is to be able to determine if the graduates have landed a job that is in line with their field of specialization. Alumni Tracer is significant for CHED compliance as it is aligned to its project under the Aligning HEI program with national development goals which are the Job-Skills Matching Project. This job-skills matching project includes the following: review of curricula to make the graduates fit the needs of industries, identification of areas of mismatch and implementation of strategies to address and periodic conduct of graduate tracer studies.

It is essential to indicate that tracer study is a means of gathering relevant information about past graduates of higher institutions. This study will enable the institution to identify what they are doing with the training they obtained and what could be done to add to their expertise through these institutions to be able to reform their course programs to keep up with the needs of the rapidly changing technological and scientific age.

An Online Alumni Tracer System is an online system intended for the graduates of Cavite State University, Imus campus. This system is very important not only for the graduates but also for the administration as well, this would serve as the database repository of the whereabouts, the job and other information of the graduates that might be helpful in tracing and report requirements needed by the institution.

Cavite State University Imus campus is under the supervision of CHED – Commission on Higher Education and started operating in August 2003 and has been serving for more than two decades now. The institution produced professionals from batch 2020 to batch 2022 for a total of 2,551 that graduated from different courses as shown in the table below. These professionals are capable of competing for positions and careers.

PROCEDURE FOR PAPER SUBMISSION

Methods

      The study used the Agile Development model for the development of the Alumni Tracer System .The web-based system serves as an important tool to get systematic feedback from the graduate's whereabouts, their employment status and their relevance of their skills and training acquired from the university.
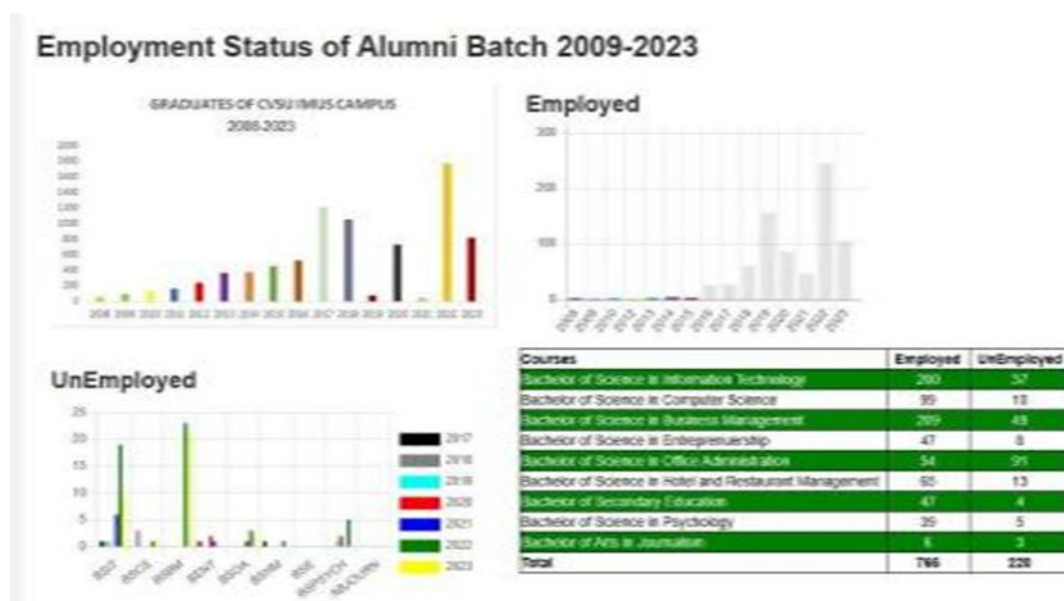
Research Design

An Online Alumni Tracer system is web-based application that will track the employment status as well as their whereabouts of the graduates by sending them the survey questionnaire in their emails then it will send through the system and will generate the report.

