**IT ALLIANCE SPRING 2014 MEETING MINUTES**

**Romain College of Business at USI**

**Wednesday, April 30, 2014, 7:30 a.m.**

**USI Business and Engineering Center, Room 0035**

**Members Present:**  Kim Angermeier, James Derk, Susan Everett, Scott Franzel, Patrick Heck, Bob Humphrey, Dave Klepak, John Knight, Kevin Kolley, Alan Letterman, Larry May, Doug Petitt, Dave Smith, Richard Towniskoetter

**Members Absent:**  Brian Beard, Chris Boeke, David Bottomley, Terry Clements, Pat Fleck, Karen Fuchs, John Kamin, Mike Neeley

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

**Ex-officio Members Absent:**  William Theby

**Guest Present:** David Belcher (Free Masons – Beulah Lodge No. 578), Ayana Blair (Foundation)

**Faculty Present:**  Scott Anderson, Bruce Mabis, Ernest Nolan, Kenneth Shemroske, Gongjun Yan

**Students Present:** Tsogtbayar Bayankhishig, Derrek Bushman, Agnes Craig, Whitney Enlow, Elizabeth Karber, Lucas Matte, Jaredt Remling, Joshua Schenk, Ralph Toon, Kelsey Turner, Kelsey Welp, Anthony Zipparo, Seljejman Zogic

**Administrative Assistant Present:** Michelle Simmons

**WELCOME:** **Dave Smith** welcomed everyone to the fall meeting.

**SELF INTRODUCTIONS: Smith** requested self-introductions.

**MINUTES:** **Smith** asked for a motion to approve the Fall 2013 minutes as distributed. **James Derk** motioned to approve and **Dave Klepak** seconded the motion. The minutes were **APPROVED**.

**NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS:** The Executive Committee nominated and elected three members for an additional three year term: **Pat Fleck**, **Alan Letterman**, and **Mike Neeley**. Two new members were elected to join the IT Alliance: **Doug Petitt** and **Richard Toeniskoetter**. **John Kamin** was selected as chair-elect.

**CIS SENIOR PROJECT: Gongjun Yan** introduced the CIS Senior Project. This year the teams competed for a chance to present to the IT Alliance. The winning team consisted of **Kelsey Turner**, **Anthony Zipparo**, **Elizabeth Karber**, **Agnes Craig**, **Matthew Samples**, **Jaredt Remling**, and **Kelsey Welp**. Their chosen project was to create a web presence with better communication for the Free Masons – Beulah Lodge No. 578 out of Mt. Vernon, Indiana. They chose this project as a win-win scenario. The client wanted recognition, communication, and publicity on the web and the students wanted a real world problem that they could work as a team with their different skill sets and work with the community.

**CS SENIOR PROJECT: Bruce Mabis** introduced the CS Senior Project. The teams competed for a chance to present to the IT Alliance. There were two winning teams so they flipped a coin. The two winning teams did projects for Lieberman Technologies and United Companies. The presenting team was the Osmosis Group whose project was for Lieberman Technologies. The members included **Tsogtbayar Bayankhishig**, **Derrek Bushman**, **Whitney Enlow**, **Lucas Matte**, **Joshua Schenk**, **Ralph (Tony) Toon**, and **Suljejman Zogic**. The focus of this project was on communication through a relay engine used to contact members within an organization. The students chose this project for real world experience and to incorporate new skills. They met mostly in class and through virtual meetings using Google Drive, GitHub, and Trello. The students used USI and IVY Tech’s text systems as inspiration.

**DEAN’S REMARKS: Mohammed Khayum** updated the IT Alliance on the extension of the AACSB accreditation for both business and accounting. He said there are 12,000 business schools and about 7% (694) are AACSB accredited. Also that 2% (182) were accounting accredited. He stated that the accreditation is valued by the students and faculty. He discussed the new standards for the AACSB accreditation as being innovation, engagement, and impact and that the Romain College of Business is most characterized by impact. The main focus of faculty is instruction, research, and service & engagement.

**Khayum** asked the alliance members as “clients” to help in documenting the support claims for the accreditation such as the professional staff interactions with students and how that interaction affects the innovative thinking process of the staff.

In the last six years, there have been 160 CIS/CS graduates (53 CS and 107 CIS). There is not much information on tracking these graduates. **Khayum** requested the Alliance members help in placement data. He said that the graduates average 30% CS and 70% CIS. He stated that the Core Curriculum is being revisited to produce more effective and successful graduates.

