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SLIMS: An Open Source Library Management System

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Abstract

Library Management System is most essential in any academic institution, and it helps in library management, Circulation of library documents, maintenance of serials control, stock verification, report generation and other facilities for libraries. The user community to get the status of books, bibliographical details, new arrivals, book reservation, catalogue search and other facilities in single place. This also helps today in the competitive market many commercial software are available with high degree of cost to manage library operations. But many institutions and its libraries cannot afford the high cost of using commercial products. Therefore the alternative solutions is open source software hence this paper discuss about the open source library management system called SLIMS and it's features, installation, modules, functions and services.

Keyword: SLIMS, ILMS and Library Management System, OSS and Open Source Software

1. Introduction

Library Automation deals with the library management, Circulation of library documents, maintenance of serials control, stock verification, report generation and other facilities for libraries. The Library Management System has four main modules. Insertion to Database Module -User friendly input screen Extracting from Database module-Attractive Output Screen Report Generation module -borrowed book list & Available book list Search Facility system -search for books and members.

2. Open Source Library Management System Software's

The following are the Open Source Library Management System Software's for library management.

S.	Software	Source	Originated
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No.			
1	Koha	http://www.koha.org	New Zealand
2	Evergreen	http://www.open-ils.org/	USA
3	OpenBiblio	http://obiblio.sourceforge.net/	Spain
4	NewGenLib	http://www.verussolutions.biz/	India
5	OPALS	http://www.mediaflex.net/	USA
6	PMB	http://www.pmbservices.fr/nouveau_site/	French
7	Emilda	http://www.emilda.org/	Finland
8	SLIMS	https://slims.web.id/web/	Indonesia

3. SLIMS

Senayan Library Management System (SLiMS) is open source integrated library management software originally developed in Indonesia with a variety of developers from the different parts of the world including Bangladesh. The software was awarded in the category of Open Source by Indonesian ICT Award -2009. Since SLiMS is developed based on Unicode, it completely supports Bangla input, and also it was very good built-in feature of Digital Library and Institutional Repository.

3.1. SLIMS Software Features

SLIMS has the following features

- ❖ Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) with thumbnail document image support (for images of book covers), Simple Search and Advanced Search mode
- ❖ Digital contents/files (PDF, DOC, RTF, XLS, PPT, Video, Audio, etc.): attachment in each bibliographic record is supported
- ❖ Documents record detail in (MODS) XML format
- ❖ Documents record detail in JSON-LD format with schema.org
- ❖ RSS (Really Simple Syndication) XML format for OPAC
- ❖ OAI-PMH (Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting) in Dublin Core format for metadata harvesting purposes
- ❖ Bibliographic/catalog database management with book cover image support
- ❖ Union Catalog creation with Union Catalog Server
- ❖ Serial publication control
- ❖ Federated search
- ❖ Document items management with barcode support
- ❖ Master files management to manage
- ❖ Collection Types, Publishers, Authors, Locations and Suppliers
- ❖ Circulation support with following sub-features :
 - Loan and Return transactions
 - Reservations
 - Quick returns
 - Configurable and flexible Loan Rules
 - Membership management
 - Stocktaking module to help Stocktaking process in the library

- Reporting and Statistics
- ❖ System modules with the following sub-features :
 - Global system configuration
 - Modules management
 - Application Users and Groups management
 - Holiday settings
 - Barcodes generator utility
 - Database backup utility
- ❖ Responsive user interface and third party bibliographic records indexing

3.2. SLIMS Requirements

The following are requirements of SLIMS.

- ❖ SLIMS
- ❖ Apache
- ❖ MySQL
- ❖ PHP
- ❖ XAMPP-Server

4. SLIMS Installation

Step: 1

- ❖ Install the Xampp Server.
- ❖ Start Apache and MySQL Database.

