IT ALLIANCE SPRING 2013 MEETING MINUTES
Romain College of Business at USI
Wednesday, April 17, 2013, 7:45 a.m.
Romain Board Room, Business and Engineering Center, USI

Members Present: Kim Angermeier, Brian Beard, Terry Clements, James Derk, Susan Everett, Scott Franzel, John Kamin, John Knight, Kevin Kolley, Larry May, Mike Neeley, Dave Smith

Members Absent: Chris Boeke, David Bottomley, Pat Fleck, Karen Fuchs, Patrick Heck, Bob Humphrey, Dave Klepak, Alan Letterman

Ex-officio Members Present: Nancy Bizal, Abbey Foroughi, Mohammed Khayum

Ex-officio Members Absent: William Theby

Guest Present: Julie Brauser

Faculty Present: Scott Anderson, Sharlett Gillard, Sandeep Goyal, Bruce Mabis, Kenneth Shemroske

Students Present: Chris Bovard, Derek Boyke, Michael Brooks, Joseph Faith, Jesse Hardin, Ryan McGuire, Zac Nelson, Luke Sternberg, Jaimie Stutsman, Rina Takeda, Nick Tillie, Joshua Todd, Aaron Valandra, Stacy Warford, Kelsey Welp, Arik Westbrook

Administrative Assistant Present: Michelle Simmons

WELCOME: Dave Smith welcomed everyone to the fall meeting.

CIS SENIOR PROJECT: Sandeep Goyal introduced the Senior Project, the third part to the three-part festival database, Bigfair Informaiton System. This year, instead of separating the class into teams, the class was separated into four specialty groups that worked together (systems analysts, programmers, managers, and web developers). The students are Chris Bovard, Derek Boyke, Joseph Faith, Jesse Hardin, Zac Nelson, Andrew Poynter, Cory Reisinger, Luke Sternberg, Jaimie Stutsman, Rina Takeda, Nick Tillie, and Stacy Warford. **Nelson** and **Stutsman** presented for their class.

This project's goal was to further the efforts of the two previous projects and focused on the systems ease of use. The main problems to solve were creating a dynamic design that could be customizable and provided ease of use for non-technological users, security to lock out unauthorized users and protect the data, and ways to promote the event through the system.

The presenters stated that the class learned about team work, time management, critical thinking, project management, and communication skills and that they gained exposure to new technologies.

CS SENIOR PROJECT: Scott Anderson discussed the CS Senior project. He noted that unlike the CIS project, this project was based on a software development cycle. The class is currently in its third week

of development, so there was nothing to present at this time. Anderson plans to present the project at the next meeting.

Two teams were set up and each team has to design these modules: customer order module as a web application, inventory maintenance module as a windows forms application, and a shipping module as a mobile application. All of these modules will use a common control system.

The students for the CS project were unable to attend the meeting as 12 of the 15 students have already been fully employed prior to their graduation and had to be at work. The students are Brian Bates, Walt Burggrabe, Jarod Daming, Tyler Dockery, Michael Huff, Andrew Karch, Will Kuklenski, Scott Olliver, Joseph Poehlein, James Priest, Eugene Qilo, Stuart Sharp, David Smith, Justin Steinback, and Joshua Weber.

Anderson also mentioned that there is a push to expand the CS experience. A three-course system has been designed based on the use of visual studio. This gives the students a broader range of experience.

PILOT PROJECT - CENTER FOR SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT: **Anderson** talked about a pilot project, the Center for Software Development. This program is designed to contract out Junior-level and Senior-level students to local businesses for small projects that would be too short for an internship. The students are paid $10/hr. and the company is billed $12.50/hr. to help support the Center's financial needs.

These students have the basic skills in web and software development. They work for 10-20 hours a week for about a month. Currently four students are participating and one of those students has been hired full time after being on contract.

The companies that are currently participating are Shoe Carnival; USI; Hydraphics, Inc.; ProEngage LLC; Aram Corporation; and Exceptional Sheets LLC. **Anderson** invited ITA members that have the availability in their companies to consider participating.

Susan Everett asked if this Center was competing with USI's internship program. **Anderson** noted that the Center focuses on short-term contracts where the internships and mentorships focused on longer-term situations. **Julie Brauser** stated that there are not enough internships at this time so this Center supplements the internships.

Anderson noted that there are some issues that need to be formalized such as cut-off deadlines for graduating students and issues with foreign students. Currently the Center is only using USI students but is not associated with USI at this time.

MINUTES: **Smith** asked for a motion to approve the Fall 2012 minutes as distributed. **Mike Neely** moved to accept the minutes with a second from **Terry Clements**. The minutes were **APPROVED**.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS: **Smith** announced the nominations and elections that were held via email. The following members were re-elected for an additional three-year term: **Terry Clements**,

Susan Everett, **Kevin Kolley**, and **Larry May**. The following new members were nominated and elected: **Scott Franzel** and **Dave Kepak**.

SELF INTRODUCTIONS: Smith asked all present to introduce themselves with new member **Franzel** giving a short bio.

DEAN'S REMARKS: Mohammed Khayum proudly discussed the naming of the College of Business to the Romain College of Business. He said that this is a way to track the progression of USI and the name becomes part of the identity of the College. United Companies began in Evansville, Indiana and is now in 44 states and Canada. Along with the name comes a charge to sponsor an event every 12-18 months to spark conversation in the University community and the greater community—to increase our visibility beyond the campus. The first event was a Conversation with T. Boone Pickens. The intent of Ron and Connie Romain is to support faculty development, scholarships, impact, and more. United Companies' culture is always reaching for excellence and caring about quality.

