



# Outduction: Enhancing the Final Year Experience

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## *Case Study*

<b>Title</b>	EDT Projects Portal
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<b>Keywords</b>	Final Year Projects, e-management, e-marking
<b>Intended learning outcome</b>	The case study describes the simple online tool for selecting Final year projects and for E-management of the final year project in EDT.
<b>Problem statement (what did the case study seek to address?)</b>	Students need a mechanism to select a project from a pool of projects and be fairly allocated a suitable project. The academic staff needs an online tool for marking, providing feedback and generally managing their projects.
<b>Context</b>	<p>Final year projects are an important module for Engineering students in EDT. The EDT Project Portal is developed in house to cater to the needs of the students, academic staff and admin staff for easier and fairer project allocation and better management of the projects throughout the year.</p> <p>The EDT project portal supports the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Online project management- Final Year/MSc Projects, Full-time/part-time</li><li>• E-marking/E-Feedback</li><li>• Genetic algorithm for automated project allocation based on student choices, staff load, fairness, etc.</li><li>• Authentication/Access control via university LDAP system.</li><li>• Connected to SAINT to automatically retrieve student information every year.</li><li>• Three dedicated sites for students, academic staff and administrative staff</li><li>• Different access rights for different staff</li><li>• Automated email notifications</li></ul>

<p><b>Activity</b></p>	<p>The Academic Staff can perform the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add/update/view project list</li> <li>• View project details of allocated students</li> <li>• Accept/reject requests for student generated projects.</li> <li>• Online marking (supervisor marks, report marks, second marking, third marking, agreed marks)</li> <li>• View marks/feedback for projects supervised/second marked.</li> </ul> <p>The Students can perform the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Browse through available project list from different academics</li> <li>• Only suitable projects are seen – based on students course</li> <li>• View selection deadlines.</li> <li>• Select 5 projects from 3 supervisors</li> <li>• Support for student generated projects.</li> <li>• Prioritise projects</li> </ul> <p>The Admin Staff can perform the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add/update supervisor info</li> <li>• Allocate/de-allocate/transfer projects</li> <li>• Add 2nd/3rd markers</li> <li>• Over 30 cohort based reports like list of choices, list of allocations, list of marks, list of reports under investigation for plagiarism, etc.</li> <li>• Add poster presentation marks</li> <li>• Control portal access rights</li> <li>• Control selection/submission deadlines</li> </ul>
<p><b>Issues</b></p>	<p>Keeping the record on the EDT project portal in sync with SAINT, especially as sometimes SAINT shows a student is withdrawn when they have not paid their fees, and there are made current again as soon as they pay their fees.</p> <p>Write access to SAINT</p> <p>Secure login and access control on the portal</p>
<p><b>Hot tips/key points for effective practice</b></p>	<p>A 30 minutes demonstration is done for all the Final year students in the beginning of the year explaining them how to use the portal. Help files/user manual are also provided.</p> <p>Encourage academic staff to put several projects.</p> <p>Encourage students to add minutes of the weekly meeting with their supervisors on the portal.</p>
<p><b>Web link</b></p>	<p><a href="http://www.edtprojects.brad.ac.uk">www.edtprojects.brad.ac.uk</a></p>