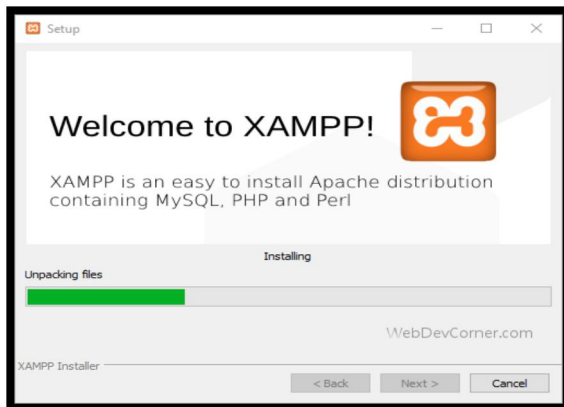


Figure: 1 Xampp Installation Process

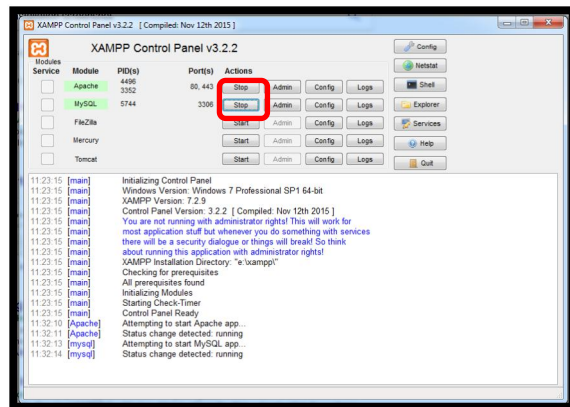


Figure: 2 Xampp Control Panel

Step: 2

- ❖ Download the SLIMS zip file from Github.
- ❖ Extract the slims zip file in Xampp/htdocs folder and rename into slims8.

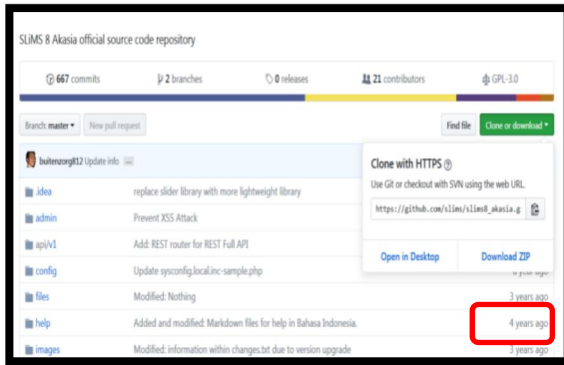


Figure: 3 SLIMS Downloading
SLIMS zip file

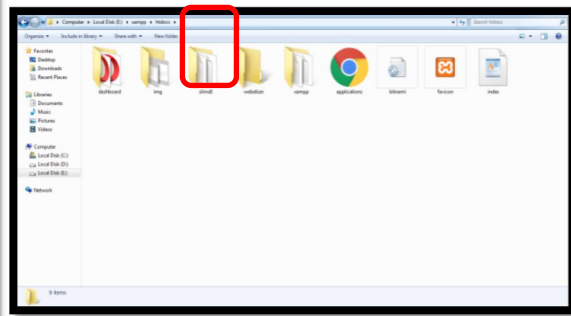


Figure: 4 Extract the
SLIMS zip file

Step: 3

- ❖ Create a database in localhost/phpmyadmin page as slims8.

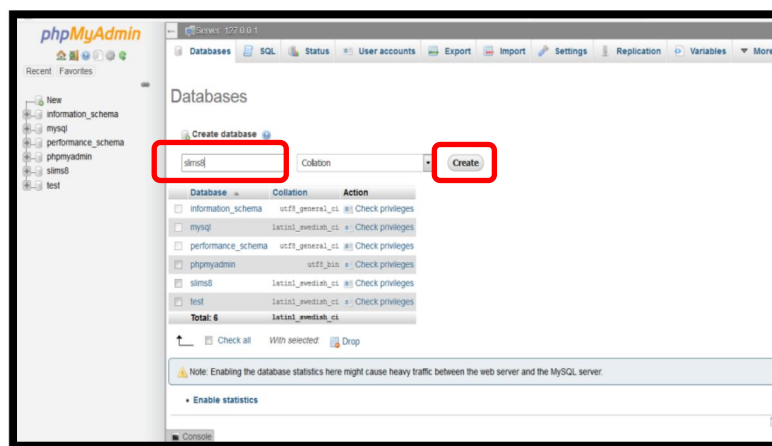


Figure: 5 Creating a Database

Step: 4

- ❖ Start the Installation
- ❖ Select minimum system environment for installing SLIMS.
- ❖ Fill the database and administration information.

