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1	On Systems of Systems Engineering: Online Distance Education
2	Systems Key Challenges
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7 Abstract

Technology development have affected educational delivery around the world. The utilization 8 and implementation of online learning is rising at a staggering manner. Online Distance 9 learning has become an urgent need recently. The use of distance learning has appeared in the 10 past ten years, the learning has been extended by the technology from classrooms in the 11 schools into online learning. Online Learning adopted in various universities, educational 12 institutions and schools worldwide. Recently, with the emergency situations due to the 13 epidemic of COVID -19, and according to the recommendations by World Health Organization 14 for social distance, most of the educational institutions worldwide tend to utilize the online 15 learning instead of traditional learning. Although the online learning has been implemented 16 years ago, still it faces challenges. The author of this research paper aim to explore the key 17 challenges that reported while implementing Online Distance Education System as Systems of 18 Systems. The author then outlines research agenda that identifies 11 research themes that can 19 be considered as a solution for the current Online Distance Education System 20

²¹ implementations challenges.

22

23 Index terms— online; learning; education; SoS; SoSE; challenges.

24 1 Introduction

ystem of Systems" (SoS) is an emerging topic that has been in use in recent years. SoS involve system consisting 25 of several systems that are operated independently. SoS offer a way to reach the required set of capabilities 26 which make them very important. SoS recently have been found in different areas, such as healthcare, defense, 27 transport, education, energy and logistics. The developments in the field of science and technology in the 21st 28 century have broadened the educational system's duties and responsibilities; new opportunities have also been 29 brought [1]. Online Distance Education System which involve the Online Distance learning has been emerged 30 with great benefits, it is considered as effective method for learning, it allows for class education to be offered 31 to anyone anywhere all around the world. Moreover, Online Distance Learning Considered as cost effective [2]. 32 Online learning is very attractive to a vast number of students, because it provides versatility of attendance, ease 33 34 of access and comfort [3]. Online Distance Learning offered great solution in some urgent accidents Corona Virus 35 Emerging situation, Online Distance Learning considered as effective approach for Education while performing 36 the social distancing and avoid gathering. However, the current implementations of Online Distance Education SoS have number of challenges that have been encountered. In this research paper, Author firstwill introduce 37 the concept of SoS and SoSE. Second, author will present the types of SoS. Third, Education System as Systems 38 of Systems SoS will be introduced. Forth, Online Distance Education System as System of Systems SoS will 39 be introduced. Fifth, Online Distance Education System key challenges will be identified. Finally, author will 40 propose a structure for the research agenda for the Future of Online Distance Education that can be considered 41 as a solution for the current Online Distance Education implementations challenges. 42

43 **2** II.

44 3 Literature Review a) Systems of Systems SOS

Systems of Systems shortly known as SoS. SoS concept has been addressed by large numbers of researches 45 and identified in various ways. The key feature of SoS is that it consists of number of systems that function 46 independently [4]. SoS concept become very common. It has been explored and addressed in different conferences, 47 books, reports and researches [5]. One definition of SoS concept is as it is set of systems that are resulted from 48 the integration of independent systems into bigger system that offer unique abilities [6]. Another definition of SoS 49 concept as it is a composition of systems that are operated independently and managed independently [7]. SoS 50 described by [8] as it has the following characteristics: systems operated, managed and evolved independently 51 from their constituent systems, geographical distribution, and emergent behaviors. Although SoS definition has 52 been addressed by number of researches, there is no exact definition of SoS concept [5]. However, it has been 53 noticed that almost all the definitions of SoS agreed on the following characteristics of SoS i.e. complexity, 54 variability, systems distributed geographically, independent subsystems, evolution, heterogeneity [5]. 55

