

Computer Information Technology - Advisory Committee Minutes
October 10, 2017
TE 1202

Present: Fergus Raphael (Chair), Mathew Lynch, Nicole Geske, Chris Rabl, Brock Price,
Cal Koskowich
Faculty/Staff: Rita Halma, Stephen Graham, Terry Allred, Shoja Mazidi, Barry Robinson,
Cal Whitehead, Stephanie Gabrielson

1. Welcome & Introductions

- Welcome and introductions were made around the table.

2. Adoption of Agenda

- The agenda was approved as distributed.

3. Adoption of Minutes

- The minutes of the March 2016 advisory meeting were approved as circulated

4. College-wide Updates

Cal gave an overview of the college-wide update.

- Lethbridge College has welcomed Samantha Lenci as our new Vice President Academic. Dennis Sheppard has stepped in to fill as the Interim Dean for Justice & Human Services, and is expected to return back to our center next term.
- Cal took a moment and express gratitude to our committee members for their commitment to this advisory.
- The new Trades and Technologies Building held their Grande opening on September 23rd. With the opening of this new space the college can now take in around 800 more students each year.
- New Program coming Fall 2018. Agricultural Enterprise Management (AEM) brings together economics, management and science, Agricultural Enterprise Management delivers a balanced curriculum that will give a strong foundation in business and an overview of agriculture in western Canada.

5. Student Feedback Survey Results

- A survey was sent to 94 grads from 2014-2017 to gain feedback to the CIT program. A total of 17 responses were collected and shared with the group. (Handout Attached)

6. Program Updates

- **Enrollment-** Handout attached shows our current and past enrollment numbers.
- **Staff Update-** Stephen Graham has returned from a 1 year leave after completing his Master of Science in Artificial Intelligence - WITH MERIT - from the University of Edinburgh.
- **Curriculum Changes-** We have swapped the terms that Introduction to Management (BUS 1170) and Business Communications (ENG 1168) are delivered. English Communications will now be delivered in the first semester, while Introduction to Management will offered in the

second semester. This change was brought forward so that students could work on their communication skills at the start of the program rather than waiting a term before they start.

- **Student Events-**

- Employer Networking Night will be held Wednesday, January 25th. An email invitation will be sent to all members through Megan Hebert, Student Employment & Professional Development Coordinator.

- CIT Speed Interviews will take place on October 16th. The purpose of this event is to help second year student's work on their soft skills.

- **Practicums-** It was brought forward to the committee that over the last few years we have had trouble gaining enough practicum placements for students. Each year we have close to 30 students who need to find a practicum, which is a requirement for graduation. The following suggestions were given:

- Have an information session just for employers to come and learn about the CIT program.
 - Intergrade the Systems Analysis & Design with the Practicum.
 - Increase awareness of practicums- reach out to Teconnect
 - Consider doing distant projects for companies in Calgary or Edmonton.

- Members were asked to send us information of upcoming events, so we can share with students.

7. **Future IT Trends**

A discussion of future/current trends in IT was held. Listed here are topics in which we could touch on in our program.

- Web Languages- PHP, Java, Lynx, C++
- User Interface Server (UI Server)
- Source Control
- "GitHub" (Free student Hub)
- Agile Software Development
- Spec writing/planning
- Testing
- Virtual Reality/ Data Collection
- Raspberry Pi- experiments
- Security

8. **Membership – new member suggestions**

- Members are requested to connect with other individuals within the community to expand the membership list. Renae Barlow was suggested as a potential advisory member. Rita will reach out to Renae and invite her to our next meeting.

9. **Advisory Committee - Role, Format, Timing, etc.**

Members agreed on the following:

- Meetings are best to take place evening starting at 6pm, day typically doesn't matter. Meetings should still take place even with a low confirmed response.
- The format and role of the advisory committee works well, and are aware they can add to the agenda. If anyone is unclear about the role of the advisory committee please contact Stephanie for a copy of the Advisory Handbook.

10. **Next Meeting Date & Time**

- The next meeting date is set for 6:00 pm on March 20, 2018.