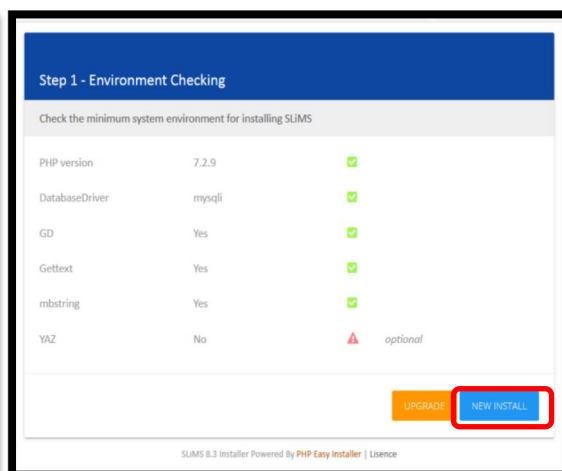
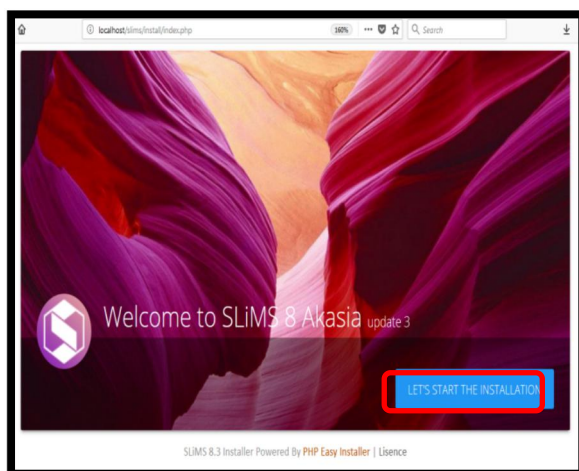


Figure: 6 Let Starts the Installation Environment Checking

Figure: 7

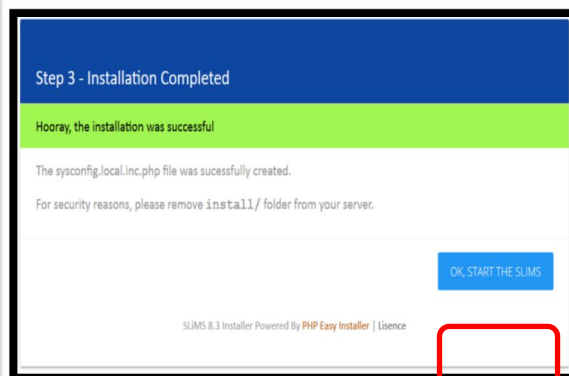


Figure: 8 Generate the Database Completed

Figure: 9 Installation

4.1. SLIMS Library Management System Home Page

This below screen shot shows that SLIMS home page it gives the attractive images with plotting designs. You can add your library different section images such as stock room, periodicals, and reference and circulation section images in the slims theme template. The users can browse the library section with photo gallery.

