

**USI COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
IT ALLIANCE MEETING MINUTES
MAY 17, 2007**

Members Present: Dick Arneson, Dan Bugher, Jim Derk, Derek Faughn, Bruce Lane, Larry May, Mike Neeley, Dave Smith, and David Yoak

Ex-Officio Members Present: Nancy Bizal, Abbey Foroughi, Pat Harvey, and Mohammed Khayum

Faculty Present: Marv Albin, Scott Anderson, and Greg Murphy

Students Present: Georgina Hostettler, Hunter Nance, Brian Rickey, and Chad Shaner

Members Absent: Amy Drake, Susan Everett, Mark Freeman, Pat Heck, Krista McDivitt, Mark Neidig, and Mike Russ

Welcome: Chair Jim Derk welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone to make self introductions.

Minutes: The October 11, 2006, minutes were approved as distributed.

Election of Renewal Members: The following members were nominated by the Executive/Nominating Committee and elected by acclimation: Dan Bugher, Susan Everett, Larry May, and Mike Russ.

Election of New Members: The following individuals were nominated by the Executive/Nominating Committee and elected by Acclimation: Terry Clements, CIO, Shoe Carnival; James Kloosterman, CIO, Deaconess; Scott Krodel, CIO, St. Mary's; and Martin Roth, Partner, Kemper Technology Consulting.

Election of Chair Elect: The Executive/Nominating Committee nominated David Yoak chair-elect; the members present elected him by acclimation.

IT Alliance Chairs Remarks: Jim Derk inquired about satisfaction with committee membership and referred to the committee list in the packet.

Practice/ Education Interaction Committee Report: Chair Dick Arneson reported the committee had not met since last meeting. Abbey Foroughi noted that an intern-co-op report is included in his report in the meeting packet.

Scholarship Report: Larry May reported that it was Susan Everett and his honor to present the first two IT scholarships at USI's Honor's Day in March. He encouraged members to contribute to the IT Alliance Scholarship and to influence their organizations to set up a named scholarship as Keller Schroeder has done. He introduced Georgina Hostettler, recipient of the IT Scholarship, who thanked the members for the honor and support. May then introduced Hunter Nance, the recipient of the Keller Schroeder Scholarship, who expressed his gratitude and told of his small IT company, Network Associates –a server maintenance for businesses and its

residential division--and his plans to use USI interns. He stated that USI does a good job; 80% of the industry is communication - there is no IT entrance exam; it is the perception of the client: "can they trust us."

May concluded by saying the IT Alliance initiated scholarships to upgrade the quality of student output and is aimed toward students who have demonstrated good success. He stated two goals: 1) to add a company-named scholarship for each of the next four years and 2) to continue to fund the IT Scholarship endowment over four years. Last year about \$1,200 was contributed; \$500 was awarded leaving \$700 toward the endowment. If \$3,000 is contributed each year for four years, the scholarship will be permanently endowed. He called attention to the donor card in the packet – beige for corporate, blue for personal. Contribution to an Indiana state school results in a tax credit.

Technology in Action: Derek Faughn noted this new name and focus of site visits and job shadowing. This would be spending a couple of hours talking with and showing a student how an organization uses technology to help the student understand the relevance. Dave Smith agreed that spending a couple of hours with a student rather than all day would be more focused and avoid confidentiality issues. The membership concurred by nodding heads.

Mentoring: Nancy Bizal reported the mentoring program had not gotten off the ground. It will be modeled on the Evansville Rotary Mentoring Program. The Alliance recommend a goal of two to four partners a year, a preliminary interview with a prospective partner, and a mid-year evaluation to make possible a "no-fault divorce" as David Yoak stated Red Spot provides the partners in its mentoring program. Student participants should be juniors and seniors and applications should be solicited in the spring after this year so mentoring program can start with fall semester. Bruce Lane commented that the company mentors of interns could be a good idea for a company. Faughn asked Arneson to make mentoring a sub-committee of the Interaction Committee.

Curriculum Committee: Faughn reported the committee has not met and expressed frustration with the length of time it takes to see outcomes/changes. He noted we have to ramp-back our expectation for meaningful change. Foroughi stated we have some changes to report today – IS 2002 mapping.