Figures

Employment Status of Alumni Batch 2009-2023

Courses	Employed	UnEmployed
Bachelor of Science in Information Technology	280	57
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science	95	13
Bachelor of Science in Business Management	209	49
Bachelor of Science in Entrepreneurship	47	8
Bachelor of Science in Office Administration	54	91
Bachelor of Science in Hotel and Restaurant Management	95	13
Bachelor of Secondary Education	47	4
Bachelor of Science in Psychology	35	5
Bachelor of Arts in Journalism	6	3
Total	766	228

Population and Samples

The study initially targeted to obtain the total population of graduates in various courses at Cavite State University. There were three thousand four hundred seventy-four (3, 474) total population of graduates from 2016 to 2019 at the Cavite State University Imus Campus. The identification of the graduates was primarily taken on the roster of graduates from the Registrar's office making available the names, addresses, emails and telephone numbers of the graduates. Based on the tracing methods described above, the researchers utilized the stratified simple random sampling in which they considered the percentage of retrieval of questionnaires and representations of the identified number of graduates across the different program

Data gathering procedure

Primary data of the graduates were collected from the registrar of Cavite State University Imus Campus. Input the data collected in the database only those the Primary data like Names and Email address that will be used for sending the survey quesnionnaire through their email addrress.
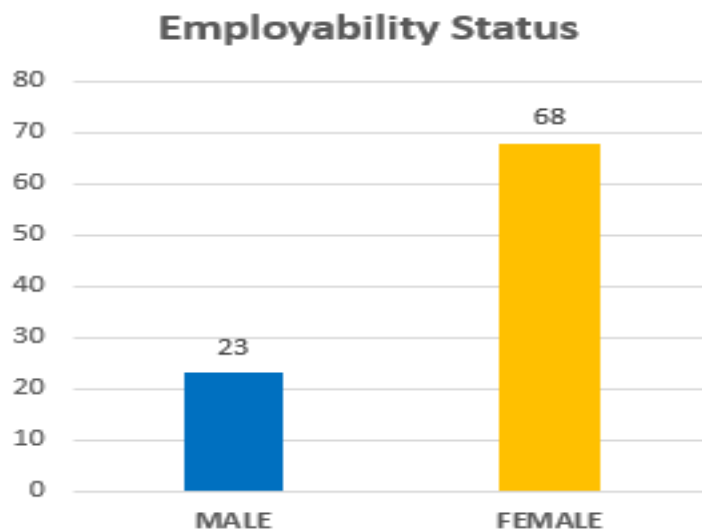
Research Instrument

The researchers used self-made survey questionnaires. It was subjected to reliability and validity. The use of the survey questionnaire for collecting data that will be answered by the graduates through the Online Alumni Tracer System. The questionnaire is divided into three parts. Part A is about the personal information of the graduates. Part B is their Educational Background. Part C is about their Employment information which includes the relevance of the curriculum is aligned to their job.
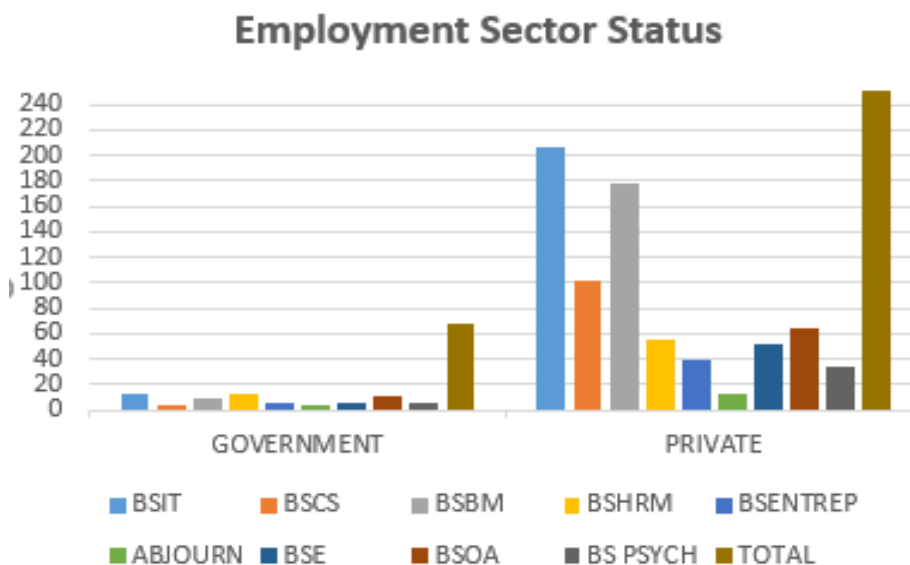
RESULT AND DISCUSSION

