**IT ALLIANCE FALL 2014 MEETING MINUTES**

**Romain College of Business at USI**

**Wednesday, December 10, 2014, 7:30 a.m.**

**Business and Engineering Center, Lippert Hall, 0035**

**Members Present**: Kim Angermeier, Terry Clements, Susan Everett, Patrick Heck, John Kamin, John Knight, Kevin Kolley, Larry May, Mike Neeley, Dave Smith, Richard Toeniskoetter

**Members Absent**: Brian Beard, David Bottomley, James Derk, Pat Fleck, Scott Franzel, Karen Fuchs, Bob Humphrey, Dave Klepak, Alan Letterman, Doug Petitt

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

**Faculty Present**: Scott Anderson, Dinko Bacic, Julie Brauser, Bruce Mabis, Hui Shi, Jennifer Williams Gongjun Yan

**Students Present**: Clay Boylls, Michael Brooks, Derrick Cleon, Jake Eckert, Kyle Hochstetler, Emily Johnson, Sean Kerchief, Ben Overfield, Kevin Ries, John Russell, Jeffery Sears, Andrey Sheychuk, Joshua Todd, Jeff Ward, Aaron Will

**Administrative Assistant Present**: Michelle Simmons

**WELCOME**: **Terry Clements** welcomed everyone to the fall meeting.

**MINUTES**: **Clements** asked for a motion to approve the Spring 2014 minutes as distributed and edeistributed. **John Kamin** moved and **Mike Neeley** seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The minutes were APPROVED.

**SELF INTRODUCTIONS**: **Clements** requested self-introductions of members and faculty and short bios from new faculty members **Dinko Bacic** and **Hui Shi**.

**CIS SENIOR PROJECT**: **Dinko Bacic** introduced the CIS Senior Project. Two teams created a website for COLAB for **Dr. Kate Winsett** who received an educational grant of $10,000 for the project. The teams competed for their projects to go live. The site was designed to promote active learning. The professor will be able to create a class and allow her to distribute and monitor assignments. Students will be able to enroll in the class and collect and learn from their own data. **Winsett** observed the results live through Skype and selected both projects for a trial run in separate large classes which then will be reviewed by her students. The teams included (Team 1) **Michael Brooks**, **Emily Johnson**, **Joshua Todd**, (presenters) **Keving Koehler**, **Kevin Ries**, **John Russell**, and **Jeffery Sears** and (Team 2) **Clay Boylls**, **Sean Kerchief**, **Aaron Will**, (presenters) **Derrick Cleon**, **Kyle Hochstetler**, **Ben Overfield**, **Andrey Sheychuk**, and **Jeff Ward**.

**CS SENIOR PROJECT**: **Gongjun Yan** introduced the CS Android Project. Each student in this class created an Android Application. Two apps were published on Google Play store and four apps are almost ready for publication. This was a single semester project. **Jake Eckert** (presenter) was one of the published students. He obtained an Endeavor grant.

Statement from **Eckert**: “During our IT alliance meeting, I joined Dr. Yan to demonstrate the Romain College’s newest course in the Computer Science major, Android Development.  During the demonstration, I showcased my app that I have created based on the teachings and materials provided to me in the course.  That app is a game called Slide & Switch, which was a matching puzzle game inspired by Bejeweled and Candy Crush.  This projected promoted a ‘green’ model, named by Dr. Yan, as it contained no ads, and no in-app purchases.  The end user has all the content in the game available to him upon download, with no additional content requiring purchase or any advertising that is not part of the game environment that would disrupt or distract from the user experience.”

**IT ALLIANCE CHAIR’S REPORT**: **Clements** thanked the students for their presentations and stated how exciting these senior projects are. He noted that this year was a slow start for the IT Alliance but that the faculty and committee chairs were moving forward. **Kamin** was introduced as the co-chair, and **David Smith** was introduced as the immediate past chair.

Alliance/Student Interactions: **Clements** mentioned that the mentoring program has had trouble finding students to mentor as many of the junior and senior level students already have internships. The AITP is alive and looking forward to the next conference on March 26-29, 2015 in Omaha, Nebraska. The ITA scholarship endowment is $14, 079.04 which allows for a $500 scholarship and AITP financial support. Additional scholarships are offered by Atlas World Group, Center for Software Development, Keller Schroeder, Old National Bank Foundation, and Shoe Carnival. This committee is also polling businesses about currently needed skills sets to help inform students and faculty of the needed skills.

