

9. View information about training, workshops, conferences, and other SQU activities.
10. Use special facilities including, change password and favorite links.
11. View his/her training courses and official trips details.
12. Request a vehicle from administrative affairs department and follow up his/her request.
13. Apply for road permit and follow up the request status.
14. Apply for visa application and follow up the request status.
15. View on-leave employee details (for administrative positions).
16. Register for wireless service.
17. Request helpdesk service.
18. View traffic offenses (linked to ROP website).

Administrative and Technical staff

Administrative and technical staff will be able to:

1. View employment details, like salary, leave periods, and other personal information.
2. View information about training, workshops, conferences, and other SQU activities.
3. Access systems and resources related to their work, and use the e-mail system.
4. Make an appointments schedule, where they can enter their personal appointments.
5. Receive instructions and circulars.
6. Use the SQU on-line telephone directory.
7. Use special facilities including, change password and favorite links.
8. View his/her training courses and official trips details.
9. Request a vehicle and follow up the request status.
10. Apply for road permit and follow up the request status.
11. Apply for visa application and

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follow up the request status.

12. View on-leave employee details (for administrative positions).
13. Register for wireless service.
14. Request helpdesk service.
15. View employee details (for administrative directors).
16. View their traffic offenses (linked to ROP website).

Future Expectations

The Portal works by linking to, interfacing with, and extracting information from other systems and databases. Information displayed in the Portal is thus dynamic, it changes as the data in the underlying systems and databases change.

The first phase of the project consisted of several services, as noted elsewhere in this document.

The SQU, through the CIS, and in coordination with other SQU units, is now working on studying and executing the next phase of this document of this challenging project. This will include additional useful services of benefit to four classes of users. Some of these services include enhancement to current facilities.

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SULTAN QABOOS UNIVERSITY PORTAL

INTRODUCTION

The Sultan Qaboos University Portal is a dynamic web resource offering an electronic window on a world of SQU internal and external data resources. Information displayed is personalized, and designed to serve particular sectors of the campus community, that is different types of users.

Pages are accessed through the standard access authorization (username and password) issued to SQU students, faculty, technical and administrative staff. Each type of user accesses the information and resources useful to their work.

Available services on the Web pages are connected to SQU databases, systems, such as the Library System, and the Student Information System.

Project Overview

The idea behind the project came about in 2004, when a team was formed to study and prepare for the project. The team established milestones, portal development stages, objectives, and studied the available and necessary resources required for development. The development phase comprised.

1. Study of the available e-services and systems at the SQU.
2. Identification of the e-services to be made available in the first phase of the project.
3. Review of the e-services, and identification of integration mechanisms between the Portal, systems, and databases.
4. Determination of the proper Portal system to be used to develop and operate the SQU resource.
5. Training of the CIS staff on the Portal tools and technology.
6. Identification of the requirements for hardware and software, including operating system.

9. Security issues.
10. Soliciting feedback about the Portal and e-services.
11. Inauguration of the first phase.
12. Study of the next phase requirements.

Information Resources

Information sources and resources used by the Portal include:

1. Services and capabilities available in the Portal software, such as appointments tables.
2. Application and systems used by the SQU, such as the Human Resources System.
3. Links to external services, such as news feeds, and anti-virus software sites.

Types of Users

Currently there are four types of users supported by the Portal. These are:

1. students,
2. Faculty,
3. Administrative and technical staff,
4. Outside users (visitors).

General Page

This is the main (home) page for the Portal, everyone should be able to access this page. Student, faculty, and other SQU staff can access their personal pages by first logging into the Portal using their access authorization (username and password) via the on-screen login portlet.

This page will also provide links allowing general services data and general information to be viewed. Such information, useful to all, includes the SQU publications, SQU Tenders, Vacancy notices, and other useful links.

Student Pages

Student can access their pages using their accesses authorization (username and password). Their pages will consist of information, systems, links, and other resources useful in their studies. Services include:

1. Information about their courses for the current term.
2. Examination timetable.
3. System access and e-learning materials.
4. Information about their monthly allowance.
5. Instructions from their tutors and supervisors.
6. An appointments schedule, where they can enter their personal appointments.
7. Access to e-mail, and other useful systems.
8. Grades lookup.
9. Special facilities including, change password and favorite links.
10. Wireless registration
11. The student can view their traffic offenses.

Faculty Pages

Faculty can use their pages to:

1. Find information about their academic work, for example class details and time tables.
2. Find information about students registered for their courses and send e-mail to them.
3. Find information about students under their supervision and send e-mail to them.
4. View the examination timetables for their classes.
5. View employment details, like salary, leave periods, and other personal information.
6. Make an appointments schedule, where they can enter their personal appointments.
7. Access systems and information useful for their academic work.
8. Use the SQU on-line telephone directory.