⁵⁶ 4 b) Systems of Systems Engineering SOSE

Systems of Systems Engineering shortly known as SoSE. SoSE is field that recently emerged in order to deal with 57 problems that SoS posed. Although SoSE concept has been identified in number of research papers, there is no 58 definition of SoSE that is accepted widely [9]. Below are some definitions of SoSE that are defined in research 59 60 papers. SoSEinvolve utilizing the existing assets and take the value from them and then design new better assets 61 that can be re-purposed [10]. SoSE described by [8] asit involves constituent systems to be combined in order to fulfil the requirements that are frequently changing. SoSE identified by [11] as it involves plan, analyze, arrange 62 and merge the abilities of constituent systems into SoS ability that is larger than the combination of the abilities 63 of the constituent systems. Literature studied and explored SoSE concepts agreed on the following elements 64 that are related to SoSE concept [9]. The most common and related elements to SoSE concept are systems 65 independently operated and managed, distributed geographically, Interoperability, Complementarity, and Holism 66

67 [9].

⁶⁸ 5 c) Types of System of Systems SOS

69 SoS classified into 4 types i.e. (a) Directed, (b)Acknowledged, (c) Collaborative, and (d) Virtual [8].

Directed SoS: consists of constituent systems that are independent and geographically distributed. The constituent systems preserve the power to run independently, however their operational mode normally is subordinated to the purpose that are managed centrally [12]. The constituent systems intended to achieve specific purposes. Most likely these constituents owned by single organization.

Acknowledged SoS: have objectives, resources and nominated manager. the constituent systems of Acknowlredged SoS maintain their objectives, development, sustainability, funding and autonomous ownership. The

constituent systems of Acknowledged SoS work in collaboration to fulfill a larger target that cannot be achieved
 the by themselves [13].

Collaborative SoS: consist of constituent systems that are independent, these systems cooperated voluntarily

⁷⁹ and there is no agreed director for these systems [14].

Virtual SoS: does not have central governance management authority. The participant systems in the virtual SoS may not agree on the objectives of the system. Virtual SoS depends on mechanisms that are invisible in order to preserve it [8].

⁸³ 6 III.

84 Education System as Systems of Systems SoS

Education system considered as one of the large-scale Systems of Systems SoS. Education system consists of constituent systems such as Ministry of Education, Universities, Colleges, Educational institutes, Schools,

87 Students, Parents, Teachers, Transportation and Supporting Services i.e. maintenance, cleaning and security

services. In this research paper, Author is concentrating on Online Distance Education System as Systems of
 Systems.

⁹⁰ 7 IV. Online Distance Education System

as System of Systems SoS Technology development have affected educational delivery around the world. Online
 learning is rising at a staggering pace [15]. Online Distance learning has become an urgent need recently. The

93 use of distance learning has appeared in the past ten years, the learning has been extended by the technology 94 from classrooms in the schools into online learning. However, what the world is witnessing today has made online

95 distance learning so important. As an example, when the problem of the epidemic that hit most of the world

- 96 countries and affected millions of people emerged i.e. Virus Covid 19, this urgent situation derive an urgent need
- $_{97}$ for social distancing, and because the health and safety of our children as well as the people is a top priority for
- governments, the decision to implement online distance learning has been taken in many countries of the world.

