

AppSys 2.1.2

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1 Overview

AppSys is a tool to reduce the workload related to applications to PhD programs. It relies on a MySQL database you need to provide and is written in PHP.

AppSys's development is funded by the DFG, and written by Florian Junghanns.

For questions regarding AppSys, ask gkwebmaster@inf.uni-konstanz.de.

For version updates, see <http://www.inf.uni-konstanz.de/gk/software/>.

2 Installation

2.1 Directory Configuration

Extract the archive to a location of your choice, for example '/foo/bar'. Specify the path where the application material is to be uploaded to in the file '/inc.settings.php' in the '\$_settings[upload][path]' variable with trailing slash, e.g. '/foo/bar/files/'. PHP needs to have writing access to the upload directory.

2.2 MySQL Configuration

Create a new database in your MySQL database with the collation 'utf8_general_ci' and execute the 'install.sql' on it. Insert the correct credentials for usage of the database into '/inc.settings.php'.

2.3 Configuring Apache

The module 'MultiByte' needs to be installed. ¹

2.4 Configuring PHP

Set the PHP setting 'register_globals' to 'off' (for instance, in the 'php.ini').

2.5 Configuring Users

To add an user is still sort of a hack, since it normally doesn't need to be done very often.

¹ - If installing MultiByte-support is not possible, you can disable the lines 313 to 316 in '/lib/misc.php' and hope it still works.

You insert into the database table 'user':

'name' => Username for the user; used for login.

'password' => MD5-hashed password.

'firstname' => First name of the user.

'lastname' => Last name of the user.

'shortname' => Abbreviation for the user.

'lastlogin' and 'id' => Let those empty. 'id' is filled in automatically and 'lastlogin' is used by the system.

To create a new 'area', also usable for chairs of a department, insert it into the 'area'-table, and leave the 'id'-field empty. To assign a user to an area (for example the professor(s) of that chair), look up the ID of the user and the ID of the area and insert them into the proper fields in the 'user_to_area'-table. Leave the 'id'-field empty as always.

2.6 Configuring Shortnotice

In the file '/lib/misc.php' you can specify the users that have access to the 'shortnotice'-feature in line 203 and 260 by adding their shortnames (like the 'DS' one) to the if-clause. (I know, it's a hack.)

2.7 Configuring the Secretary

To activate the link to the management overview for new applications for the secretary user, you put the name of the secretary user in line 44 in '/overall_overview.php' into the if-clause.

2.8 Configuring Application Details

In the file '/inc.settings.php' you can set the age range for applicants, the file size of the application material (in bytes) and the file type in which the uploaded files have to be. You can set the root directory manually if you want to. Note that it needs to have a trailing slash.

2.9 Misc

You need to change the following files according to the notes in these files.:

/template/mail_advisor_new_pd_application_body.html

/template/mail_advisor_new_phd_application_body.html

/template/mail_applicant_new_subject.html

/template/mail_applicant_rejected_body.html

/template/mail_applicant_rejected_subject.html

The abbreviation 'pd' stands for PostDoc, the 'phd' for Physical Doctor.