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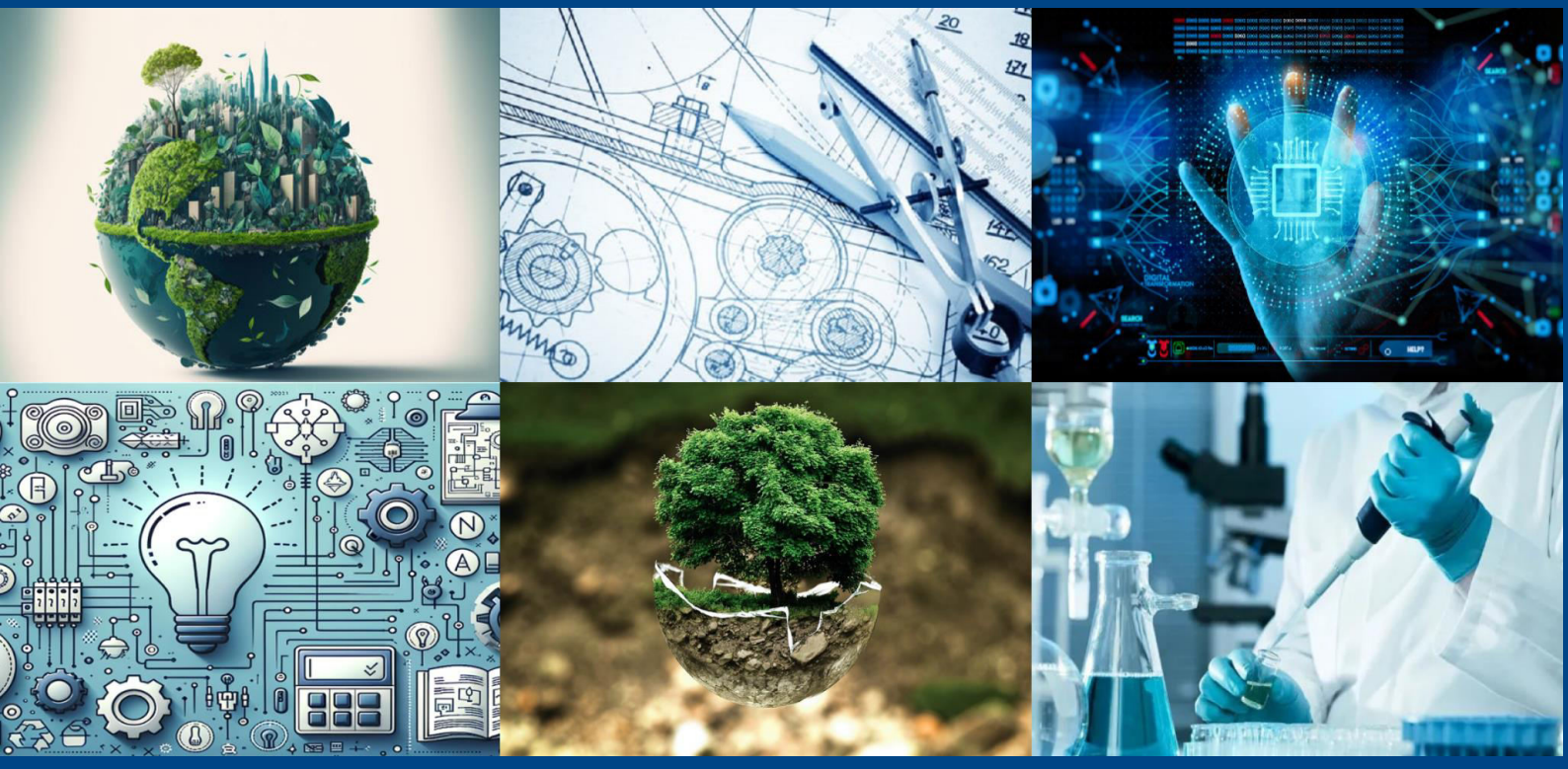

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Career Craft

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ABSTRACT: This paper presents "Career Craft," an advanced, web-based career management solution tailored for educational institutions to bridge the gap between academia and employment. As career readiness becomes a crucial element of higher education, Career Craft provides a centralized platform that offers a Student Portal and an Admin Dashboard. These modules facilitate career exploration, job application, analytics-driven guidance, and administrative oversight. The platform leverages modern web technologies including HTML, CSS, JavaScript, PHP, and MySQL to deliver a seamless user experience. Key features include personalized recommendations, a centralized job board, skill assessments, and secure data management. This system addresses traditional inefficiencies in placement processes and introduces innovative tools for institutional and student development.