The Theory of e-learning comprises of three components. E-learning may be described through a theory-99 based paradigm that relates learning tools, instructional techniques and pedagogical models or constructs [16]. 100 However, author in this research paper concentrating on Online Learning as Systems of Systems. Online 101 Distance Learning system considered as one of the large-scale Systems of Systems. Based upon the E-Learning 102 Systems' Theoretical Framework [16] in which the E-Learning System consists of three main systems i.e. People, 103 Technologies and Services. People such as students, teachers, Ministry of Education, technology providers and 104 content providers. Technologies include content, communication and collaboration. Services include pedagogical 105 models and Instructional strategies [16]. Based upon this E-learning System's Theoretical Framework the Online 106 Distance Learning System can be described as Systems of Systems that consists of the following constituent 107 systems: (a) People and it includes: students, Ministry of Education, The authors of the curriculum, Teachers, 108 School Admins and supervisors, (b) Technologies and it includes: content and the software and platforms that are 109 used for the communication and collaboration in the online education, (c) Services and it includes: IT support, 110 and Telecommunication companies. In this research, author aim to investigate the Online Distance Education 111 System Key challenges, then author will propose the Future of Online Distance Education that can be considered 112 as a solution for the current Online Distance Education implementations challenges. Figure 1 below illustrates the 113 Online Distance Education System as SoSs. The most recent works and researches that are centered on whether 114 115 online learning is as successful as traditional learning in classrooms. For some studies online learning has been 116 found to be equivalent to faceto-face learning in traditional classrooms in terms of the learning quality as well as the satisfaction of the students [15]. Additionally, the students received higher grades in the online learning 117 followed by mix learning in which both online and traditional learning methods applied and then the traditional 118 learning environments and this considered as indication that online learning is more successful than classroom-119 based learning [15]. However, the implementation of Online Distance Learning considered as challenging and 120 may affect achieving the learning outcomes. For students it is hard for them to understand that the role of 121 an instructor in an online classroom is much more student centered compared to traditional teacher-centered 122 classrooms [17]. This may result in situations in which students fail to take on the role of an active learner and, 123 as a consequence, they simply do not learn so well and this negatively affect achieving the learning outcomes [17]. 124

125 8 ii. Students Engagement

Student Engagement in the Online Distance Learning is very important. Student Engagement is described as 126 the student's psychological interest in, and effort to study, understand or master the information, skills or crafts 127 that are intended to facilitate academic work [18]. The student participation and engagement in online learning 128 129 is essential because the student participation can be shown as proof of the significant effort needed by students for their cognitive growth and their desire to construct their own skills, contributing to a high level of student 130 131 achievement [18]. Students view online courses differently than traditional courses. Negative expectations can 132 result in unfavorable learning results like reduced motivation and endurance [15]. The student's engagement in 133 the Online Distance Learning considered as challenge. Some students may be embarrassed to ask questions or express opinions through online classes which affect the interactions and overall learning outcomes of them [17]. 134 Strategies, methods and tools must be developed in order to ensure students engagement in the learning [18]. 135

¹³⁶ 9 iii. Students Evaluation

Students Evaluation may be considered as a challenge while the implementation of Online Distance Education as it has been proven that grades of students while implementing online learning are better that the grades while implementing traditional Face-to-Face learning. The students received higher grades in the online learning followed by mix learning in which both online and traditional learning methods applied and then the traditional learning environments [15]. This may indicate that students achieved the learning outcomes, however this may also indicate that students may got help during the exam time, or they may navigate the web to get answers for exams questions.

¹⁴⁴ 10 iv. Users Satisfaction

Ensuring user's satisfaction considered as a challenge while implementing online distance education system. Students Satisfactions affected by different factors. Student participation raises the level of student satisfaction, moreover it improves student motivation to learn, decreases sense of isolation, and the performance of the online learning will be improved [18]. In the online learning environment, importance of aligning educational material and assessment metrics with learning results is crucial to positive learning outcomes and student's satisfaction [15]. It is important as well to achieve teacher's satisfaction in order to motivate them for better teaching process. School Admins, Parents, accreditation team's satisfaction is important as well.

¹⁵² 11 v. Curriculum Design

153 Designing a Curriculum that lead to achieve learning outcomes and student's satisfaction considered as a challenge

while implementing Online Distance Education System. Researchers investigated the curriculum design factors

156 factors positively affected online learningprocess such as the designing of adaptable content and designing the 157 content that promote student's interaction [15].

¹⁵⁸ 12 vi. Ensuring the quality of education

159 It is essential to ensure the quality of the delivered education for students while implementing Online Distance 160 Education System. As In traditional Learning environment, usually school admins and supervisors keep track of 161 the education process at schools, it is necessary to keep track of the education process online as well.