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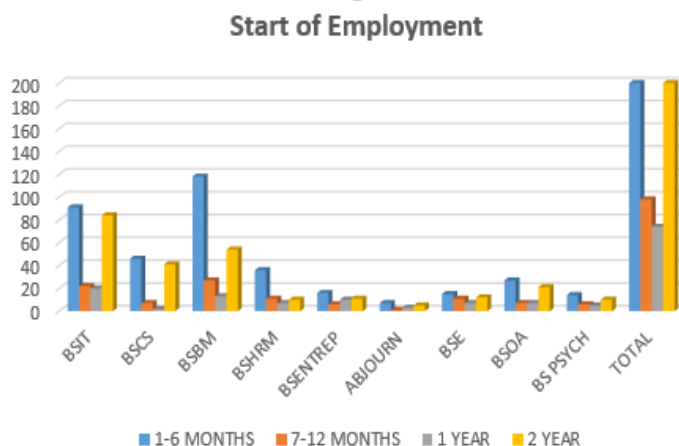## Demographic Profile of the Graduates Employability

Sex. Among the respondents, females is 75% employability rate while male is 25%, among the respondents the female got the highest rate of employment rather than male
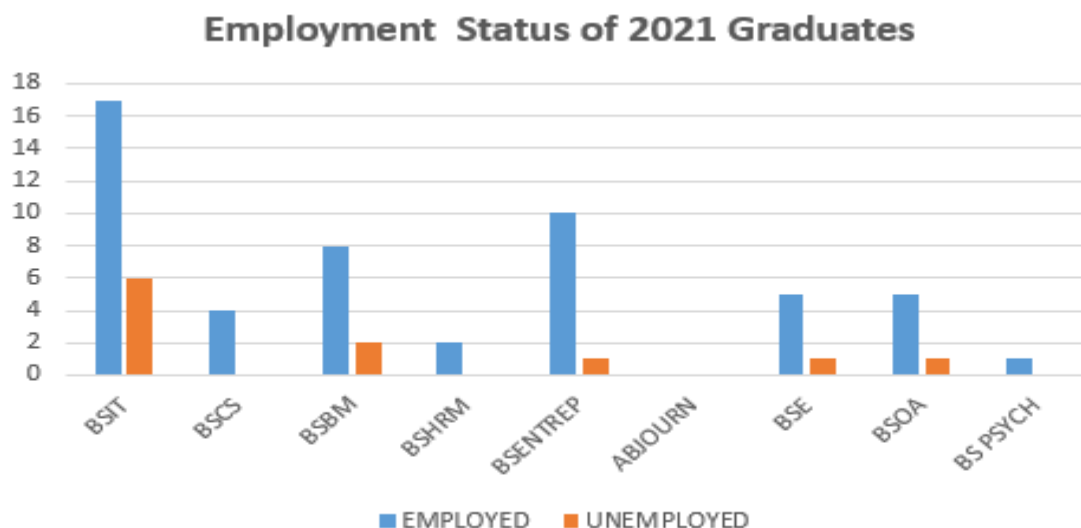
Employability Status

Sector. The majority of the graduates engaged in private sector of all courses in Cavite State University Imus Campus rather than in government

Employment Sector Status

Start of Work According to the figure, most of the graduates they started their job on 1-6 months after graduation in all courses with the total (46.8% of graduates), job started in 2 years got (31.3% of graduates),(12,4% of graduates) fall in 7 to 12 months started their job and the least is 1 year with the total of (9.3% of graduates) .

Start of Employment

Employment Category. The result reveals the distribution of the graduates in 9 different courses based on the employment status. The graduates easily got employed in the year 2021 with (82.53%) only (17.46%) of unemployed graduates in the year 2021

Employment Status of 2021 Graduates

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings of the study, the researchers have drawn the conclusion about the Online Alumni Tracer system of Cavite State University, Imus campus. From the data presented throughout the study, it is proved that the system can very much be able to trace the employment status, work alignment, and job whereabouts of the graduates. Also, the system proved that it runs efficiently and the system can provide accurate reports and reliable information.

Recommendation

1. The success of any tracer study is highly dependent on the availability of accurate data on graduates along with their contact details. There is a need to update or revise the current survey instrument to make it more dynamic and user friendly.
2. Additional verification procedures be made to ensure that only bona fide alumni can register in the system.
3. Additional features of the system that the alumni can motivate to participate by answering the survey questionnaire that they send in their emails.
4. Innovate and upgrade the current system into new technology.

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