



Final Year Projects

***Outduction Dissemination Event
20th July 2011***

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Final Year Projects

- One of the key objectives of higher education is to help student develop their detailed knowledge of their area of study and this task involves much more than the mere transmission of knowledge in forms of lectures.
- Particularly in the field of engineering, it is important that graduates have not only understood the various engineering concepts in their particular field but are also well trained to be able to face all the technical problems that will come up during their future professional career.
- In order to attain this maturity and experience in tackling critical issues, it is a common rule in all engineering that the students carry out a 'Final Year Project'.
- This project provides a platform for the student to apply all information the student has received along the successive stages of his engineering course in a real project. Hence this project forms a critical module.



Mini-project overview

Aim: To investigate the experience of final year projects in EDT

Objectives:

- To investigate the current practices followed in EDT
- To investigate the student experience
- To investigate the equity of supervision
- To propose future improvements

Methodology

- Interviewed staff about current practice and their supervision experience
- Focus group with on 14th April 2010 to discuss their final year experience
- Interview of EDT stage-3 students during the EDT project open day (26th and 27th May 2010) to discuss their general feedback on the final year
- Discussion on the final year project at the Student experience forum on 1st March 2010.
- Interview of EDT stage-3 students during the EDT project open day (25th May 2011) to discuss their feedback on the final year project experience.

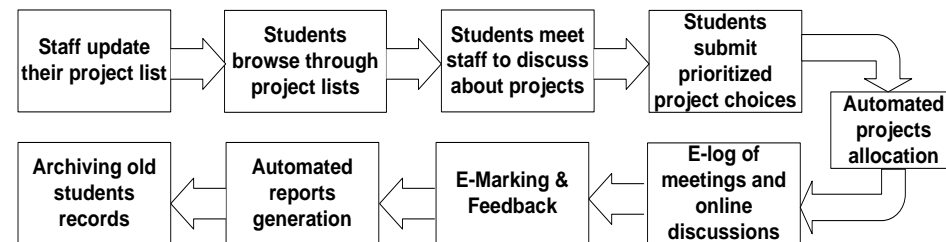


Current Practices in EDT

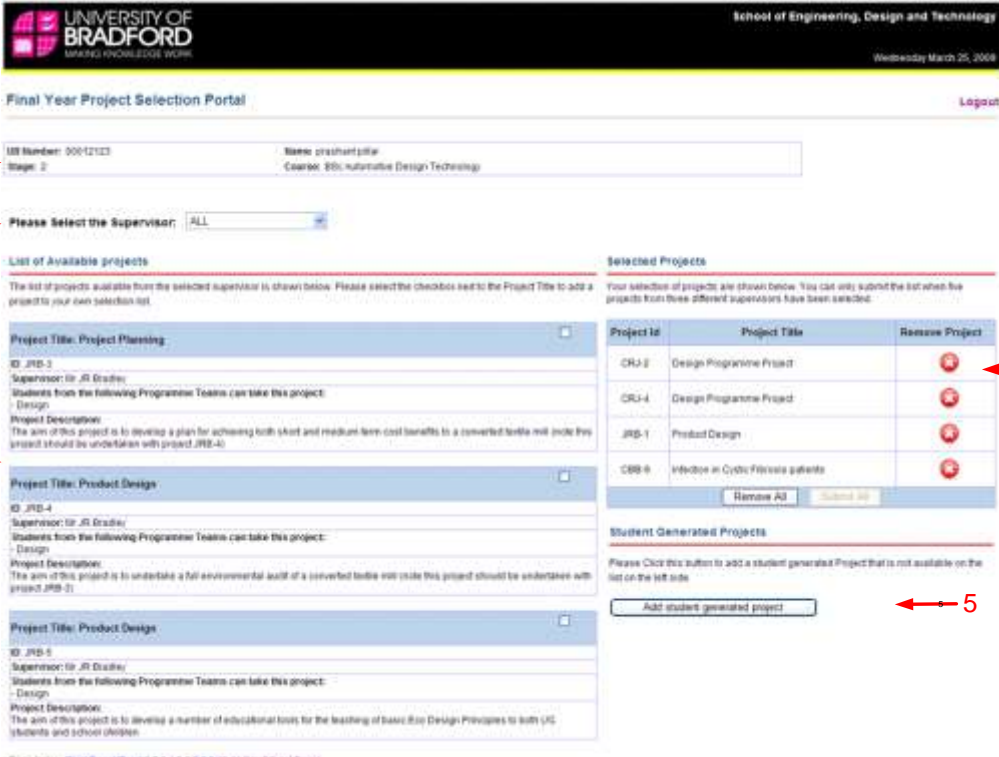
- **Project Selection, Allocation and Management**
- **Project Supervision**
- **Project open day**

