Curriculum: Bachelor of IT (Honours) Business computing
Subject Code: AMS811S
Subject: Advanced Management Information Systems
Date: June 2014 – 1st Opportunity
Paper: Theory
Duration: 2 Hours
Marks: 100

This exam paper consist of 3 pages including the cover page.

Lecturer / First examiner: J.S Shimaneni
Moderator: V.Garises

Instructions for Students

1. Answer ALL questions on sheet provided.
2. The paper has two Sections (A and B); all questions in both sections must be answered.
3. When answering questions you should be led by the allocation of marks (approximately one mark per minute). Do not give too few or too many facts in their answers.
4. There are no books, notes or any other printed aids allowed and the Internet is disabled.

Please note: Answer ALL questions.
Part 1 Short answers [30 marks]

Question 1

1.1 The digital economy refers to an economy based on digital technologies and whose members are better informed and able to communicate because of IT.

Can you briefly describe three of the major IT characteristics of the digital economy? (6 marks)

1.2 Briefly discuss three prominent types of interorganizational systems. (6 marks)

1.3 Briefly describe the major benefits of electronic commerce to society. (8 marks)

1.4 Explain ways in which wireless or mobile technologies can support marketing or operations of an enterprise. (10 marks)

Part 2 Essay and discussions. [35 marks]

Question 2

2.1 Mr Kazenambo is a CEO in a company that specializes in data management solutions. For many years he has followed the approach of outsourcing his IT applications and that of acquiring Information Systems. (15 marks)

(a) As a consultant can you advice Mr. Kazenambo on risks associated with outsourcing and explain to him the hidden costs associated with that. (10)

(b) Which other option will you recommend for his company to consider in acquisition of Information Systems or IT applications? (5)

2.2 Enterprise systems or processes that involve the entire enterprise or two more departments of it. Several enterprise systems can be found in organizations. Mr Ngurare is familiar with functional systems which are only confined to one department and that is what he has been using in his business.

Assume you are an IT consultant, explain to Mr Ngurare the types of enterprise system and describe what each of those systems support. (10 marks)

2.3 Briefly explain the data life cycle by distinguishing between the three sources of data in an organization. (10 marks)
Part 3 Comprehension [35 marks]

Question 3

3.1 Losses and disruptions due to IT security breaches can seriously harm and destroy a company both financially and operationally. As the effectiveness of IT and tactics are used by cybercriminals increases, so do the costs of staying ahead of deliberate attacks and unintentional threats. Even though organizations strive to protect confidential data that they collect and store, many companies of all sizes fail to invest in basic security management best practices.

As an IT student you were asked to address a workshop on business continuity and how organizations should manage their information resources and security issues.

Given the background, discuss in detail the importance of securing an enterprise and business continuity by:

a) Explaining the factors that contribute to risk exposure, IS vulnerabilities, cybercrime symptoms and attack methods; (10 marks)

b) Describing key methods of defending Information Systems and networks. (10 marks)

3.2 Social networks have changed the lives of many people and it has provided opportunities for making friends, chatting, sharing moments, etc. However, the above said depicts only one side of the coin. Social networks have also become an important concept for use in business and it has begun to flourish as a component of business internet strategy.

In your own words describe the concept of social computing and benefits it renders to society. You should further describe the risks enterprises are exposed to when they open up their marketing and advertising to social networks. (15 marks)

TOTAL: 100 marks.