NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

FACULTY OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE HONOURS DEGREE IN RECORDS AND ARCHIVES MANAGEMENT

PART I SECOND SEMESTER MAY 2008 EXAMINATIONS

ILI 1203 INFORMATION RETRIEVAL SYSTEMS

TIME: 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1.   ANSWER ANY **FOUR** QUESTIONS FROM THE FOLLOWING
2.   EACH QUESTION CARRIES **25 MARKS**

---

1.   Discuss how the Internet has aided or not aided the information retrieval systems
      environment.   **[25 marks]**

2.   Show how the following terms are used in the Information Retrieval Systems environment:
      a) Pre-coordinate indexing systems
      b) Post-Coordinate indexing systems
      c) Database vendor
      d) Search engines
      e) Boolean logic
       f) Truncation   **[25 marks]**

3.   From the list of information tools provided below, choose one and write a critique of this
      tool, showing how this tool can be best improved:
      a) Catalogues
      b) Abstracts
      c) Bibliographies
      d) Printed Indexes
      e) Lists of Subject Headings
       f) Classification Schemes
      g) Thesauri   **[25 marks]**

4.   Discuss the attributes of the pre-search interview and their effect on search results in an
      electronic environment.   **[25 marks]**

5.   a) Using illustrations discuss the concept of information retrieval systems.   **[10 marks]**
      b) Show and analyse the basic components of an information retrieval system. **[15 marks]**
                                                                   [Total 25 marks]

6.   Discuss the criteria that can be used to evaluate information retrieval systems.
                                                                         [25 marks]

END OF PAPER