

## *Database for Nicole Martin*

### Criterion E– Evaluation

#### Evaluation of the product

Nicole provided her feedback in the document (feedback from Nicole) in the Appendix.

1. A data entry form that allows Nicole to add a new student
  - **Met**, a new record can be added by choosing the Main Menu option Add/EditStudents and simply clicking the button 'New Record'
2. A data entry form that allows Nicole to search for an existing DVD
  - **Met**, the search can be completed by choosing the Main Menu option Add/Edit DVDs then simply entering the title and clicking the search button.
3. An easy way to search for students (eg by typing in their names) in order to find DVDs they currently have on loan
  - **Met**, the search can be completed by choosing the Main Menu option Add/Edit Students, typing their last name then clicking the search button.
4. The ability to print a list of overdue DVDs showing names and phone numbers of the borrower
  - **Met**, this can be done by clicking on the 'overdues' under the heading 'Reports on DVDs and loans'.
5. A list of all the DVDs in the collection in order of title with details of the topic
  - **Met**, this can be done by clicking on the 'List of DVDs' under the heading 'Reports on DVDs and loans'.
6. An option to enter a topic in order to find a list of suitable DVDs
  - **Met**, By clicking on the Find a topic button the user can type in a topic eg food and obtain a list of all the relevant DVDs on that topic
7. The product must have a user-friendly interface so Nicole can maintain the data and print reports by clicking a button
  - **Met**, the attractive forms interface makes this possible. There is no need for Nicole to understand the tables or queries as everything is accessible through user-friendly forms and reports accessible from the Main Menu.
8. On screen help tips plus an electronic manual providing simple instructions to maintain the database would be an advantage
  - **Not met**, the button does not function as expected. However this could be developed in the next version.

Overall the product largely works as expected. The only issue is the user guide that does not load as required. It is noted that the images have been changed to ensure the anonymity of the students.

## **Recommendations**

The database implementation has been successful and Nicole feels she has more control over her lending library of DVDs. She is inspired to increase her DVD collection.

She would like the following features developed:

### **User Guide**

This was not developed due to time constraints. Although Nicole is fairly confident using the database she would like a detailed user guide in place to assist the replacement teacher who takes her classes when she is away on holidays. As her replacement teacher is not very IT literate the User Guide would need to be detailed and incorporate screen shots.

### **On-screen help**

Sometimes quick on screen help is needed eg when entering Returns on the Return form. There are a few buttons providing help but more are needed.

### **More information about each DVD**

As new DVDs are added it becomes time consuming describing each DVD to her students. She would like additional information stored about each DVD in the form of a description of the content. If she had another report which listed Title, Description and Rating she could print this for her students.

### **Further reports**

The overdue report and topic search are very useful. She would like another report which allows her to search by topic and by rating. This will enable her to ensure the DVDs are suitable for the younger school students. The report would need to be linked to the Main Menu and allow her to type the topic name then rating letter.

### **Overdue fines**

Often students forget to return videos and, as there is no hire charge, there is little incentive to return a DVD on time. She notices that the Returns form shows how many days a DVD has been borrowed. She would like the form to also show a charge for DVDs that have not been returned within a month.

### **Replacing parameter queries with combo boxes**

In some cases the user has to enter information such as genre and studentID which can lead to data input errors. Where possible it would be useful to replace them with combo boxes which automatically validate data input, for example when searching for DVDs on a particular subject (pages 6-7) or searching for a student (pages 8-9 and 10-11).

Word count 432