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⊕ www.ijirset.com ⊠ ijirset@gmail.com 🖄 +91-9940572462 🕓 +91 63819 07438





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Alumni Association Platform for the University/Institute

Keerthi A J, Mounika S, Rushmitha R T

U.G. Student, Department of Information Science and Engineering, S J C Institute of Technology, Chickballapur,

Karnataka, India

Dr. Aravinda Thejas Chandra

Professor, Department of Information Science and Engineering, S J C Institute of Technology, Chickballapur,

Karnataka, India

ABSTRACT: The Alumni Network: An Academic Portal using Machine Learning is an innovative web platform designed to enhance engagement between alumni and their academic institution. The system enables alumni to register, interact with fellow alumni, participate in academy events, and stay updated with academy news. Administrators can manage alumni data, approve registration and event requests, and update academy content, such as events, news, and galleries. The platform also integrates an advanced chatbot powered by Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks to efficiently handle user inquiries. This portal serves multiple user roles: Admin, Alumni, and Guests. Alumni can register, chat with others via the chatbox, and book events, while prospective users can explore the gallery, news, and interact with the chatbot for information about the academy. Admins handle backend processes, such as managing alumni registrations and event requests. The system's user-friendly design, coupled with automated features like the chatbot and email notification system, creates an efficient and streamlined experience for both administrators and alumni. Additionally, the system ensures security through robust authentication and validation mechanisms, safeguarding user data and interactions. This project provides a seamless digital platform for strengthening alumni relationships, enhancing event management, and fostering ongoing engagement between alumni and their alma mater.

KEYWORDS: Alumni Network, Admin, User, Chabot, Chat box, Academy.

I. INTRODUCTION

The "Alumni Network: An Academic Portal using Machine Learning" is a cutting-edge web platform designed to foster stronger connections between alumni and their alma mater. Educational institutions often face challenges in maintaining consistent and meaningful engagement with their alumni due to the lack of centralized systems for interaction, event participation, and information sharing. Alumni play a crucial role in contributing to an institution's growth through mentorship, networking, and even potential funding, making it essential for academic institutions to establish long-term relationships with their graduates. This project aims to address these challenges by offering a comprehensive solution that brings together alumni, administrators, and visitors in a streamlined, user-friendly portal. At the heart of this system are three primary user roles: Alumni, Admin, and Guests/Visitors. Alumni can register on the platform, subject to admin approval, and gain access to features such as interacting with fellow alumni, viewing academy events, and booking event participation. This feature promotes alumni engagement, networking, and a sense of community. Additionally, alumni receive email notifications regarding the status of their event bookings, ensuring clear communication between alumni and the institution. The admin module is designed to handle backend processes efficiently, reducing the manual workload. Admins can approve or reject alumni registration requests, manage event bookings, and update academy content, including galleries, news, and event details. The admin role ensures the smooth functioning of the platform, allowing the institution to stay up-to-date with its alumni network. One of the most innovative features of the platform is the LSTM-based chatbot. This machine learning-powered chatbot is accessible to all users, including non-registered visitors, providing instant responses to inquiries about the academy. From information on course offerings to fee structures and event schedules, the chatbot reduces the administrative burden of responding to repetitive questions, allowing administrators to focus on more critical tasks. The use of Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) in the chatbot ensures efficient processing of user queries, offering relevant and accurate responses.





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For Guests/Visitors, the platform provides access to view gallery images, academy news, and information about achievers. This not only offers a glimpse into the academy's highlights but also encourages prospective alumni to engage with the institution. Visitors can also interact with the LSTM chatbot for general inquiries and later register to become alumni. In summary, the Alumni Network: An Academic Portal using Machine Learning provides a centralized platform that enhances alumni engagement, automates administrative tasks, and ensures secure data handling. The platform fosters long-term alumni relations through its innovative chatbot, streamlined event management, and continuous communication, ultimately strengthening the connection between the institution and its graduates.

II. PROBLEM STATEMENT

Educational institutions often struggle to maintain ongoing engagement with their alumni and effectively manage alumni data, event participation, and communication. Existing platforms lack streamlined tools for alumni networking and interaction, administrative oversight, and automated assistance. This project aims to address these challenges by developing a centralized Alumni Network Portal using Machine Learning, incorporating advanced chatbot features to facilitate alumni communication, event management, and overall engagement, while ensuring secure data handling and user authentication.

III. LITERATURE REVIEW

Briones et al. (2011) have emphasized that alumni relations benefit from centralized platforms that streamline communication, event management, and news updates. However, these systems often lacked machine learning components to automate and personalize interactions, which highlights the need for enhanced platforms incorporating AI-driven tools like chatbots and recommendation systems [1].

Pérez-Marín et al. (2020) demonstrated how educational institutions can deploy AI-driven chatbots to manage frequent queries, handle student or alumni requests, and provide automated assistance. The integration of machine learning, particularly using models like Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks, allows chatbots to offer more accurate and context-aware responses [2].

Hussain et al. (2019), have shown that chatbots improve user satisfaction and engagement by offering instant query resolutions and automating routine administrative tasks [3].

Hochreiter and Schmidhuber (1997), who initially developed LSTM, shows that LSTM's ability to learn long-term dependencies in sequential data makes it ideal for tasks involving conversations or dialogue systems [4].