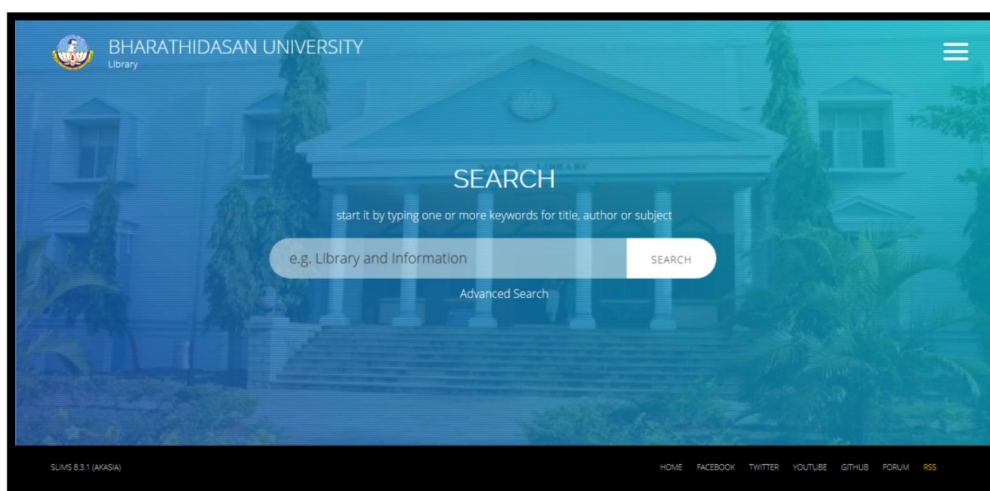


Figure: 10 Home Page of SLIMS

4.2. OPAC

The below screen shot shows that the books can be searched by using the simple search option. Here you can enter the keyword and get the search results for any of the books with image of the cover.

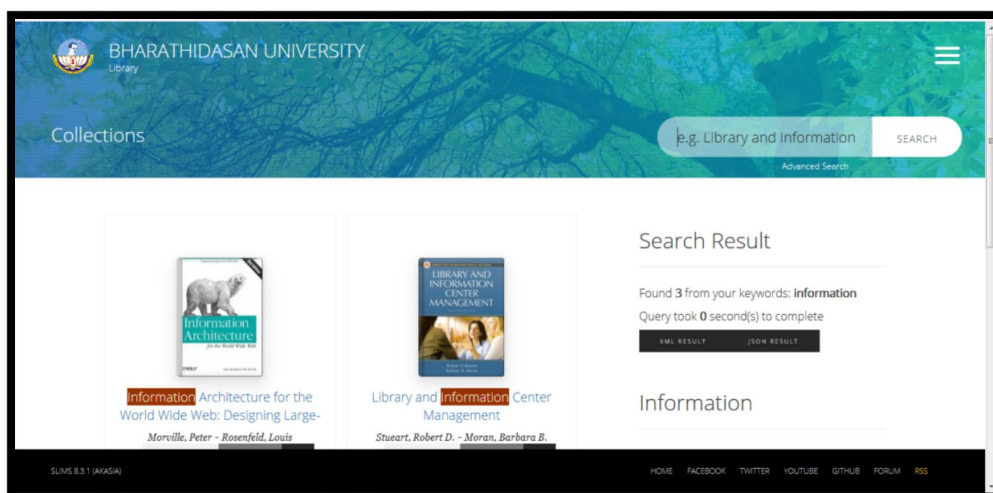


Figure: 11 Online Public Access Catalogue

4.3. Advanced Search

SLIMS gives a powerful search option of advance search with Title, Author, Subjects, Location and Collection type ect. To get the exact result for the search.