¹⁶² 13 vii. Some job titles and duties end

163 The complete turning into the implementation of the Online Distance Education System may lead to some

employees losing their jobs. For example, when applying the distance learning system, jobs related to each of the

following services considered as not necessary, such as guarding, security, cleaning services, building maintenance services, and transportation services to and from school, which may result in negative effects on society, such as

high unemployment. On the other hand, this may have positive effects, such as the termination of transportation

usage will positively affect the environment by reducing emissions and improve the air quality.

¹⁶⁹ 14 b) Technologies

There are number of challenges that are related to technologies while implementing Online Distance Education
 System.

¹⁷² 15 i. Availability of Devices

173 In order to effectively implement the Online Distance Education System, it is essential to ensure that all students

174 have their own device that they can use for learning. This can be considered as a challenge because some families

175 with low income may not be able to offer each of their children a device that they can use for online learning.

176 However, in many countries, charities sponsor education and provide electronic devices for needy students.

177 16 ii. Achieving Security Requirements

Online Distance Education System infrastructure represents a charming learning environment that's popularity increased, and people tend to increasingly interest in online courses [19]. However, Online Distance Education System infrastructure is fundamentally depending on the utilization of the Internet platform that witnessed an increasing set of illegitimate actions. The Online distance education System infrastructure may expose to different types of threats. [19]. Moreover, several online learning platforms are carried out without considering many of the security concerns [19]. It is highly recommended to address security requirements and fulfill them while implementing Online Distance Education System.

iii. Ensuring Privacy of the users i.e. students, teachers Ensuring the privacy of the Online Distance Education
 System's users is critical issue. Some of the implementation in this field include signing term of use policy and
 setting up a penalty list for any break of the privacy for the system's users.

188 17 c) Services

189 18 i. Internet Connection Reliability

Internet connection has great impact on the process of online learning process. A study conducted in order to examine the relationship between student's success and the bandwidth connectivity and it concluded that students that have higher bandwidth connectivity engaged more in the online classes and their grades are higher as well [20]. It is essential to ensure that the Internet connection is reliable, and its bandwidth is high while implementing Online Distance Education System for both students and instructors.

VI. The Research Agenda: the Future of Online Distance Education that can be Considered as a Solution for the Current Online Distance Education Implementations Challenges

The author of this research paper aim to offer a research agenda that identifies 11 proposed frameworks and approaches to overcome the challenges of the implementation of Online Distance Education System. Figure 2 below represent the adopted strategies for Research themes generation [8]. Below are the research themes suggested to overcome the current Online Distance Education implementations challenges. Please Note that the research themes listed without any importance priority. Table1 represent brief description of each research theme. ()

203 **19** H

204 Year 2020

Below represented research themes in no priority order: a) Theme 1: Online Distance Education System Approaches to ensure Achieving Learning Outcomes Achieving learning outcomes is one of the most important goals of the educational system. When applying the online distance learning system, achieving learning outcomes is a real challenge. It is essential to ensure that this goal is achieved, however, it may be hard to measure while

- 209 applying online learning system. The author of this research paper believes that it is essential to develop a
- framework to ensure achieving learning outcomes, the framework should consider the following points: First, All the learning outcomes must be clear and clarified in the beginning of each online session, before the end of each
- online session it is recommended to apply short quiz to evaluate the level of achieving learning outcomes, moreover,
- it is recommended as well to explore students opinions after each online session. Second, explore students that
- 214 need extra lessons and explanations and offer them extra classes in order to ensure that the learning outcomes are
- achieved. Third, strategies and plans needed to be developed for the purpose of achieving learning outcomes while
- implementing the online distance learning system. Forth, it is recommended to develop smart application that capture students' understandings levels based upon their performance in all of the online subjects and predict
- students' performance as well. Finally, it is recommended to explore other successful implementations of online
- 219 distance learning systems worldwide and benefit from their experience.