Project Selection, Allocation and Management (1)

- EDT projects portal
 - Online project management- Final Year/MSc Projects, Full-time/part-time
 - E-marking/E-Feedback
 - Genetic algorithm for automated project allocation based on student choices, staff load, fairness, etc.
 - Authentication/Access control via university LDAP system.
 - Connected to SAINT to automatically retrieve student information every year.
 - Three dedicated sites for students, academic staff and administrative staff
 - Different access rights for different staff
 - Automated email notifications



Project Selection, Allocation and Management (2)



UNIVERSITY OF BRADFORD School of Engineering, Design and Technology
Wednesday March 25, 2008

Final Year Project Selection Portal [Logout](#)

1 → **UID Number:** 00012123 **Name:** prashantjain
Stage: 2 **Course:** BSc (Honours) Design Technology

2 → **Please Select the Supervisor:** ALL

List of Available projects
The list of projects available from the selected supervisor is shown below. Please select the checkboxes next to the Project Title to add a project to your own selection list.

3 → **Project Title: Project Planning**
ID: JPB-3
Supervisor: Dr. J.R. Bradley
Students from the following Programme Teams can take this project:
- Design
Project Description:
The aim of this project is to develop a plan for achieving both short and medium term cost benefits in a converted textile mill while the project should be undertaken with project JPB-4)


Project Title: Product Design
ID: JPB-4
Supervisor: Dr. J.R. Bradley
Students from the following Programme Teams can take this project:
- Design
Project Description:
The aim of this project is to undertake a full environmental audit of a converted textile mill while this project should be undertaken with project JPB-3)

Project Title: Product Design
ID: JPB-5
Supervisor: Dr. J.R. Bradley
Students from the following Programme Teams can take this project:
- Design
Project Description:
The aim of this project is to develop a number of educational tools for the teaching of basic Design Principles to both GCSE students and school children.

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Selected Projects
Your selection of projects are shown below. You can only submit the list when five projects from three different supervisors have been selected.

Project Id	Project Title	Remove Project
CRJ-2	Design Programme Project	
CRJ-4	Design Programme Project	
JRP-1	Product Design	
CBB-6	Infedex in Cyclic Fibres in patients	

4 → 

Student Generated Projects
Please Click this button to add a student generated Project that is not available on the list on the left side.

5 →

Project Supervision

- Every student is allocated a project supervisor at the beginning of the project. the supervisor guides the student on the work to be carried out for the project and monitors the progress.
- Regular face-to-face meeting are arranged between the supervisors and their project students.
- Meeting the students as a group has shown to have several advantages:
 - There may be times when the students do not remember all the questions to ask, but others in the group may ask the related questions. Also helps introvert students.
 - The students also learn from the experience on the other group members.
 - Presentation during the meetings helps the student's communication skills as they get the experience to present their work even though in small groups.
 - Efficient use of staff time - Most of the times the students have similar problems and the supervisor would be repeating the same things with each student.



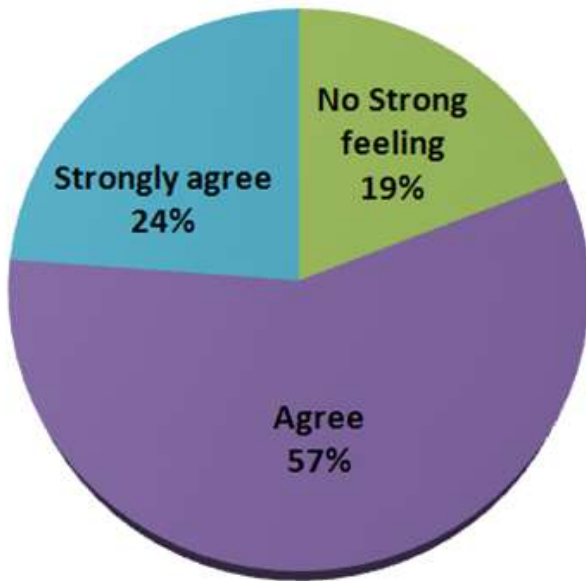
Project Open Day

- This provides a good platform for the final year project students to showcase their projects to not only other students of the university, but also to the various academics and most importantly external industrial visitors.
- The students of the Electrical area also showcase their working prototypes along with the posters.
- The posters are also formally assessed by the academic staff.