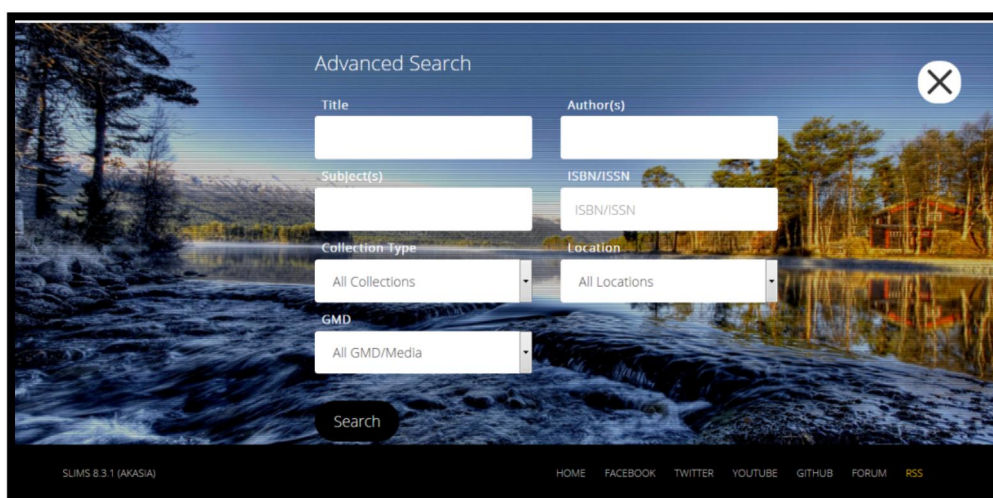


Figure: 12 Advanced Search

4.5. Login Page

The below screen shot shows that the login page consist of user name & password user can give the login & password to access the SLIM software

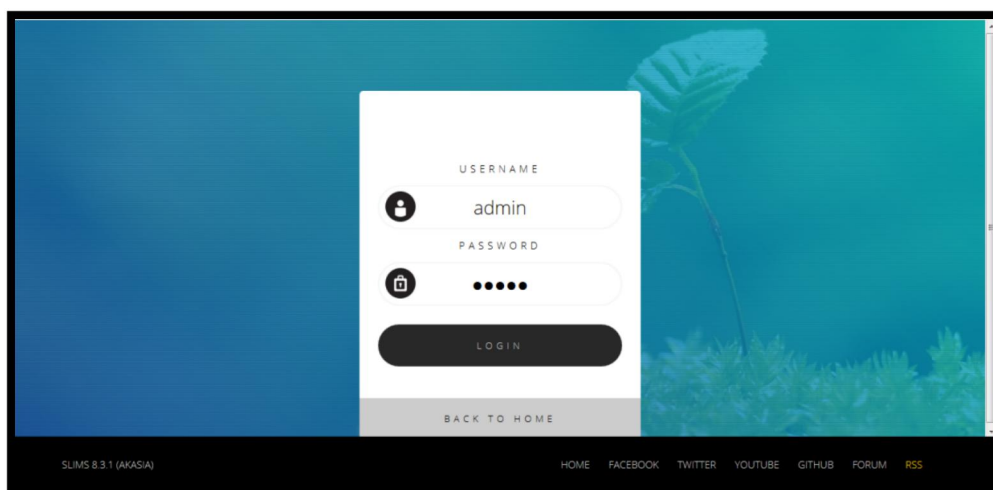


Figure: 13 Login Page

4.6 Dash Board

SLIMS gives the different options for Admin login. The Dash Board has the feature of showing latest transaction, summery report such as new, return, extent and overdue details in graphic chart format and also gives the total collections, total item, lent and availability details.



Figure: 14 Latest Transactions

4.7. Bibliography Module

The below screen shot shows that Bibliography module and it helps the librarians to add the bibliographical details by manual entry of MARC format and also it supports the Z39.50.