²²⁰ 20 b) Theme 2: Online Distance Education System

Approaches to ensure Students Engagement The student's engagement has great impact on student's satisfaction, motivation and achieving learning outcomes. Students engagements in the online distance classes is an indication of the successful online distance education process. Moreover, it motivates student to learn and teachers to innovate. Author of this research paper believes that it is essential to develop framework for ensuring student's engagement in the education process while implementing online distance education

226 21 Research Theme

227 Brief Description

228 22 Achieve Learning Outcomes

This research theme addresses the research need to develop approaches to ensure achieving learning outcomes while using complex SoSs that makes it hard to achieve the requested learning outcomes.

231 23 Students Engagement

This research theme addresses the research need to develop approaches for ensuring student's engagement while using complex SoSs that makes the students engagement hard to measure.

234 24 Students Evaluation

This research theme addresses the research need to develop approaches and framework for student's evaluation to ensure fair evaluation of students while using complex SoSs that makes the fair evaluation of students hard to accomplish.

238 25 Users Satisfaction

This research theme addresses the research need to develop approaches for ensuring user's satisfaction while using complex SoSs that makes the users satisfaction hard to achieve.

241 26 Curriculum Design

This research theme addresses the research need to develop approaches and framework for designing effective curriculum while using complex SoSs that makes it hard to design effective and suitable curriculum.

²⁴⁴ 27 Ensuring the quality of education

This research theme addresses the research need to develop approaches and framework for ensuring the quality of the education while using complex SoSs that makes it hard to ensure the quality of the learning and teaching

246 of the e247 process.

248 28 Some job titles and duties end

This research theme addresses the problem of increasing in unemployment percentage due to the fact that the use of online education system may result in ending some job titles and duties. This research theme addresses

this challenge and how to overcome its effects.

252 29 Availability of Devices

This research theme addresses the need to ensure the availability of Devices for both students and instructors that can be used for online learning while using complex SoSs.

255 **30** Achieving Security Requirements

This research theme addresses the need to achieve security requirements that provide a holistic security vision for ensuring the security of complex SoSs which are liable to constant changes that makes them exposed to new threats Ensuring Privacy of the users i.e. students, teachers

This research theme addresses the need to ensure privacy of the users which provide a holistic vision for the requirements to ensure users privacy while using complex SoSs which are susceptible to constant changes that makes the users exposed to break into their privacy.

²⁶² **31** Internet Connection Reliability

This research theme addresses the research need to ensure the reliability of the internet connection while using complex SoSs that makes the unreliable internet connection may result in systems' failure.

Table ??: Brief description of each of the 11-research theme system. The developed framework should consider 265 the following recommendations: first, the developed curriculum must be attractive and encourage student's 266 engagement. Second, part of the evaluation of student's performance must consider student's engagement in 267 268 online classes. Third, strategies and plans must be developed to include several ways that ensure student's engagement. Forth, smart software can be used and installed in student's devices in order to monitor their 269 behavior during online classes and detect student's engagement during the online classes as well. In the case of 270 young students, specialists in children's behaviors and parents' opinions could provide valuable recommendations 271 for ensuring students engagement during online classes. 272

²⁷³ 32 c) Theme 3: Online Distance Education System Framework ²⁷⁴ for effective students' evaluation