**Khayum** spoke on how project management needs to be utilized more and the students need to learn the analytics for insight and focus along with the technological skills they learn and that all students should be tech savvy in all focuses.

Khayum would like to see the CIS/CS programs rise to the level of the Accounting program at USI. These programs are less well known and need to be targeted both locally and regionally. He suggested ideation competitions within the University and regionally as ways to get more students and to show the quality of the program. Smith asked what the key to getting students was. Khayum noted it is reputation. He stated in the past admittance vs. enrollments was 50%. Currently that is down to 40% in the last three years. He noted that IU is our top competitor and that reputation and brand make a difference. He suggested announcing the number of graduates placed in their fields of study would help and that we also need to focus on recruitment and retention.

**Smith** gave a short introduction to the committees.

**Alliance/Student Interactions: Kim Angermeier** stated the goals for the Student Interaction committee to increase the number of scholarships and mentor/mentees. She stated there were 7 mentor/mentees in 2011, 8 in 2012, and 6 in 2013. She noted in the past it was primarily Junior and Senior level students, but due to employed students, the program was opened to Sophomore level students in 2014.

**Angermeier** quoted the scholarship fund as having $13,741.74 as of April 29, 2014. Scholarship donations are split 80% to scholarships and 20% to assist the AITP. The IT Alliance scholarship is $500 and is endowed. The number of named scholarships was increased by one with the addition of the Center for Software Development scholarship.

**Smith** stated that the internship program is very active and going well. He also challenged the Alliance to increase CIS/CS competitions. The internship report was provided in the packet.

**Alliance/Faculty Interactions:** **John Knight** stated that there were six speakers in the classroom this past year and asked for volunteers for this coming year. He stated that the panels were a success and that he recommended that the panels be opened to general business students along with the AITP members. **Smith** noted there were two panel discussions and an open forum. He stated there were about 30 participants at each and that they received good feedback.

**Scott Anderson** spoke of the faculty in industry. He stated that they were ready for a rotation. He said it was good to learn how what they taught was used within industry.

**Program Vision and Curriculum: Anderson** stated that there is now a third full time CS faculty member beginning Fall 2014 and that he looks forward to what can be accomplished with this new resource. The core curriculum is currently being reviewed so curriculum changes to the CIS/CS programs is currently on hold. He stated that there would be tweaking of the tracks and possibly a systems programing track added.

**DEPARTMENT CHAIR’S REMARKS: Abbey Foroughi** gave his report.

New CIS and CS faculty coming onboard this fall:

CS--Ms. Hui Shi, from Old Dominion University. http://www.cs.odu.edul-hshilawards.html

CIS-- Dinko Bacic, from Cleveland State University. https:l/csuohio.academia.edulDinkoBacic

• Based on our request, he has attended ERP training and is scheduled to teach this class and the Senior Projects class in 2014-2015.

Due to increased enrollment in CS, Dean Khayum has requested another CS faculty position. This

will increase the number of CS faculty to four.

Curriculum:

Indiana Single Articulation Pathway meeting-Spring, 2014

• Scott Anderson, representing CS, and I, representing IT, attended the Single Articulation Pathway meeting in Indianapolis that addressed how universities across the state can work together to facilitate students' transition between 2-year programs to 4-year programs.

• We are in the process of aligning our curriculum with the other universities, based on the outcomes of the meeting.

Proposed Curriculum Updates:

Even though the curriculum was revised three years ago to include three CIS tracks, we still need to reexamine it to be sure to give our students a competitive edge as they pursue their careers.

CIS/CS senior projects are becoming more challenging and addressing real-world issues. Based on your comments and student feedback, the senior projects are very valuable and build students' confidence in their professional knowledge and skills as they prepare to enter the marketplace.

Graduate Placement: Julie Brauser from Career Services reports that a good number of CIS/CS students have secured positions in their field. *CIS/CS* is one of the top disciplines in terms of placement of graduates in positions in their field.

Looking to the Future:

With increased faculty in CS, dynamic interaction among CIS and CS faculty, and their professional commitment and dedication to students, Foroughi believes that the quality and diversity of course offerings will continue to increase.

RECOGNITION OF 2012-2014 CHAIR: Foroughi recognized Smith for his service as Chair of the IT Alliance for the last two years. Smith thanked everyone for their support and that he valued all involved.

**IT ALLIANCE CHAIR’S REMARKS: Smith** noted that High School Day was a great success and that for the first time CIS/CS interest was greater than Accounting.

**ADJOURNED**