IT ALLIANCE FALL 2017 MEETING MINUTES
Romain College of Business at USI
Wednesday, December 6, 2017, 7:30 a.m.
Business and Engineering Center, Lippert Hall, 0035

Members Present: Alan Letterman, John Knight, Doug Petitt, Kim Angermeier Poynter, Dave Smith, Anthony Spitz, Richard Toeniskoetter, Mark Uhrin

Members Absent: Brian Beard, David Bottomley, Terry Clements, John Cobb, James Derk, Susan Everett, Pat Fleck, Scott Franzel, Jeff Gorman, Patrick Heck, Lisa Hobgood, Bob Humphrey, Kevin Kolley, Kelly Reisinger, Amy Romain-Barron, Joab Schultheis

Ex-officio Members Present: Abbey Foroughi

Faculty Present: Scott Anderson, Dinko Bacic, Julie Brauser, Bruce Mabis, Brian McGuire, Kenneth Shemroske, Srishti Srivastava, Jennifer Williams, Gongjun Yan

Students Present: 11 Senior Project students attended.

Guests Present: Juzar Ahmed, Laura Mesker, Jennifer Moorhead, Keith Simmons

Administrative Assistant Present: Michelle Simmons

WELCOME: Doug Petitt welcomed everyone to the spring meeting.

SELF-INTRODUCTIONS: Petitt requested self-introductions.

CS/CIS SENIOR PROJECTS: Dinko Bacic introduced the two student presentations. The two projects presented were for a website for SuperFood Heroes and a mobile app for Jimbot.

Petitt congratulated both teams. He announced that John Kamin had moved away. He discussed the committees Kamin recommended at the last meeting.
- By-law Review Committee: Doug Petitt (lead), Mark Uhrin, John Knight, Kelly Reisinger, and Joab Schultheis
- Scholarship Information Committee: David Smith (lead), Bob Humphrey, and James Derk
- Student/Alliance Interaction Exploration Committee: Terry Clements (lead), Julie Brauser, Kenneth Shemroske, Scott Franzel, and Susan Everett

SCHOLARSHIPS: David Smith discussed the endowing of the IT Alliance scholarship. The amount needed for endowment is $12,500. With the added pledges after the last meeting, the scholarship reached the needed amount by the end of June, 2017. Smith is currently working with Jenny Bryant to draft the endowment paperwork.

MINUTES: Petitt asked for a motion to approve the Spring 2017 minutes as distributed. The minutes were APPROVED.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Petitt announced the unanimous vote making Joab Schultheis Chair-Elect.

MENTORING: Petitt discussed the mentoring program. Last year there were five companies and five students. The students rotated between each company for a half or full day visit. This year there are five companies and three students. The companies this year are Vectren, Shoe Carnival, Atlas Van Lines, Madenco, and One Main.

Julie Brauser stated the change from just junior and senior students for the mentoring program to the inclusion of sophomores. There is one returning student. The feedback from the participating students was positive.

Petitt asked the students to present their expectations for the mentoring program. The responses included being informed, not having time as a junior or senior, having representatives come to campus, and the inclusion of sophomores. Brian McGuire recommended representatives visit the CIS201 course.

AIS and ACM CLUB REPORTS: Jennifer Williams stated that she is the new faculty advisor for the AIS Club. This is her first time as a club faculty advisor. She noted some structural changes to the club. It is a small group of students, but they have been active in fundraising, community projects, and setting up a speaker event for the next semester. The club has met growth and fundraising milestones. They plan to attend a conference in the spring that will have competition opportunities. There are approximately 8-10 members at present.

Srishti Srivastava is the new mentor for the ACM Club. She announced that the club membership has increased from 15 members to 70 members. The club is student-run and very active. The club has now been recognized on the ACM National website. They are participating in fundraising that includes a game night. The students organize into small groups within the chapter to learn new technologies from each other. They are also working on speaker visits.

Srivastava also discussed parallel computing. One student, Dana Tang, participated in a Parallel Computing Conference as a student volunteer. She noted a collaboration between the Pott College's Engineering Department, the SW Stem group, and the ACM Club. They propose creating a Girls Who Code chapter at USI with a start date of January 2018 to teach middle and high school girls about computer science.

CS CURRICULUM: Scott Anderson introduced the possibility of a CS minor that would include hybrid and online sections. There would be six CS courses in software development. Smith noted the potential for current employees in the industry to participate as non-traditional students. These courses would also be included as CS directed electives. Anderson believes engineering and math majors would be interested in the CS minor. See attachment for list of CS courses.

CENTER FOR CYBER SECURITY: Kenneth Shemroske announced the completion of the Cyber Security Lab. The lab will move full force in spring semester. He is looking into industry involvement. He stated that there is a high need for experienced cyber security employees but a low availability. He is looking into creating a certificate in Cyber Security. There will be part-time employment opportunities in the Cyber Security Lab for students to gain experience.

Shemroske stated the need to work with the SW Information Sharing and Analysis Organization collective to discern the Cyber Security needs. He sated the Tri-State area needs to tackle this as a community. He noted that there will be a meeting in February to solidify membership and management.

DEPARTMENT CHAIR'S REMARKS: Abbas Foroughi thanked everyone for coming and the students for their presentations. He discussed news in the Management and Information Systems department: CS major enrollment has passed the 200 mark, and is now 203. The MBA has grown from 100 students to more than 400 students in just two years. The Management & IS Department has hired 2 new full-time, tenure-track faculty for the Computer Science Program: Dr. Srishti Srivastava, who holds a Ph.D. in Computer Science from Mississippi State University; and Dr. Sherif Rashad, who holds a Ph.D. in Computer Science and Engineering from the University of Louisville, Kentucky. He will begin teaching this spring.

Foroughi noted that the Romain College of Business is student-centered and focuses on Innovation, Engagement, and Impact, all of which aim to provide first-rate learning experiences for our students. He also discussed how to do more with less, as some faculty are on overloads:

- Increase enrollment through online offerings—Ex: CIS601-MIS will have an enrollment of 250+ MBA students this spring. An online MBA course is now offered that focuses on Info Visual & Dashboarding. CIS201 Business Processes and Information Systems will be offered online this spring and CIS367 Data Communications this summer. Some CS courses are already offered online, with plans to offer even more in the near future.
- Offer more cutting-edge courses, such as parallel computing.
- Consider cyber security and business analytics minor/certificates.
- Continue measurement of departmental performance based on innovation, engagement, and impact.

DEAN'S REMARKS: Brian McGuire attended in place of Mohammed Khayum. He thanked the members for their active support in mentoring and scholarships.

McGuire discussed the AACSB reports that were submitted the day before Thanksgiving. He noted that the accreditation is important to the students. He gave the example of the senior project student's resumes provided in the packet. Out of about 12,000 business schools, there are only 800 AACSB accredited, and only 180 of those have dual accreditation in business and accounting like the Romain College of Business.

McGuire noted that some Alliance members will be requested to talk with accreditation committee members. The committee will be confirming the report to either re-affirm accreditation, request a 6th year review, or revoke accreditation. The review covers Strategic Planning, Faculty Qualifications, and Assurance of Learning.

NEXT STEPS: It was suggested that a short members' only meeting be set for the beginning of the next semester to discuss the direction the faculty should take. Petit noted the Alliances is still reviewing the committee structure.

Petitt thanked everyone for coming, faculty, staff, and students. He mentioned that Cyber Security is needed locally. The business have not been able to find local experienced individuals. He also noted that business analytics is also a need. Michelle Simmons mentioned that the MBA program now has a Data Analytics concentration.

ADJOURNED