

IT ALLIANCE SPRING 2010 MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, April 21, 2010, 3:15 p.m

USI Orr Center 2025

Members Present: Susan Everett, Pat Fleck, Kevin Kolley, Mike Neely, Mark Neidig, Martin Roth, Dave Smith, David Yoak

Members Absent: Brian Beard, Chris Boeke, Terry Clements, James Derk, Amy Drake, Derek Faughn, Michael Frankenberger, Karen Fuchs, Patrick Heck, Bruce Lane, Alan Letterman, Rex Masterson, Larry May, Krista McDivitt, Michael Russ

Ex-officio Members Present: Nancy Bizal, Abbey Foroughi

Ex-officio Members Absent: Tom Austerman, Mohammed Khayum

Faculty Present: Scott Anderson, Bryan Bourdeau, Bill Henderson, Ernie Nolan, Seungjin Park, Tim Schibik, Jennifer Williams

Students Present: Jesse Adams, Devin Burke, Casey Cambron, Susan Dyer, Matthew Gish, Elizabeth Herrenbruck, Cory Huebner, Emily Iannopollo, Richard Weaver

Administrative Associate Present: Christy Nolan

WELCOME: **Susan Everett** called the meeting to order and welcomed all to enjoy Marv Albin and Bill Henderson's retirement cakes.

MINUTES: The minutes were approved as distributed.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS: The Executive Committee nominated and the members elected **Dave Smith** chair-elect; **Kevin Kolley** from Red Spot Paint to membership; **Terry Clements, Susan Everett, Larry May, and Martin Roth** to additional three-year terms.

SELF INTRODUCTIONS: All present members, faculty, and students introduced themselves.

ASSISTANT DEAN'S REMARKS: **Tim Schibik** reported on the new building facilities, specifically the computer labs. He highlighted that the teaching labs are on the main floor of the building, moving from two labs to four labs. There are dedicated labs for CIS 151 and CIS 261, and an open lab for CIS students. The other lab is dedicated to CS. There will also be a bigger server. Four computer labs will be dedicated to DSCI. **Schibik** also mentioned the stock market simulation lab and the small trading room that will be open to the public, the sales lab, two distance education classrooms, the many student lounges and work spaces—approximately 35% of the dedicated space is student space including glassed conference rooms, the 189 College of Business classes that will be taught in the fall (only 16 of those will be taught in rooms in other buildings). Faculty offices will be on the second and third floors; the deans' offices will be on the first floor. All classrooms will be furnished with smart boards and flat screen monitors. Offices will be moved starting July 15; summer classes will be taught in the Orr Center. The building is built to Leeds specifications, but the building will not be Leeds certified as a matter of economics.

ENTREPRENEURIAL MINOR: **Bryan Bourdeau** announced the Entrepreneurial Minor will begin in Fall 2010; enrollment is already full and represents students from various majors. The minor is made up of three harmonized classes: Management 352 - Entrepreneurship Ideation and Innovation, Management 353 - Entrepreneurship Feasibility Analysis, Management 354 - Enterprise Initiatives. The first class will include projects that are real such as Scott

Anderson's USI iPhone applications project, Escalade's challenge, Google Sketch-up, and virtual gaming and will be team taught by **Kevin Celuch** (critical thinking specialty) and Bourdeau (creative problem solving specialty). The minor has been developed through looking at other models but designing a unique course set and curriculum. Other schools in the state that have entrepreneurial programs are University of Evansville and Ball State University (a 25-year award-winning program). Bourdeau will meet with Ball State's **Mike Goldsby** to discuss assessment. **Dave Smith** noted employers want employees with an entrepreneurial mind set; Bourdeau agreed that the minor is designed to develop an entrepreneurial mind set regardless of desire to start/own a business or be an employee.

CS SENIOR PROJECT: **Scott Anderson** summarized the Holiday World Cash Control System; a 12-member senior project team has developed and will install within the next couple of weeks immediately prior to Holiday World's 2010 opening. At first, Holiday World will use both its historical manual process and the new automated process. Students will install and be on hand for the launch. One team member, **Casey Cameron**, is a full-time employee of Holiday World. Anderson noted students previously developed a Lost and Found System for Holiday World which will also launch this season.

The CS major has two sequential capstone courses; the first, CS 478, works on smaller projects and the second, CS 483, works on bigger projects. Anderson announced he is looking for small projects for Fall 2010 and a big project for Spring 2011.

The METS project students worked on last year is a viable project. Timing caused the system to not be installed; class ended before METS was ready.

AITP COMPETITION: **Ernie Nolan** stated this as the most successful year for USI competitors in the twenty years he has been taking students to the competition. He credited two factors: a dedicated hard-working group of students and ITA. He recognized the following people for their help in preparing the students for the practice sessions and the competition between USI students and ITT students: **John Russell** from Atlas World Group, **Jason Hopp** from Berry Plastics, **Rob Wilson** from Keller Schroeder, and **Brian Lovell** from American General Finance. Five hundred students from ninety colleges and universities attended. The competition was dominated by Brigham Young, Purdue, SE Louisiana State, and USI.

Nolan named the competitors, their rank, and the competition: **Casey Cambron** won 2nd place in the Paper Writing Competition; **Drew Helfert** and **Aaron Valandra** were in the top 10 in the Web Development Competition winning an Honorable Mention and were invited to St. Louis to present (They were the only team not doing this for class or credit.); **Elizabeth Herrenbruck** and **Justin Paul** won Honorable Mention in the Office Competition; **Devin Burke**, **Casey Cambron**, and **Jason Nichols** won 2nd place in the Digital Studio .Net Competition; 67 students took the ACP exam, 15 passed, 4 from USI - **Elizabeth Herrenbruck**, **Corey Huebner**, **Dustin Tenborge**, and **Kyle Wallace**; **Devin Burke** and **Casey Cambron** took the Certified Data Management Professionals Certification (CDMP) and both passed; **Daytwon Stitts** and **Jesse Adams** took the Information Systems Analyst Certification (ISA), Adams passed. Nolan closed with announcing the competition will be in Orlando next year.

Everett thanked and congratulated the students. She noted that CIS and CS careers can be very diverse.

CIS SENIOR PROJECT: This semester's project was to upgrade the Lincoln Heritage Library website to meet Indiana standards. Team leaders **Devin Burke** and **Susan Dyer** described the dynamics of a 13-member cross-discipline web team made up of CIS, journalism, public relations, and creative writing majors. There were to be graphics students, but they were fired. The team learned how to work with members with different perspectives. **Mark Neidig** agreed that the communication gap is real and is tough and the project was an excellent exercise. The students and the members discussed the importance of project management and business analytical skills. **Martin Roth** asked if the team had time budgets; team members responded by saying deadlines existed and were communicated. Team members from the different majors were graded differently: 33% for creative writing majors, 100% for CIS, 0% for graphic designer.

IT ALLIANCE CHAIR'S REMARKS: Everett

Retirements: **Bill Henderson** reflected that this is his thirtieth year; he started in Economics in 1979 and started the CIS program with **Nolan** in 1983. **Marv Albin**, not in attendance, was praised for his dedication to the program; it was noted that this semester he has worked at full steam and has not started his retirement early. **Jennifer Williams** noted how strongly **Albin** believes in the value of the IT Alliance and that he was instrumental in its formation.

Clarification of Committee Roles: **Everett** reviewed the following:

Alliance/Student Interaction Committee

Mentoring Program

Competition Support

Internship and Co-op Promotion

Alliance/Faculty Interaction Committee

Professionals in the Classroom

Faculty in the Industrial Setting

Program Vision & Curriculum Committee

Curriculum Review

Future Directions

Scholarship Committee

Scholarship Establishment and Support

Competition Support

Committee Reports:

Alliance/Student Interaction: **Mike Neeley** reported on the value of providing mock interviews for CIS and CS students through **Nancy Bizal's** Career Planning and Professional Development classes, on the value of the internships provided by a number of companies (see report in the meeting packet), and the new mentoring program. He noted that Atlas pays and treats interns as regular employees, looks at the internship as a long interview, and always has kept successful interns as full-time employees. He encouraged members to involve their organizations as well as other organizations. This year was the pilot year for the mentoring program. Two pairs were involved: **Dave Smith (AGF) and Richard Weaver (student) and Mike Neeley (Atlas) and Susan Dyer (student)**. The program involves eight hours a month divided into two four-hour sessions of observation of many people and positions in the host companies. **Weaver and Dyer** summarized their reports that are in the meeting packet; both students learned about the many roles IT professionals can and do perform and are grateful to have been provided this exposure. **Dyer** spoke of the courage mentees need to ask their current employers for time off to participate in the mentoring program and of the benefit of observing leadership skills and styles. **Neeley** spoke of the need to measure what the Alliance is doing and to report it. **Dave Smith** will be the chair of the committee for 2010-2011.

Alliance/Faculty Interaction: **Dave Yoak** announced **Brian Beard** will be the new chair of this committee. Faculty need to coordinate the Professionals in the Classroom and ask for specific topics that fit what is going on in the classroom. **Pat Fleck** and **Yoak** extended an invitation to faculty to visit SABIC and Red Spot respectively.

Program Vision and Curriculum: **Jennifer Williams** asked the Alliance to again pick the top ten important topics from the thirty topics emailed previously pulled from the new curriculum guidelines. **Neeley** will ask Chair **Amy Drake** to send the curriculum again.

Scholarship: **Susan Everett** gave the status of the ITA Scholarship and encouraged members to support the scholarship. Currently, the ITA Scholarship fund is about \$5,525. The scholarship needs to reach \$12,000 to be endowed which means that \$6,500 more needs to be raised. That would amount to just \$300 per Alliance member or \$60 a year for 5 years.

ITA Scholarship winner **Matt Gish** thanked the Alliance for its financial support and for its encouragement; **Emily Iannopolo** expressed her appreciation for the financial aid and for the boost of confidence that the Keller Schroder Scholarship provided her; **Dean Fehribach**, recipient of the Atlas World Group Scholarship, was unable to attend the meeting.

DEPARTMENT CHAIR'S REMARKS: **Abbey Foroughi** expressed pride in **Bill Henderson** and **Marv Albin's** true collegiality and scholarship. He thanked **Jennifer Williams** for volunteering to teach on a three-day schedule so a new hire could have a two-day teaching schedule in the fall. He noted the growth in the disciplines in the department since 2007: CIS 29%, CS 18%, Management 28%. The department report is in the meeting packet.

Jennifer Williams reported two phenomenal hires will join the faculty in August.

We are fortunate to be able to announce the additions of **Sandeep Goyal** and **Kenneth Shemroske** to our CIS faculty. These young men will be filling the vacancies resulting from the retirement of **Albin** and **Henderson**. We had 6 excellent candidates to visit campus and all 6 of these were hoping to get an offer from USI. This speaks very highly of our reputation and shows what a positive impact was made during their visit to USI. Each candidate was favorably impressed by the IT Alliance and by what we were able to tell them about this group.

Sandeep Goyal is coming to us from the Sam Walton College in Arkansas. He is nearing the defense of his dissertation and has a very strong research record. In fact, he has a publication in the two top CIS journals; most in our field will never accomplish publications in these two journals in their entire career! He has won a teaching award and his professors (who are the grandfathers of our discipline) say, "Sandeep is the best doctoral student I have ever worked with." Sandeep will be teaching our database classes.

Kenneth Shemroske comes to us from University of Houston - another really strong research program. He, too, has won a teaching award, and his professors say he is one of the top students ever as well. Shemroske brings 15 years of industry experience as a project manager and has led and developed many projects using Visual Basic. He will be teaching our VB classes. He, too, is nearing completion on his dissertation.

ITA CHAIR'S CLOSING REMARKS: **Everett** thanked the ITA members for their time and support.

RECOGNITION OF 2009-2010 CHAIR SUSAN EVERETT: **Abbey Foroughi** thanked **Everett** for being a great leader and friend, for being a giver of time and money, for helping the programs benchmark, for helping the department create courses for students to meet employers' needs, and for her love of USI and the College of Business. He presented her with a plaque of appreciation.

NEXT STEPS: **Mike Neeley** thanked **Everett** and stated the Alliance is extremely important for the students and the university—students need to be here for themselves and for us. He thanked the group for the opportunity to be chair.

ADJOURNED