Researches and studies that dealt with the level of students performance when applying the online distance 275 learning system have proven that students' grades were higher than when applying the traditional education 276 system, this may be an evidence of the effectiveness of online distance learning system, but it may also be an 277 indication of the lack of credibility of the evaluation when applying the online distance learning system, for 278 example, the student may receive external assistance during the application of exams, or the student may use 279 external sources or the web, for example, to answer questions. Hence, it is clear that effective evaluation of 280 students when applying the distance learning system may constitute a real challenge. In this regard, number 281 of suggestions and approaches have been proposed. The author of the research paper believes that evaluation 282 framework must be set up and number of points should be considered. First, the students should be evaluated not 283 only based upon exams, participation during the online class should be considered. Second, online exams should 284 have protocols like keeping the cameras and microphones on. Third, exam questions must be reviewed against 285 the web to make sure that students cannot find their answers there. Forth, it is advisable to develop software 286 that is mandatory to be installed in students' devices which can be used for detecting students' behavior during 287 online exams, further approaches can be considered as well. Moreover, teachers can participate in developing the 288 online evaluation framework as well. 289

²⁹⁰ 33 d) Theme 4: Online Distance Education System

Approaches for ensuring user's satisfaction One of the most important factors in the success of the educational 291 SoS is the satisfaction of users, whether they are students, teachers, school administration and parents. When 292 implementing online distance learning system, achieving user satisfaction is a real challenge. The satisfaction of 293 the student and the teacher must primarily be achieved. In order to ensure user's satisfaction, it is essential to 294 develop framework that consider the following points: First, ensure students participation in the online classes 295 as the student participation raises the level of students satisfaction, improves student motivation to learn, and 296 decreases sense of isolation, moreover it raises teacher's satisfaction as it indicated the effectiveness of learning. 297 Second, it is essential to align educational materials with assessment metrics which lead to positive learning 298 outcomes and student's satisfaction. Third, it is important to continuously support and appreciation for efforts 299 of students as well as teachers. Forth, to investigate and survey user's point of view about all systems aspects 300 in order to improve it and ensure users satisfactions. Fifth, strategies and plans needed to be developed in order 301 to take necessary steps that will positively lead to user's satisfactions. Finally, exploring different successful 302 implementations of online distance education system worldwide will help in developing a holistic vision about 303 framework for achieving user's satisfactions. 304

³⁰⁵ 34 e) Theme 5: Online Distance Education System

Framework for Curriculum Design Designing the appropriate curriculum for the online distance learning process is a real challenge for curriculum developers and teachers as well. An approach should be developed in which all required educational outcomes can be achieved while applying a distance learning system over the Internet. Therefore, the author of this research paper believes that a framework for curriculum design should be developed and consider the following points: It is advised to take advantage of other experiences in preparing curriculum for online learning, the prepared curriculum should be suitable with different age stages, moreover, the prepared curriculum for online learning should enforce students to engage in learning process, additionally, the developed curriculum should require students participation, moreover, teachers and students feedback about curriculum must be taken into consideration. Finally, the developed software and applications that are used for online learning such as virtual labs, and virtual classrooms should be improved in a way that makes the students feel as if they are in real classroom environment.

317 35 f) Theme 6: Online Distance Education System

Approaches for ensuring the quality of education It is very important to ensure the quality of education processes when applying the online distance learning system. In the traditional learning environment, many methods are used to ensure the quality of the education process, such as achieving learning outcomes, students results, accreditation teams, and school evaluation, and the largest role of school administrations that continuously visit classrooms and follow levels of academic achievement for the students.

Thus, in the context of SOSE, an approach should be followed in order to ensure the quality of the education 323 process while using online distance learning system. Number of points should be taken into consideration: 324 first, Administration continuous to attending online sessions along with students. Second, Accreditation teams 325 326 continuous to visit online schools and evaluate education process. Third, surveys and feedback should be requested 327 from students as well as their parents in the case of young students. Forth: sudden online quizzes should be 328 held in continuous manner, fifth: all the online sessions must be recorded and saved for later usage. Finally, strategies of ensuring online education quality must be developed in which all of the users of Online Distance 329 Education SoSs must be involved such as: managers, teachers, students, members of Education Ministry, members 330 of accreditation teams, curriculum developers as well as parents. 331