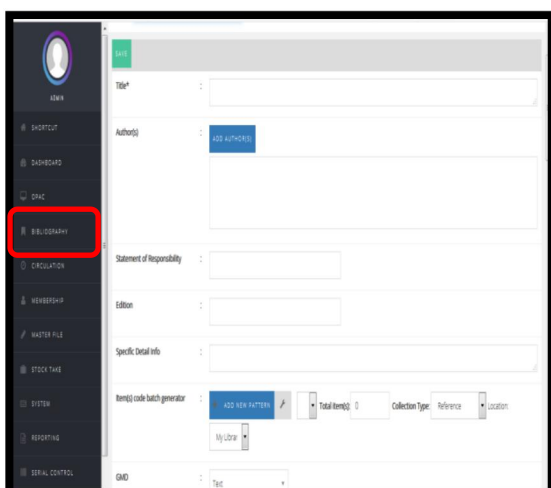


Figure: 15 Bibliography details adding by manual and Z39.50 Service

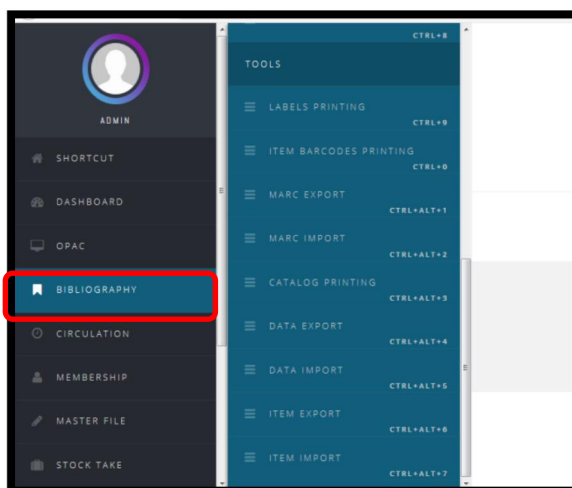


Figure: 16 MARC

4.8. Circulation Module

SLIMS circulation module provides the option of issue, return, renewal, loan history transfer, set library and fast cataloguing for easy access by the staff members.

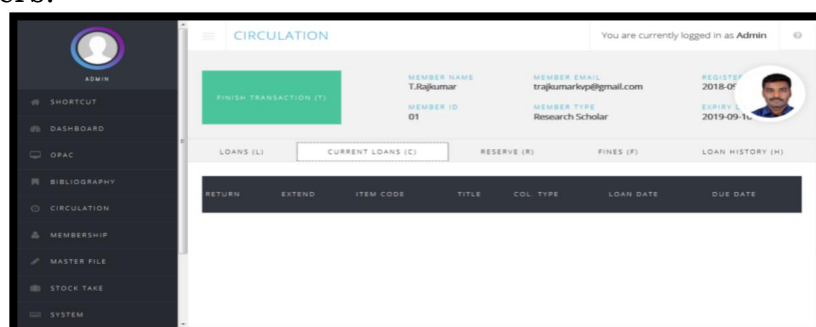


Figure: 17 Circulation Module

4.9. Memberships Module

SLIMS has a facility to create different kind of patron and set different privileges easily. To specify the Patron, a photograph of the Patron can be uploaded which can generate the Photo Identity Card of the Patron for Library and also enable the patron details bulk import and export in (CSV) file format.

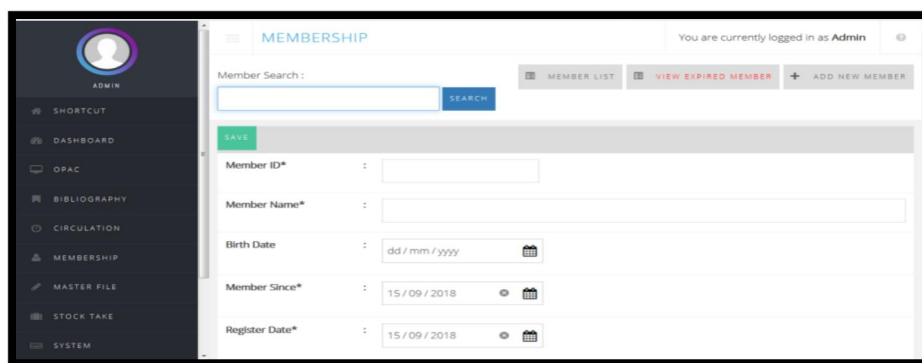


Figure: 18 Membership details Manual Entry

4.10. Master File

This module gives information about the Authority file such as Content Type, Media Type, Publisher, Supplier and Subject details.

