**Computer Information Technology Advisory Committee**
**Tuesday – October 8, 2013**
**Sunflower Room - TE 1202**

**MINUTES**

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| Present: | Fergus Raphael, Cal Koskowich, Mathew Lynch, Nathan Sailer, Clark Ferguson, Dave Gelowitz, Jake Waiboer, Dennis Sheppard |
| Students: | Mike Paulson, Mike Stevens |
| Faculty/Staff: | Alan Andron, Stephen Graham, Barry Robinson, |
| Regrets: | Jimm Valentinsen, Sabina Visser, Terry Allred |
| Recorder: | Lacey Gretchen |

1.  **Welcome & Introductions**
    Fergus welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were made around the table.

2.  **Adoption of Agenda**
    Adoption of the agenda moved by Matt Lynch and seconded by Stephen Graham.

3.  **Adoption of Minutes**
    Adoption of the minutes moved by Matt Lynch and seconded by Dave Gelowitz.

4.  **New Members**
    Alan Schneider, Mike Paulson and Mike Stevens each gave a brief overview of their background and expressed what they each hoped to contribute to the Committee in terms of their expertise in different areas.

5.  **Business Arising from the Minutes**
    There was no business.

6.  **Program Updates**
    - **Program Staff**
      Stephen Graham has gone from a Term Certain position to a Full Time Continuing position. This academic year, Shoja Mazidi is instructing MTH-1152 and CIT-1152. Travis Killian is also instructing two sections of MTH-1152 and Darren Eveleigh is instructing CIT-1157.

    - **CIPS Accreditation Review**
      In the 14WN term, CIPS will be undergoing their accreditation review process. This will involve meeting with the Advisory Committee to gain feedback from the

members. Members will be sent out further information regarding this review. Members were asked to provide feedback on the perceived importance of being accredited by CIPS. Majority responded that CIPS adds value to the program, opens doors for students, and allows them to receive certification with CIPS quicker than those who took a program not accredited by CIPS.

- **Elective options**
  Members were asked to provide feedback on whether an elective course should be added that will allow students to get A+ certification. Members expressed concern that adding this course may take away from the enrollment in other electives currently offered. Members suggested that the electives stay as is and that the college/program look at the possibility of offering this course on a non-credit basis.

**7.  College Wide & Staffing Update**

Dennis shared with the committee that the College's new president, Paula Burns, has now been in her role for the last seven months. Dennis shared information about the strategic planning process that the College is currently undertaking. Through this process, the College's Vision and Missions statements have changed:

- Mission: Lethbridge College inspires and facilitates learning and innovation to meet economic and social needs.
- Vision: Leading and transforming education in Alberta.

The College has restructured the roles within the organization and is searching for a new VP of Academics and Chief Operating Officer, to commence in November 2013. Peter Leclaire, the former VP & CLO resigned in June 2013.

**8.  Student Feedback**

- **1st Year Student**
  Mike Paulson shared with the committee that students don't have any real criticisms of the program, although students are struggling with CIT-1152 as there is a lot of material to cover in a class that is only offered once per week within the term. The delivery of the program is well done and being able to transfer over to the University of Lethbridge after completing the diploma program is a nice draw for students.

- **2nd Year Student**
  Mike Stevens shared with the committee that students are appreciative of the hands-on learning that is received. The second year is much more of a struggle than the first as the courses are not as easy. Students are finding that the single track of programming is unappealing and would like to see the program expand into other areas, such as networking. A suggestion was made to enhance and revise the programming course, and possibly start with the interesting material and then move onto the less interesting. Overall though, students appreciate the strong fundamentals that are learned through taking the CIT program.

Committee members noted that the industry demand is more for programming skills than it is for hardware based skills.   Also, students looking to transfer to the U of L Computer Science degree are transferring to a programming oriented degree.

**9.      Marketing**

The new CIT one-page flyer was distributed to members. It was suggested that the flyer should make mention of the program being accredited by CIPS. The program outcomes will be emailed out so that members of the committee can review them.

**10.     Next Meeting Date & Time**

The next meeting date will be set for either March 4 or 18, 2014 from 6 – 8 pm in TE1202.

**Meeting Adjourned: 8:00 pm**