

Lethbridge Community College
Computer Information Technology Advisory Committee
MINUTES

Tuesday – March 6, 2007
Lethbridge College – Garden Court Restaurant

Present:

Jimm Valentinsen, Matt Lynch, Ken Chapman, David Lowe, Michael Reimer, Cheryl Pollmuller, Susie Kennedy, Terry Allred, Marty Boogaart, Kelly Gorrill (Recording Secretary).

Regrets:

Timothy Frantz, Stephen Graham, Barry Robinson, Jonathan Hartney (2nd Year Student)

Welcome:

Jimm welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Introductions:

Round table introductions were made.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of October 3, 2006 were approved by Matt Lynch and seconded by Ken Chapman.

CIT Program Reorganization:

Cheryl updated everyone with our Early Retirement Packages offered this year. Our Dean (Doug Wells) will be taking advantage of this opportunity, and he will be leaving the end of June this year. We have been without an HR Director since October, but a lady from Calgary was hired and will be taking on the Position as of January.

Susie has stepped down as Program Leader for the Computer Information Technology program, we have been lucky to have Barry, Marty & Terry to step up and take on certain responsibilities to help Cheryl out. Susie has applied for a sabbatical at the University. Jimm thanked Susie for her excellent job with the program and committee.

Lab Space Concern:

The lab space concern in the previous minutes has been resolved and things were placed in order with thanks to Terry Allred.

Winter Intake:

We have had 14 students come in for our January intake and 2 have re-joined after a break. The numbers have grown and we are very pleased to see that. Some programs have been experiencing a drop in their numbers, so we are happy to see our results. Applications for the Fall for the Computer Information Program are already at 23 and looks very promising.

PC Service Revival Decision:

Our request for the PC Service to be revived has been denied due to lack of interest, space, instructor support, and equipment.

Games Programming Certificate Update:

We are trying very hard to run this program; right now, we have two students confirmed and four students pending. A feature has been sent to 7000 interested students and 6046 are showing interest.

There has been a lot of interest in Games Programming, lots of marketing and promoting has been done and we don't know why the numbers are not higher. Once the games programming has been decided we may have to hire someone for the games program and possibly do courses after Susie goes on sabbatical. Students here now say they would be interested in the games program. We have done things right up to this point – students just are not cooperating.

Special Events Update:

Career Conference:

This event was a success – we were set up at the doors where students were coming in at the entrance and they were able to play games against each other – this was set up by Terry and it was to show information about our program.

We had speakers for the students – Sean Megaw and an Alumni of the College Karen Wojtowicz, which was well received. If anyone is interested in volunteering to be a speaker at our Career Fair next year please let me (Kelly) know at 320-3213. The students got to enjoy pizza for lunch.

CIT Seminar:

We are looking for people who would be interested in having a small seminar class. Matt Lynch has taught a C Sharp Session for us and Jimm has done the Police Service Tours – which has been much appreciated. It would be great if our members could come forward with ideas for seminars and offer their services to a good cause.

10th Anniversary:

Have CIT 10th Anniversary with the 50th Anniversary for the College Alumni, it would be great to work with them on this project. There is also our re-branding here at the College, we have lots of changes going on here on campus - would like to postpone this year and move to next year. Andrea would enjoy putting things together. Cheryl will be the lead at this point, she will be in contact with Amanda Jensen who is coordinating the Alumni celebration.

Students Reports:

Michael Reimer reported for the 1st year – the first term was really enjoyable, and we learned a lot. The second term has been more difficult. C++ was a bit difficult – lots of reading this term. Database is where most of the interest is really enjoyed.

Hardware last term was good, lots of weird things – trial and error with practice though it is getting much better. A few students have dropped out, but most students in 1st year have been enjoying things. BUS courses are not appreciated we don't know why they are needed. John Russell tries to gear his MKT classes towards our program and he is pretty good. James Reimer has also tried to gear his ACC classes to fit our program.

Jonathan Hartney (2nd Year student) sent a letter to be read due to classes studies and regrets not being at our meeting.

Our final semester is coming to a close and students are considering further education – mostly University of Lethbridge. Final projects are being completed, students getting ready for Final Exams. Applications are being made. Things are very busy now and students are trying to finish up things and decide where they will be going next.

Jonathan would like to return next year to be on the advisory committee as a University student. He has enjoyed being with the committee.

For the CIT Fieldwork times – It would be better for the students to have different fieldwork hours so that they can benefit from this experience and get as much from this that they can.

New Members – If you know of someone who could be involved with the Advisory Committee within the community – Please pass on names to Kelly (320-3213) to follow-up.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday – October 2, 2007

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 7:52 PM.