Sutskever et al. (2014) demonstrated that LSTMs outperform traditional models in sequence prediction tasks, further validating their effectiveness in chatbot applications for handling complex queries in real-time [5].

Anderson et al. (2016) highlighted the vulnerabilities in alumni engagement platforms, focusing on issues such as data breaches and identity theft. Solutions proposed in various studies emphasize the use of encryption, robust authentication mechanisms, and regular security audits to safeguard data [6].

The development of machine learning models that can detect anomalies or potential security threats in real-time has also been explored by researchers like Shafiq et al. (2019), contributing to the security enhancements in such platforms [7].

Smith et al. (2018) explored how personalization significantly boosts user interaction and participation in alumni networks. Additionally, automation through email notifications, event reminders, and chatbot responses streamlines administrative tasks. Studies have shown that machine learning, particularly recommendation systems, improves alumni participation by suggesting relevant events and networking opportunities based on user behaviour and history.





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IV. DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION

Design:





UML stands for Unified Modelling Language. UML is a standardized general-purpose modelling language in the field of object-oriented software engineering. The standard is managed, and was created by, the Object Management Group. The goal is for UML to become a common language for creating models of object-oriented computer software. In its current form UML is comprised of two major components: a Meta-model and a notation. In the future, some form of method or process may also be added to; or associated with, UML.

The Unified Modelling Language is a standard language for specifying, Visualization, Constructing and documenting the artefacts of software system, as well as for business modelling and other non-software systems. The UML represents a collection of best engineering practices that have proven successful in the modelling of large and complex systems.

The UML is a very important part of developing objects-oriented software and the software development process. The UML uses mostly graphical notations to express the design of software projects.





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GOALS:

The Primary goals in the design of the UML are as follows:

- 1. Provide users a ready-to-use, expressive visual modelling Language so that they can develop and exchange meaningful models.
- 2. Provide extendibility and specialization mechanisms to extend the core concepts.
- 3. Be independent of particular programming languages and development process.
- 4. Provide a formal basis for understanding the modelling language.
- 5. Encourage the growth of OO tools market.
- 6. Support higher level development concepts such as collaborations, frameworks, patterns and components.
- 7. Integrate best practices.

A use case diagram in the Unified Modelling Language (UML) is a type of behavioural diagram defined by and created from a Use-case analysis. Its purpose is to present a graphical overview of the functionality provided by a system in terms of actors, their goals (represented as use cases), and any dependencies between those use cases. The main purpose of a use case diagram is to show what system functions are performed for which actor. Roles of the actors in the system can be depicted.







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Implementation:

1.Admin Module:

- Manage alumni registrations: Approve or reject alumni registration requests.
- Manage event bookings: Review and accept or reject alumni event booking requests.
- Update academy content: Add and manage events, news, gallery images, and information about academy achievers.
- Email notifications: Automatically send email notifications to alumni regarding the status of event booking requests.
- View alumni and event data: Admin can view registered alumni details and event booking statuses.

2. Alumni Module:

- Registration: Alumni can submit a registration request, which requires admin approval.
- Login: After admin approval, alumni can log in to their personalized dashboard.
- Explore other alumni: Alumni can view profiles of other alumni registered in the system.
- Chatbox: Alumni can interact with other alumni using a one-on-one chatbox system.
- Event booking: Alumni can view academy events and send booking requests to the admin.
- Email notifications: Receive email notifications about the status of event bookings.
- Logout: Alumni can securely log out of their session.

3. User Module (Guest/Visitor):

- Explore academy content: Users can browse gallery images, academy news, and information about achievers.
- View event details: Guests can view upcoming academy events without logging in.
- Chat with the LSTM chatbot: Guests can use the chatbot to get general information about the academy, such as courses, fees, and more.
- Register as an alumni: Guests who are interested in alumni-related activities can register to become alumni.

4. LSTM-Based Chatbot Module:

- Automated user assistance: The chatbot answers user queries regarding academy details such as fee structure, courses, and more.
- Accessible by all users: The chatbot is available on the homepage and can be accessed by both registered and non-registered users.

5. Chatbox Module:

- Alumni communication: Allows alumni to chat and interact with each other one-on-one.
- Secure interaction: Messages exchanged between alumni are stored securely in the database.

V. CONCLUSION

The Alumni Network: An Academic Portal using Machine Learning provides a comprehensive solution to the challenges faced by educational institutions in maintaining continuous alumni engagement. By integrating machine learning, specifically an LSTM-based chatbot, the platform automates routine tasks such as query handling, event management, and communication, significantly reducing the manual effort required by administrators. The system enhances user experience through personalized interactions, streamlined alumni data management, and efficient event booking processes.

Moreover, the use of advanced machine learning techniques ensures that the chatbot provides accurate and contextaware responses, improving engagement and satisfaction for alumni and prospective users alike. The platform's secure design, coupled with automated features like email notifications and personalized recommendations, fosters a sense of community and long-term connection between alumni and their alma mater.

Overall, this project not only addresses the current gaps in alumni engagement but also sets a foundation for future scalability and enhancements, such as mobile accessibility and advanced analytics for user behaviour. The integration of machine learning elevates the platform beyond traditional systems, offering a modern, efficient, and user-friendly solution for academic institutions to maintain lasting relationships with their alumni.





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