332 36 g) Theme 7: Online Distance Education System

Framework for minimizing the effects of unemployment The implementation of the online distance learning 333 SoS has many benefits to society, individuals and the environment. For example, applying an online distance 334 learning system contributes to reduce the expenses from financial budget of schools such as guarding, cleaning 335 and maintenance services and the costs of school services such as electricity, water and communications services, 336 337 also it has a great benefit to the environment as the implementation of the online distance learning system means dispensing with school transportation Which directly affects improving air quality by reducing emissions from 338 school buses and cars that transport students to and from schools. Also, the implementation of online distance 339 learning system enhances the student's confidence by transforming the dependence on the teacher in learning 340 in the traditional education environment into the dependence on the student, whereby the student conducts 341 researches and explorations and attempts to solve problems, which also enhances the research skills of students. 342 On the other side, some job titles and duties will be end, like for example school guard, school cleaners, bus 343 drivers, which will result in raising the percentage of unemployment in the community. The author of this 344 research paper believes that it is necessary to cooperate with government agencies for human resources to find a 345 solution to this problem and limit its negative effects on families and individuals in society. Plans and strategies 346 must be developed to ensure that individuals who have lost their jobs are transferred to other institutions that are 347 in need of employees, moreover, It is recommended to cooperate with charities to provide the necessary financial 348 supports for them during this period until they can obtain other jobs. 349

³⁵⁰ 37 h) Theme 8: Availability of Devices Requirements for Online ³⁵¹ Distance Education SoSs

One of the biggest challenges facing the success of the implementation of online distance education system is 352 ensuring that there is an electronic device for each student. Some families with low incomes may not be able to 353 offer an electronic devices for their children, or they may provide an electronic device which more than one of their 354 children share it, which may affect the effectiveness of learning, as it is possible that two of their children have an 355 online class at the same time. Hence, the author of this research paper highly recommend that it is essential to 356 357 collaborate all the efforts between the government, Education Ministry and the charities in the country to ensure 358 that there is an electronic device for every student studying in the online distance learning system. Thus, in the 359 context of SOSE, a framework must be developed in order to ensure the availability of devices for each student. 360 First, the student's family's financial situations must be surveyed in order to investigate and report the families with low income. Second, a survey sent to the low-income families to explore whether they have devices for each 361 of their children. Third, plan must be developed to offer devices to the students that are in need based upon 362 agreement between Education Ministry and Charities in the country. Forth, ensure that families with low income 363 have internet connection at their houses. Fifth, continuous check and investigate to ensure the availability of 364 devices for each student studying in the online distance education system. 365

³⁶⁶ 38 i) Theme 9: Security Requirements for Online Distance ³⁶⁷ Education SoSs

Although the interaction between the constituent systems of the Online Distance Education SoSs offer huge 368 benefits, this interaction may result in different forms of security breaches. Therefore, it is essential to ensure 369 the security confidence between the constituent systems of the Online Distance Education SoSs. Thus, in the 370 context of SOSE, it is essential to ensure that each of the constituent systems of the Online Distance Education 371 SoSs are secure. However, many factors may affect the process of ensuring the security of the constituent systems 372 of the Online Distance Education SoSs such as the graphical distribution, and SoSs are independently operated 373 and managed. For this challenge, author of this research paper believes that the utilization of Blockchain-374 375 Based Security Requirements Engineering Framework [8] for ensuring the security of the constituent systems of 376 the Online Distance Education SoSs. The blockchain is growing as one of cyber security's most propitious and cleverest innovations [21]. Using Blockchain to ensure the security of SOSs for Online Distance Education System 377 would merge a consensus mechanism in the architecture of the SoSs that would allow a majority or all () H Year 378 2020 constituent systems to agree to work as a group or even survive if some of them were compromised [8]. The 379 author of this research paper believes that a Blockchainbased Security Requirements Engineering Framework 380 would provide great protection for overall SoSs of the Online Distance Education System. It would be great if 381 strategies that ensure the security of the constituent SoSs of the Online Distance Education System developed. 382 Moreover, Agreement of the security rules must be signed up by all of the users in the constituent systems of the 383 Online Distance Education SoSs. 384