Alliance/Faculty Interactions: **John Knight** gave a list of participants for the professionals in the classroom for Fall 2014:

* **Ron Coll** from Mead Johnson Nutritionals' Global HR Shared Services spoke to the CIS 305 class on October 7.
* **Paul Ehrhart**, Associate Director of Information Management (2 General IT interns), **Liz Jackson**, Manager of HR Information Systems (HRIS intern), and **Dave Hoefling**, Director of Global Supply Chain Processes (looking for a SAP Intern) from Mead Johnson Nutritionals spoke to USI Romain College of Business AITP student chapter on Wednesday, Oct 29.
* **Dr. Katherine (“Katie”) Winsett**, client for the CIS477 class, met on a weekly basis with Senior Project students.
* **Julie Brauser**, Assistant Director of USI Career Services and Internships, spoke to **Dr. Gongjun Yan’s** CS215 class about career opportunities.
* **Dr. Jane Johansen**, Director of the USI Endeavor Awards Program, spoke in **Yan’s** CS499 class.

**Knight** requested participants sign up for the Spring 2015 semester. He also mentioned a CIO/CEO campus-wide discussion supported by AITP.

**Abbas Foroughi** gave a list of the faculty who participated in the faculty/ITA pairing project:

* **Scott Anderson** was paired with **Terry Clements**, of Shoe Carnival.
* **Dr. Kenny Shemroske** was paired with **David Smith**, of Springleaf.
* **Dr. Jennifer Williams** was paired with **Mike Neeley**, of Atlas Van Lines.
* **Dr. Dinko Bacic**, who has banking experience, has shown interest in being paired with **John Kamin** at Old National Bank. John Kamin agreed to the new pairing.

Program Vision and Curriculum: **Jennifer Williams** gave an overview of the CIS program review. Resources and skills are changing. CIS 151 and 261 are more basic business tools than CIS directed. The business core is being evaluated to determine the need of certain courses and when they should be introduced in the curriculum. CIS 305 is a principles courses that is directed more for business students and should possibly become a core course. See attached report.

**Kamin** asked the students present for input on what they believe should be offered. The students suggested offering PHP earlier, Excel and Access courses later or a refresher course, as well as additional database courses. **Kamin** suggested forming a Faculty/Alliance/Student /Recent Graduate group to review curriculum.

**Scott Anderson** discussed the CS program assessment. See attached report.

**Julie Brauser** provided a report on Internships. See attached report.

**DEPARTMENT CHAIR’S REMARKS**: **Abbey Foroughi** recognized the two new CIS/CS faculty:

**Dr. Dinko Bacic** came with a strong record of teaching experience, a very timely research record, industry experience, and an agenda of community engagement and consulting. He taught the ERP class and the Senior Projects class this fall, leading his students to achieve impressive results.

**Dr. Hui Shi** is teaching the CS Algorithm Design and Object-Oriented Programming courses this fall and next spring. Her wealth of knowledge about “smart” search engines is a great asset to the CS Program. Having such a strong researcher and faculty on board has contributed significantly to the CS and CIS programs and will give us the flexibility needed to offer new courses. With the addition of a faculty with her credentials to the CS program, we hope to be in a good position to apply for and secure ABET accreditation in the future.

Curriculum Updates

CS faculty have aligned the CS curriculum with the new changes that are included in the updated ACM Model Curriculum. CIS faculty have collapsed the tracks and redesigned the curriculum so that all CIS students will have exposure to web development, programming, ERP, business analytics, and computer security. See **Foroughi’s** attached report for more details.

**DEAN’S REMARKS**: **Mohammed Khayum** thanked everyone, especially the students, for taking part in the meeting. He noted that the outcomes and composure of the presenters showed the rapid progress and quality of the students’ work and how they rose to the expectations.

**Khayum** expressed his desire for an elevated awareness and understanding of the IT programs. IT is experiencing a new frontier. He is seeking to build the reputation of the program. The new bulletin will be out in 2016, but many of the changes mentioned before will be implemented in the next semester which includes the collapse of some tracks.

**Khayum** suggested some structural changes to the IT Alliance. He recommended reviewing the By-Laws that were last amended in 2011. He noted that the Accounting Circle has removed some formal structures from its by-laws. He will share a copy of the Accounting Circle changes to use as an example for the prospective changes.

**Khayum** stated recruitment of students for the IT programs is needed. He explained more employers want more graduates than we have to meet those needs. He encouraged the Alliance to share perspectives and suggestions that can help to advance awareness of the CIS and CS programs. **Khayum** said that the University has not needed to be aggressive in the past but is starting to build its marketing structure for recruitment. He recommended using student achievements to attract new students. A summer High School camp for CIS and CS prospective students is being discussed.

**NEXT STEPS**: **Clements** stated a Panel Discussion led by ITA members will take place in Spring 2015 and that the Spring meeting is set for Wednesday, April 29, 2015.

**ADJOURNED**