

Lethbridge Community College
Computer Information Technology Advisory Committee
MINUTES
Tuesday, April 12, 2005
LCC Main Campus - Sunflower Room (TE1202)

Present:

Ken Chapmen, Jimm Valentinsen, Bud Haycock, Stephen Graham, Timothy Frantz, Karen Wojtowicz, Karen Harker, Lettie Croskery, Susie Kennedy, Marty Boogaart, Barry Robinson, Shannon Mercer (1st Year Student Rep.), Kelly Gorrill (Recording Secretary).

Regrets:

Garry Semech, Brock Price, Terry Allred, Doug Wells, Matt Lynch, Lynn Laventure, Jim Campbell (Susie's public apology to Jim for not including him on the list of invites ... it won't happen again!).

Welcome:

Stephen welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for coming.

Introductions:

Round table introductions were made.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes from Tuesday, February 8, 2005 were approved by Barry Robinson and seconded by Jimm Valentinsen.

CIT Curriculum Review:

a. Grading Policy

Our grading policy is consistent with our Centre grading policy. Some of our course outlines included in the curriculum handout (binder) were older and many had the outdated grading scale - they have been updated to reflect the new grading policy.

b. CIPS Report

Susie went through the Executive Summary in the CIPS Report. C1 - Faculty very small - it is difficult to find any instructors that can teach IT - we cannot afford to lose who we have. C2 - Minimum coverage of UML in the CIT 275 - Introduction to System Design & CIT 276 - Systems Design II courses curriculum - It is used a bit but we are using the Dataflow instead. C3 - Absence of a JAVA programming language required course - Once students learn one language they can work with other languages - integrate textbooks within other courses - object oriented programming.

Susie commented that we want to be open minded about the concerns and consider them within the program.
Can these concerns be met within the 5 year time frame?

c. Curriculum Review Summary

Marty:

- CIT154 - OK

- CIT156

- C++ still a good language
- continue with console applications; leave GUI design for year two
- add exposure to dynamic memory management (new and delete)

- CIT157

- no need to move to XHTML; but, be XHTML compliant in the HTML course
- combine exercises 2, 3, 4, & 5 into two exercises
- expose to server-side language and add an exercise to have them choose and justify appropriate language for various applications
- add a exercise to review and rate various web-sites for user-friendliness and business effectiveness (i.e., what is a good web-site)

- MTH152 - OK

Susie:

- CIT163

- Would like XML exposure

- CIT263

- If possible, add 2 weeks of advanced SQL using previous year resource or web-resource (to keep costs down)
- Continue to focus on Developer
- Possibly use Designer to demonstrate SQL code generation

- CIT276/276

- To answer the concerns of CIPS, explicitly list project management outcomes on the course outline.
- Copy curriculum to Karen W. for review

Barry:

Both Bud and Jimm commented on the increased knowledge demonstrated in the recent graduates. They

seem to be more aware of security issues and are comfortable with the basics of network border protection (router/firewalls). Both institutions have little need of programming but they recognized the fact that this will need to remain a core concept in CIT. Areas that were originally addressed by the CNT program may now become a skill that is lacking in the Lethbridge area market, but both commented on the low demand. One area that Bud recommended that may be beneficial to CIT was the inclusion of WAN routing and the associated principles. We discussed the current involvement of these issues and thought that since many students already have some home networking experience this could be a topic that we could be incorporated in Advanced Internet systems.

Committee Membership:

The New Membership Committee will contact Rik Jesse (from Winston Churchill High School), and/or Mr. Burton (from the Lethbridge Collegiate Institute) to see if we can fill this void.

Chair Position:

Stephen Graham has graciously accepted the Chair Term for another year with Jimm Valentinsen being the second in command.

Student Reports:

Shannon reported that this semester was much busier than last semester. It has been really difficult for the students to decide which stream to go into - most of the students want to do both streams and cannot decide which to go into. If they are going to the University of Lethbridge the decision would be an easier one.

- Enrollment Management:

Discussion was held to determine: How do we keep students once they are here? Why do students leave?

Students don't know how difficult the program is until they start it. We have other Technology programs here on campus and they are made aware of them if the CIT program is not for them. CIT has done a lot of work around these issues over the past years.

We need the word out about our program and people advertising for us (alumni, advisory committee). We have had someone going to high schools in the community and to other provinces.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, October 25, 2005 at the Lethbridge Regional Police Service, 6:00 - 8:00 PM.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM. Members disbursed to go into the labs for the Curriculum Review with Barry, Marty & Susie (item 4c from the Agenda).