³⁸⁵ 39 j) Theme 10: User's Privacy Requirements for Online ³⁸⁶ Distance Education SoSs

Although the utilization of Online Distance Education SoSs offer huge benefits, this utilization may result in 387 privacy breaks for the systems users. Therefore, it is essential to ensure the privacy of the users of the constituent 388 systems of the Online Distance Education SoSs. Thus, in the context of SOSE, it is essential to ensure that the 389 privacy of each of the users of each of the constituent systems of the Online Distance Education SoSsis achieved. 390 However, many factors may affect the process of ensuring the privacy of the users of the Online Distance Education 391 392 SoSs such as the systems independencies and the graphical distribution. For this challenge, author of this research 393 paper believes that a trust-based framework which facilitates the automated integration of trust-based policies is important [22]. Moreover, access control services should be sufficiently flexible to capture the dynamic, context, 394 or attributes or credential-based access requirements and enforce the least privilege principle [22]. These access 395 management systems can need to include standards for privacy security, articulated by specific laws [22]. Privacy 396 policy must be set and consider all concepts related to the privacy of each user in the system. 397 The author of this research paper believe that a Blockchain-based Security Requirements Engineering 398

Framework would enhance privacy protection for all SoSs users of the Online Distance Education System. It would be great to develop strategies that ensure the privacy of the constituent SoSs of the Online Distance Education System users.

402 40 k) Theme 11: Internet Connection Reliability Requirements 403 for Online Distance Education SoSs

One of the important requirements while implementing an online distance education system is to ensure Internet 404 Connection Reliability. Actually, any unreliable or poor connection will strongly have negative effects especially 405 for the live online classes. Thus, in the context of SOSE, it is essential to ensure the reliability of the internet 406 connection during the implementation of online distance education system. First, ensure that all students have 407 a strong internet connection at their home. Second, the Education Ministry should sign a contract with the 408 Internet Service Providers companies by which they offer the internet connection with strong connectivity and 409 high bandwidth to students. Third, it is recommended to sign an agreement with Internet Service Providers 410 companies by which the internet connection offered free of charge while using any platform or website for the 411 education purposes. Forth, all online sessions must be recorded and offered for students by which student who 412 has failed to connect to the live online session can attend the recorded class. Fifth, an emergency technical teams 413 must be available for technical assistant on daily manner, especially during the online classes. 414

415 **41 VII.**

416 Timelines and the Need for a New Research Agenda

Author believes that great efforts have been accomplished in addressing some of the mentioned challenges, however, author believes that the proposed research themes in this research paper may help to cope with the challenges of Online Distance Education SoSs.

Author of this research paper believes that the research agenda that is proposed in this research paper offer a road map for the coming 25 years. Author believes that all community parts should actively involve in the

⁴²² proposed research themes to overcome the challenges while implementing Online Distance Education System. The

423 proposed research themes in this research paper can be considered as a foundation for the methods, approaches, 424 tools and techniques of SoSE. Governments and Educational Institutes should invest in the online learning field 425 in order to reach powerful future of online distance learning.

426 **42 VIII.**

427 43 Conclusion

The emergence of the internet has great effects in peoples' lives. Recently, statistics presented that peoples tend to use internet in an increasing manner, and this affected the development in the field of Technology and motivated it. Online learning has become an urgent need recently. Online Learning adopted in various educational institutions worldwide. Although the online learning has been implemented years ago, still it faces challenges. The author of this research paper presented the key challenges that reported while implementing Online Distance Education System as Systems of Systems. The author then outlines research agenda that identifies 11 research

434 themes that can be considered as a solution for the current Online Distance Education System implementations challenges.



Figure 1: Figure 1 :

435



Figure 2: Figure 2 :

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