

ABSTRACT

Current condition shows that professional world changes very rapidly. From time to time, the needs of adequate abilities, skills, and knowledge are continually growing. To cope with the rapid change of professional world, anyone should be pro-active to determine the line of career that they desire, for they will hold responsibility to every career that they will enroll. For High School Graduates, a possible thing to do is to choose the right major of study that matches their personal characteristics. Many of the graduates are confused to determine the right one for them, many even dare taking shortcut by just guessing which is right. This is almost surely will bring a catastrophic result to them, founding that the major they took didn't match with their personal characteristics.

Study Counsel is a perfect organisation to implement a decision support system for determining major (field of study) in university. Every year In Indonesia, more than tens of thousand senior students from high schools joins Primagama, an educational organisation that already has 328 branch offices all around the country, mainly in the major cities and towns. For such big organisation, whose students are so many and randomly spread, determining interest and capability for each and every student has never been an easy job, nor it has been cheap. Information technology is one usable solution and for that a decision support system for determining major (field of study) is needed. The decision support system will be available on-line and self-accessible by the students.

The web-based application of decision support system is hoped to be able to give an additional reference integrated with the counselling process for determining major itself. With a helpful interpretations from the tutors, the final output of the decision support system is hoped to be able to give the right guidance for the students' future. The system's output has a long and short term orientations. For long orientation, the decision support system can give guidance to career direction and study field, it can also give a list of actions to establish abilities and to reach the desirable career. For short term orientation, the decision support system can give the students a reference for determining field studies and universities.

Compared to the previous system, the decision support system has more good points. First: It has 4 judging factors in giving direction for field of studies; The students' interest, Self-assesment, Try-out scores and Passing grades. Second: The system's procedure is more complete than previous system. Third: It is available on-line, which is unlimited by time or space. Fourth: It gives an additional service value for the management by giving a comprehensive guidance to students. With the usefulness and reliability of the decision support system, Primagama as an educational organisation will be able to consider to use the decision support system as a mean of guidance and counselling for the students in determining major / field of study which matches with their interests and personalities. Being the biggest Educational Organisation in the country and having been spread anywhere around the country, it is even more possible for Primagama to use the decision support system in order to keep being the first in everything.