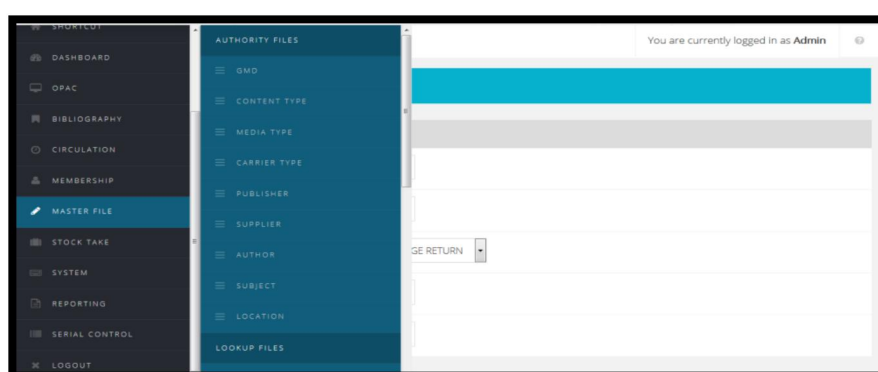


Figure: 19 Master File Module

4.11. System

The System option is one of the powerful module of the SLIMS, which gives the facilities of various activities that are system configuration, system environment, theme, biblio indexes, modules, librarian system user, user group, barcode generation and system backup. The system module helps the librarian to administrate the SLIMS easily.

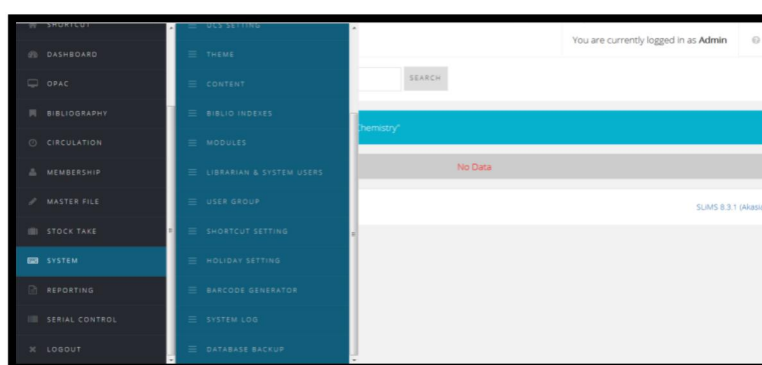


Figure: 19 System Module

4.12. Reporting

Generation of reports from the data stored in the database in a desired format is a great feature of SLIMS. There are three major reports and fifteen other reports are possible to generate by SLIMS and also can download the reports in excel and spared sheet format.

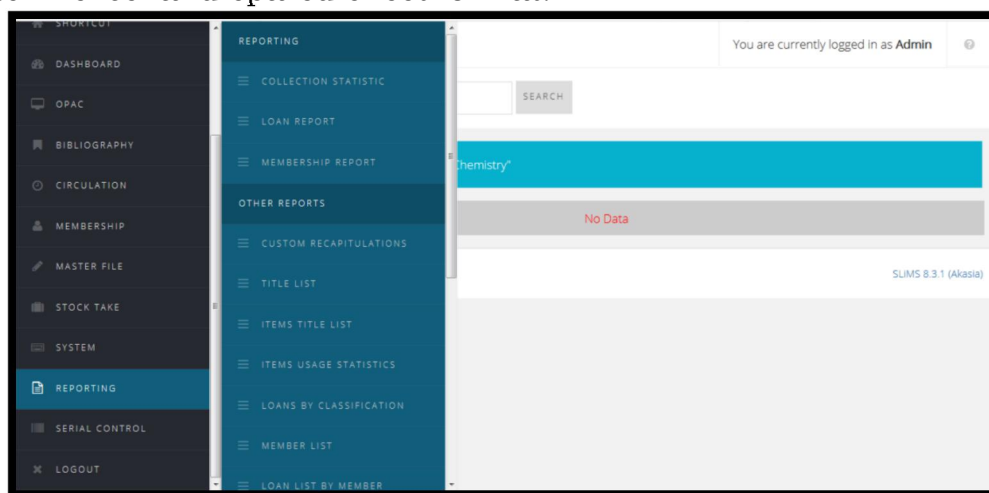


Figure: 19 Reporting Module

5. Conclusion

Library Automation is the powerful tool in any library to maintain the library collections in a proper manner and also to give the number of library service through collected data's. The libraries also need to change the technology now and then to sustain in the customer focus. Hence SLIMS will be the suitable Library Management Software to support any of the Institution libraries with latest technologies and services without spending much cost.

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