Level 5 Database Management Systems Courses: Alternative Approaches

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Abstract:

Two recent papers presented at the National Advisory Committee on Computing Qualifications (NACCQ) conference written by Athauda (2007) and by Kennedy and Nesbit (2008) analysed the content that should be included in second year degree database courses.

In contrast to these papers, this poster presents a summary of the alternative approaches that are taken to the delivery of DB500 (Database Management Systems) which is a part of the Diploma in Information and Communications Technology (DipICT) that is overseen by the National Advisory Committee on Computing Qualifications (NACCQ). The source of the information in this poster is the external moderation report from the most recent round of moderation.

The areas where the approaches of different institutions vary are highlighted with these including:
- Whether normalisation is formally assessed
- Whether SQL is formally assessed
- The manner in which the creation of entity relationship diagrams (ERDs) is formally assessed
- The DBMS products used

Some suggestions to changes to the DB500 prescription are made, and could also be considered if a level 5 database course is to be included in the collaborative degree.

References:

Athauda, R. I. (2007). A Revision of a Database Course with a Real-World Project. Proceedings of the Twentieth Annual Conference of the National Advisory Committee on Computing Qualifications, July 2007, Nelson, New Zealand.

Kennedy, D. and Nesbit, T. (2008) The Revision of a Database Course: The Process and the Result. Proceedings of the Twenty First Annual Conference of the National Advisory Committee on Computing Qualifications, July 2008, Auckland, New Zealand. Comments: