IT ALLIANCE SPRING 2011 MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 28, 2011, 3:00 p.m.

Atlas Worldwide Headquarters

Members Present: Terry Clements, Amy Drake, Pat Fleck, Karen Fuchs, Kevin Kolley, Alan Letterman, Larry May, Mike Neeley, Mark Neidig, Todd Richardson, Jaci Romerhausen, David Yoak

Members Absent: Brian Beard, Chris Boeke, Jim Derk, Susan Everett, Derek Faughn, Mike Frankenberger, Pat Heck, Bruce Lane, Rex Masterson, Krista McDivitt, Martin Roth, Dave Smith

Ex-officio Members Present: Nancy Bizal, Abbey Foroughi

Ex-officio Members Absent: Kerry Jackson, Mohammed Khayum

Faculty Present: Sharlett Gillard, Sandeep Goyal, Ernie Nolan

Students Present: Ayyad Alrshidi, Ian Brand, Ian Bruggemen, Jesse Cullison, James Durant, Brian Ensor, Scott Hurm, Emily Iannopollo, Josh Jourdan, Kyle Kluemper, Jay Lauf, Patricia McCrary, Krystal Schmitt

Administrative Associate Present: Michelle Simmons

WELCOME: Mike Neeley welcomed everyone to the spring meeting and asked everyone to do a self-introduction.

MINUTES: Neeley noted the minutes were distributed electronically and in the meeting packet.

MEMBERSHIP: Neeley announced the following members had been elected by electronic vote for an additional three-year term: **Chris Boeke**, **Pat Fleck**, **Alan Letterman**, and **Mike Neeley**.

The following new members were elected by electronic vote: **Todd Richardson** and **Jaci Romerhausen**.

Neeley recognized the three retiring members: **Amy Drake** who has been the Chair of the Curriculum Committee, **Rex Masterson**, and **David Yoak** who has served as chair of the IT Alliance and Chaired the Alliance/Faculty Committee.

Neeley announced that **Karen Fuchs** is the new chair of the Curriculum Committee.

IT ALLIANCE CHAIR'S REMARKS AND REPORTS:

Neeley called attention to the packet contents, particularly the IT Alliance Report. He said that the activities are a three-way attack – students, practitioners, and faculty. He expressed pride and excitement about what "we" are.

AITP Competition Results: Ernie Nolan explained that he had been a professor at USI for 28 years and adviser to USI's student AITP Chapter for 27 years. He gave a brief history of the competition results from the last four years. He noted USI was the only school whose competitors did their project and competed on their own time; other competitors' projects were through dedicated classes. He said the results of the AITP competition spoke well for our students, USI, and our faculty.

Nolan will be on sabbatical earning specialized certificates and our new faculty will be the sponsors next year: **Kenneth Shemroske** and **Sandeep Goyal**.

2010 Graduate Positions and Salaries; Internship and Co-op – Career Services Report: Neeley called attention to the Career Services Report in the packet. He noted that nine companies participated in internships for CIS and four companies participated in internships for CS. He also said that Atlas looks at an internship as a long job interview.

Mentors and Mentees: Neeley noted the four mentor/mentee pairs: **Jeremiah Larnerd** with Ascension Health, **Matt Gish** with Atlas World Group, **Emily Rastl** with Red Spot Paint, and **Jesse Cullison** with Springleaf Financial Services. **Jesse Cullison** said his experience at Springleaf showed him how IT is used and how it relates to what is learned in the classroom. He found the experience informative and thanked the Alliance for the program. **Neeley** reported the feedback from mentors and mentees is positive and that the Alliance wants to expand the program next year.

Scholarship: Terry Clements reported this was a great year and expressed pride in the IT Alliance scholarships: ITA Scholarship awarded to **Jesse Cullison**, Atlas World Group Scholarship awarded to **Matt Gish**, Keller Schroeder Scholarship awarded to **Thomas Piotrowski**, and Shoe Carnival Scholarship awarded to **Krystal Schmitt**. The IT Alliance Scholarship fund has about $8,800 now; last September the fund was about $5,448. He noted solicitation forms were in the meeting packet.

Curriculum: ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) – **Sandeep Goyal** reported on the introduction of ERP in the classroom. **Goyal** has taught ERP before and recently attended a conference by SAP (Systems, Applications, and Products). ERP is technology that brings multiple business functions and processes together within an organization. Studying ERP gives students an idea of cross functional understanding. He noted a couple of classes incorporating ERP will increase graduates' starting salaries, will provide new avenues for students, will involve faculty from other disciplines, and will allow competition from all across the world. **Jaci Romerhausen** asked why SAP. **Goyal** replied most universities use SAP and discussed its availability at no fee from the hose universities: California State University, Chico, CA and University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, WI. The annual SAP University Alliance membership fee is split between the two host universities.

Senior Projects: **Goyal** introduced the Senior Project e-business solution for Kor X All, a family-operated company that has been around for 73 years and is a supplier of janitorial and cleaning products. The project allowed students to work with a real business to come up with real solutions to business problems using what they have learned during the pursuit of their CIS degrees. The class had two competing teams: Team Cleanup Crew consisting of **Ian Brand**, **Joshua Jourdan**, **Ayyad Alrshidi**, **Kyle Kluemper**, and **James Durant**; and team Webheads consisting of **Emily Iannopollo**, **Ian Bruggeman**, **Scott Hurm**, **Jay Lauf**, and **Patricia McCrary**. Each team showcased their problem and solution with team Cleanup Crew using Word Press software and team Webheads using hard coding. **Brand** and **Lauf** presented for their respective teams. Kor X All has not yet chosen which team's product it will put in place.

DEPARTMENT CHAIR'S REMARKS: **Abbey Foroughi** congratulated **Kenneth Shemroske** for successfully defending his dissertation, "The Ethical Use of It: A Study of Two Models for Explaining Online File Sharing," and **Sandeep Goyal** for the acceptance of an article titled "Improving Inventory Management in the Retail Store: The Effectiveness of RFID Tagging Across Product Categories" in *Operations Management Research*. ([Chair's Presentation](#)) **Foroughi** gave an overview of curriculum change proposals identifying three tracks: IS Management, Enterprise Web Development, and Application Development. Six new courses will be developed and two courses revised. ([CIS Tracks Presentation](#))

Professionals in the Classroom: **Nolan** thanked **Brian Beard** for facilitating Professionals in the Classroom. The theme this fall was "A Day in the Life of a _____." **Jeff Barnes** from Deaconess, **Ryan Parmenter** from Atlas Van Lines, **Ken Lenders** from Shoe Carnival, and **Ashley Nixon** from Kemper Technology Group participated in the "A Day in the Life" series. For the spring the theme was "What does a _____ do?" **Robert Wood** from Deaconess, **Jason Hopf** from Berry Plastics, and **Matt Moherran** from Keller Schroeder participated. **Nolan** said this is very beneficial to students and thanked the Alliance for making this happen.

NEXT STEPS: **Neeley** listed these goals:
1. Do more of what we are doing and better. (He noted the student interviews for the mentoring program which help ensure benefit for both parties and a good fit.)
2. Activate "Faculty into the Workplace" program
3. Obtain more funding for the Scholarship and Competition Support fund.

Neeley thanked **Karen Fuchs** for accepting the Curriculum Committee Chairmanship.

ADJOURNED