Khayum also challenged the ITA to help the CIS and CS programs obtain a reputation like the Accounting program. He stated that the programs will forge ahead to be more effective. **Smith** asked if there were any indicators for why the Accounting program has its reputation. **Khayum** stated that the quality of the program is reflected in the graduates and the competitions. We need to find more ways to showcase the CIS/CS program through competing with peers across the country. Student successes need to be marketed and more visible. The local media sometimes resists covering these stories due to not wanting to be used as a marketing tool for the universities or any other organization.

Mike Neeley, **Dave Smith**, and **Terry Clements** were thanked for their assistance during the AACSB accreditation visit. Best Practices were lauded for the close connections and dedication of the advisory groups. **Khayum** noted that one area of the accreditation needed follow-up, but we will not know the official results until May.

IT ALLIANCE CHAIR'S REMARKS: Smith began the committee reports by stating that each committee was given goals to achieve.

Alliance/Student Interactions: Clements began by stating that the scholarships were incorporated into this committee. He talked about the mentoring program and how it gets students into the work environment.   One goal was to increase the number of companies that participate. Last year there were seven companies; this year there are eight. **Clements** then asked some mentees about their experience.

Elizabeth Karber, mentee at Shoe Carnival, said she enjoyed seeing how IT is conducted in business.

Jaimie Stutsman, mentee at Springleaf Financial Services, was able to see all parts of IT in the company and was able to find what direction of IT would work best for her. She was able to focus her decision going forward to database analyst.

Joshua Todd, mentee at United Companies, enjoyed being able to see all departments and noted that things seem abstract until they are seen in perspective.

Stacy Warford, mentee at Berry Plastics, noted she got to meet with the heads of the departments and see how the different departments worked together.

Clements noted the assessments would be sent out soon.

Next **Clements** discussed the scholarships and AITP support. He remarked that in 2010, the donations were split 80/20 to cover the ITA scholarship and help support the AITP. As of today, the scholarship fund is at $12,601.59 allowing for a $500 scholarship next year. Support for AITP is at $622. He noted that one goal for the committee is to increase the number of business scholarships, and Old National has begun sponsoring a scholarship.

The following students received scholarships this year: **Jushua Todd**, ITA Scholarship for $500; **Ryan McGuire**, Atlas World Group Scholarship for $1,000; **James Mott**, Keller Schroeder Scholarship for $1,000; **Arik Westbrook**, Shoe Carnival Scholarship for $500; **Ryan Eichmiller**, **Cynthia Bell**, **Aaron Will**, and **Alaisha Rhone**, Old National Bank Foundation Scholarship for $1,000 each.

Kenneth Shemroske discussed the AITP (Association of IT Professionals) student chapter and the national conference. The AITP focuses on social and professional networking and experiential learning. Some of this year's social activities included dodge ball and bowling where the students could network with professionals outside the work environment.

This year's AITP conference was in St. Lewis, Missouri. **Andrew Poynter** and **Chris Bovard** took 1st place in Microsoft Office Solutions with **Aelinor Conaway** and **Elizabeth Karber** and **Joseph Faith** and **Randall McGrew** receiving honorable mention. For this competition there were 63 schools with 600+ students and 58 teams participating. In the National IT Certification exam, 80 students took the exam, 16 passed, and 5 of those were USI students. **Andrew Poynter** received the George Egert Award for 3rd place and **Chris Bovard**, **Randall McGrew**, **Jaimie Stutsman**, and **Jeff Van Vorst** also passed the certification.

Shemroske noted that **Poynter** could not attend the ITA meeting due to an interview set up through networking and the career fair at the AITP conference.

Kelsey Welp was asked to discuss the AITP Web Portfolio project. She stated the project has been in process for 7-8 months. It is a web portfolio designed to get AITP members engaged in hands-on projects. The portfolio will allow graduates to market themselves beyond what can be included in a traditional resume. There is potential for this portfolio to grow beyond the AITP to other areas of focus such as the arts. **Kim Angermeier** stated that this is exactly what she would look at when hiring.

Larry May suggested a news release be created or submitted by someone outside of USI. **James Derk** volunteered.

Julie Brauser gave the internship report which is provided in the packet. She said that those listed are the known internships. She asked ITA members if they have interns hired not listed to please let her know so they can be tracked.

Alliance/Faculty Interactions: **John Knight** stated that there were three professionals in the classroom this semester: **Brad Mathis** of Keller Schroeder, **Nathan Willis** of Berry Plastics, and **Jim Derk** of United Companies. **Chris Bovard** discussed the tour of Pinnacle Computers. **Shemroske** noted that the speakers in the classroom start with a planned discussion but tend to talk about how they got to where they are now and all of the ups and downs in the process. Volunteers are needed for next semester.

Smith talked about the Faculty in Industry program. He pointed out the value of faculty seeing how what they teach is utilized in the workplace. Three pairs have been initiated: Terry Clements with Scott Anderson; Mike Neeley with Jennifer Williams; Dave Smith with Kenny Shemroske.

Program Vision and Curriculum: **Anderson** called this the year of implementation. The CIS and CS programs have started the implementation of the three-track systems. He noted that 2/3 of the courses are being offered. For CS, it is the first year in C#. There will be more to report next year. A major overhaul of the Business Core will take place next year.

DEPARTMENT CHAIR'S REMARKS: **Abbey Foroughi** announced the hiring Gorgjun Yan in CS who specializes in mobile applications development. He also discussed the CISCO Labs, run by Outreach and Engagement, which provides certificate programs. Finally he mentioned the changes to CIS 111 and CIS 261 along with the new assessments in CIS 305 and 151. See his full report attached.

NEXT STEPS: **Smith** stated he will be meeting with the chairs of the subcommittees to discuss the increase of the IT Alliance effectiveness and to work on getting members engaged.

ADJOURNED