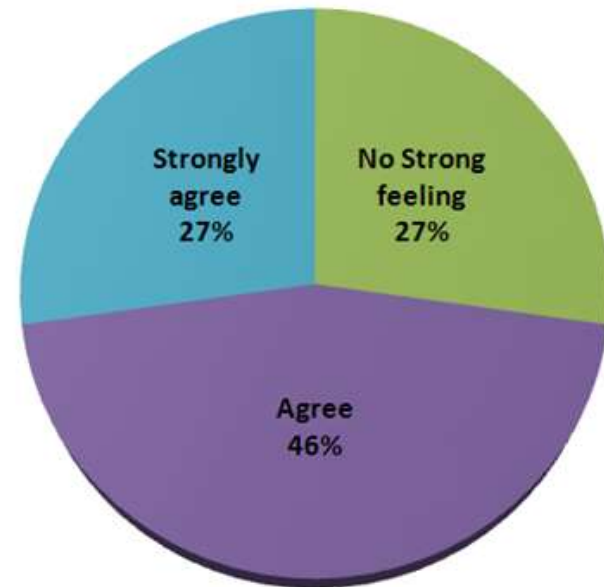


Survey Results (1)

Has the project helped you to manage expectations, time, and workload?

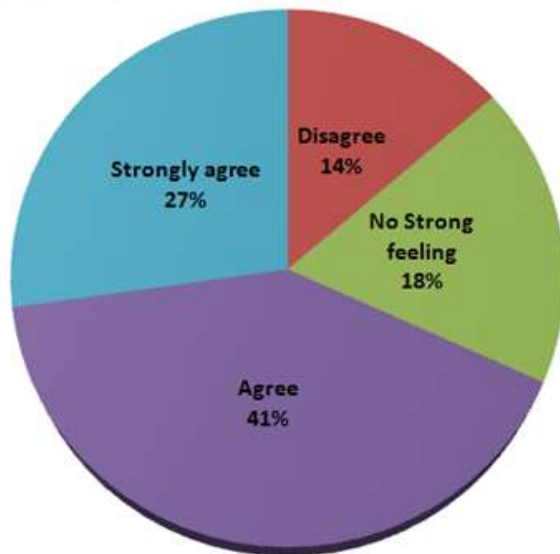


Has the project prepared you for your next step (job market or further studies)?

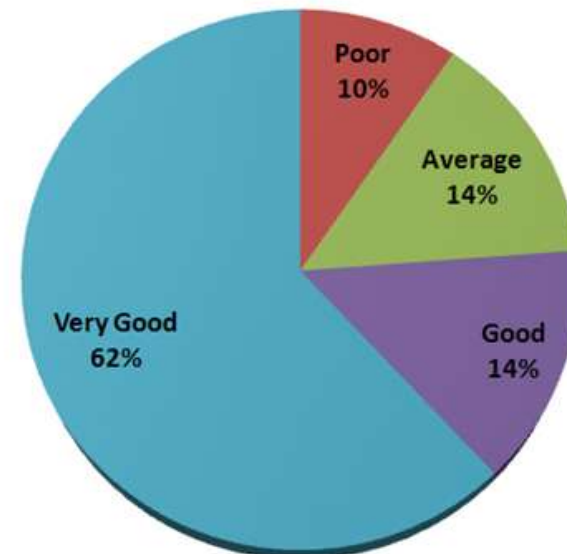


Survey Results (2)

Has the project helped you to develop social and professional confidence?



How do you rate the quality of support you received from your supervisor?



Student Comments on their FYP:

- *“It covered all aspects in terms research, project management, planning and achieving a goal”*
- *“It allows student to think critically and apply most and perhaps all the subjects learnt throughout our degree years into this particular module. It's not a ‘Monkey see, Monkey do’ activity.”*
- *“Reduce the amount of students under this supervisor as he is overloaded and only able to spend short period of time meeting each student before seeing another. Need more discussion time...”*

Recommendations

- The EDT projects portal has been extremely useful and it is recommended that other schools should adopt a similar tool.
 - Provide more project choices on the EDT Projects portal
- Provide more seminars and tutorial to all students on report writing skills, plagiarism, etc.
 - Make attendance to these compulsory.
- Provide more guidelines on what is expected in a final year project
 - work carried out, and supervision levels, etc.



Thank You