CS Curriculum Update: Scott Anderson presented the changes in the Computer Science curriculum including the new CS minor. The new CS major was in effect for the 2006-2007 academic year. Most Applied CS majors have switched to the new program because of its added emphasis on medium and large-scale software development. The new CS major offers at least two and a half years of progressive programming experience from Object-oriented Programming to Analysis of Algorithms to Software Development to Senior Project.

A new CS minor was instituted this year. It includes a course in Discrete Structures. The Introduction to Computer Systems was removed. A CIS major can now take CS201 and CS 302 for a programming language and only need an additional 12 CS hours for a CS minor.

Faughn asked how to measure success. Anderson replied that we will not graduate students on this curriculum until two years from now. However, we already have success: We had two

graduate with honors this year, one has been accepted to graduate school at DePaul, and all others have jobs in the areas they want and many are local.

Anderson also reported on High School Outreach. He visited six high schools to introduce CS. He spent 80 minutes in their CS labs with high school students on an exercise using Java to show students gaming and coding are not the same but how gaming depends on coding/programming.

Mohammed Khayum noted that every major is trying to find the ability to measure skills we have identified as desirable – i.e. 10% can do this. We have spent lots of energy in forming but not measuring.

Faughn noted the need to stay nimble and evolving because of so many changes; placement is a nice measure, but what about longitudinal studies in five to ten years.

Khayum said that within the next year we should be able to report the skills we expect and where students are as we now have some measuring schemes beyond grades.

May asked “Do you really think USI is equipping students for 5-10 years out?” He added USI is equipping student for the first 2-4 years out including work ethic, talent, and communication skills. I would be content with entry-level right skills.

Faughn said, “I agree 85%, but the courses I took in business communication, speech, ethics, and others I still use.”

Senior Projects: Marv Albin reported that for the first time this year projects for senior projects were located through CARED (Center for Applied Research and Economic Development) whose director is Dr. Sue Ellspermann. Ellspermann sent out requests to the region, she and Albin evaluated the responses and conducted site visits for appropriateness, and invited selected applicants to make presentations to the class. The students ranked their interests in each of the projects and were assigned accordingly. The projects were

1. –Tri State Business Group on Health—Web site re-design. Response: Very pleased.
2. BMS/MJN—Sales Force Automation Help System
3. St. Mary’s Medical Center – Business analysis of eleven IT systems and how directors use them. Response: Pleased
4. Evansville Philharmonic – Converted data base of donors and patron to system that could be queried. Response: Pleased and impressed.
5. United Leasing – Build efficient and robust help desk. Response: Pleased and working

Students Brian Rickey and Chad Shaner (Jeff Schultz – third team member unable to attend meeting) demonstrated and explained their successful project.

Albin concluded by saying it has been an excellent semester for senior projects.

He thanked Larry May for the Keller Schroeder Scholarship and the Alliance for its scholarship and expressed gratification that scholarships had come to fruition as they were one of the goals when the Alliance began. He also told the Alliance he appreciates their frustration regarding the slow pace of curriculum changes; however, more change has taken place than is evident as within course adjustments are continuously made. The most significant evident change is Applied Computer Science is now Computer Science.

IT Professionals in the Classroom: Dave Smith spoke to CIS 315 on contact center automation; David Yoak spoke to CIS 601 on security. Also, a presentation on business intelligence was made to a CIS 315 class.

Department Chair's Report: Foroughi summarized the chair's report included in the meeting packet.

Dean's Remarks: Khayum celebrated the funding of the new building for the College of Business and announced in the next several months we will be deciding what we want/need inside the building. He said we read low-level technological publications such as Business Week; what do you read and could you tell us how that would transform our classrooms, i.e., no electrical sockets because all circuits in the "wallpaper." He requested the Alliance to help us design to be on the frontier to benefit students.

He thanked the Alliance for advice, dedication, support, and presence.

Recognition of 2006-2007 IT Alliance Chair – Foroughi commended Jim Derk for his leadership of and dedication to the IT Alliance and presented him with a plaque of appreciation.

2007-2008 Chair's Remark: Faughn referred to the bylaws and asked how do we measure the success and relevance of the Alliance. He said he became energized today; he expressed a desire for more regular and fruitful interaction with students and faculty. He announced that the executive committee will be meeting soon to initiate activity in the committees and sub-committees.

Foroughi announced the IT Alliance information and activities are on the department's website.

Adjournment – 1:15