I. INTRODUCTION

Career development in the modern educational landscape faces unprecedented challenges due to dynamic job markets and rapidly evolving employer expectations. Career Craft was conceptualized to address the limitations of traditional placement cells that rely on manual processes and fragmented software solutions. It introduces a robust, scalable, and user-friendly digital ecosystem that supports the career needs of both students and administrators.

The system comprises two main modules:

Student Portal: Designed for individual career exploration, personalized job matching, application tracking, and professional development.

Admin Dashboard: Allows administrators to oversee the placement process, manage employer data, monitor student engagement, and generate performance analytics.

By integrating intelligent algorithms and real-time data flow, Career Craft significantly enhances decision-making, transparency, and effectiveness in career services.

1. SYSTEM SPECIFICATIONS

1.1 Software Requirements

- Operating Systems: Windows / Linux / MacOS
- Tools: XAMPP, Visual Studio Code
- Frontend: HTML, CSS, JavaScript
- Backend: PHP, MySQL

1.2 Hardware Requirements

- Processor: Intel Core i3 or higher
- RAM: 8GB or more

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- Storage: Minimum 256GB SSD

1.3 Language Requirements

- Frontend Languages: HTML, CSS, JavaScript

- Backend Languages: PHP, SQL

2. SYSTEM ANALYSIS

2.1 Existing System

Current systems in educational institutions lack integration, often utilizing outdated tools or paper-based processes. These methods hinder access to real-time data, cause inefficiencies in placement tracking, and provide limited interaction between stakeholders. Additionally, analytics capabilities are minimal or non-existent.

2.2 Proposed System

Career Craft introduces a digital-first, web-based solution with a centralized database that connects students, faculty, and employers. The system automates job matching, monitors application statuses, and generates insightful reports. It also incorporates security measures, cloud scalability, and responsive design to support seamless access across device.

3. SYSTEM DESIGN

3.1 Input Design

The input system uses structured forms with real-time validation for student profiles, employer job postings, and administrative data. Auto-fill fields, dropdowns, and batch uploads streamline data entry while ensuring accuracy.

3.2 Output Design

Students receive tailored dashboards showing job recommendations and application statuses. Admins access visual reports and analytics. Outputs are available in PDF, Excel, and printed formats, ensuring accessibility and professionalism.

3.3 Database Design

A normalized relational database design minimizes redundancy. Core tables include Students, Employers, Jobs, Applications, and Placements. Foreign key constraints ensure data integrity and optimized querying.

II. SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT

Admin Module: Manages student records, employer interactions, and placement analytics. Provides dashboards, real-time notifications, and exportable reports.

Student Module: Enables students to manage profiles, view job listings, and track applications. It supports resume uploads, skill evaluations, and personalized job feeds.

System Management Module: Handles authentication, bulk data operations, platform configurations, and automated notifications.

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III. TESTING AND IMPLEMENTATION

Unit Testing: Each module was tested independently to validate core functions.

Integration Testing: Verified smooth communication between the Student Portal, Admin Dashboard, and backend services.

System Testing: End-to-end scenarios simulated peak usage and stress conditions to ensure stability and performance.

Security Testing: Penetration testing and audits confirmed protection against SQL injection, XSS attacks, and unauthorized data access.

Implementation: The system was deployed using XAMPP on a local server and tested in real academic settings. Feedback was incorporated into updates and feature refinements.

IV. CONCLUSION

Career Craft successfully modernizes career services in educational institutions by delivering a fully integrated, user-centric digital platform. Its structured architecture, responsive design, and robust security make it a scalable and future-proof solution. Through continuous feedback loops and data-driven insights, the system enhances placement efficiency and bridges the educational-employment divide.

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