IT ALLIANCE FALL 2021 MEETING MINUTES
Romain College of Business at USI
Friday, December 10, 2021, 7:30 a.m.
University Center (UCE) 2217-2218

Members Present: Alan Letterman (Chair), Abram Devonshire, Patrick Heck, John Knight, Andrew Melchiors, Drew Peyronnin, Kim Poynter, Stacy Draper, Philip Hannah, Ryan Parmenter, Vinnie Ciuffetelli

Members Absent: Terry Clements, James Derk, Scott Franzel, Jeff Gorman, Lisa Hobgood, Bob Humphrey, Paul Kilroy, Kevin Kolley, Douglas Petitt, Kelly Reisinger, Nic Sagez, David Smith (Chair-Elect), Anthony Spitz

Ex-officio Members Present: Abbey Foroughi, Brian McGuire

Faculty Present: Jiaying Liu, Josh McWilliams, Kasra Pourang, Scott Anderson, Xue Han, Srishti Srivastava, Gongjun Yan, Kenneth Shemroske

Students Present: 12 students for Senior Projects

WELCOME: Alan Letterman welcomed everyone to the fall meeting.

SELF-INTRODUCTIONS: Letterman requested self-introductions

MINUTES: A motion was made and the minutes from the spring meeting were approved.

IT ALLIANCE CHAIR'S REMARKS: Letterman reminded the IT Alliance members to continue funding the IT Alliance scholarship and proposing possible ideas for senior projects for Spring 2021. He encouraged the members to look for more of a variety of quality projects and not just websites.

INTERNSHIPS: Jennifer Riester reported on the USI Career Services and Internships for Fall 2021 – Fall 2021. (See attached report).

DEPARTMENT CHAIR'S REMARKS: (See attached report)

- Abbas Foroughi thanked Letterman and Smith for their leadership and the Alliance members for their support.
- Foroughi thanked Interim Dean Brian McGuire for his leadership and support of our departmental programs and activities.
- Foroughi thanked Gongjun Yan, Josh McWilliams and the CS and CIS students for their hard work on the senior projects.
- Foroughi introduced Jiaying Liu, who is ABD and in the final stages of completing her PhD. Her expertise is in MIS, Data Analytics, Database Management and R (Programming language).
- There are also two faculty searches being conducted:
    o Tenure-track CIS position with Cybersecurity expertise
    o Full-time instructor in CS
- A new Supply Chain Management Certificate has been approved and will be offered in Fall 2022.
    o Courses include: Supply Chain Management, Managing Warehousing and Transportation and Global Supply Chain Management and Risk Assessment
- CIS and CS JobSpark (See attached report)

- o Four of our CIS and CS faculty participated in JobSpark, a technology career-awareness program for middle/high school students offered through Junior Achievement and sponsored by RCOB alumna and current Berry Global CIO, Debbie Garrison.
  - o This virtual event made students aware of career options and the exciting topics they can learn about in our RCOB courses.
- Dr. Xue Han is using short projects in his CS478 course to prep for Senior Projects course using advanced coding.
- The CIS and CS departments are exploring the possibility of developing other relevant micro-credential certificates (such as coding/programming, web/ecommerce, software engineering and CIS and CS MBA concentrations.

DEAN'S REMARKS:
- RCOB Interim Dean McGuire commented that while attending a Financial Services meeting recently there was much discussion about IT and Cryptocurrencies, which reinforces the need for the types of courses discussed by Dr. Foroughi in his Department remarks.
- He thanked Dr. Cathy Carey for her leadership as Dean these past 2 years.
- A reminder that the RCOB will be up for their AACSB Accreditation in 2023 and 2022 will be the Year of Record. Items requested will be:
  1. "bragging points for the USI RCOB students"
  2. performing internships
  3. graduate placements.

CS/CIS SENIOR PROJECTS: Gongjun Yan and Josh McWilliams are the instructors/advisors for the senior projects courses. 3 teams presented 5 Senior Projects at the meeting. The project plans are available upon request.

- MEET ASAP: Meeting Scheduler Application
  - o Plarent Cane, Patrick Collins, Rachel Collins, Justin Hoops, Sam Medicis
- Different Shades of Pretty; Plasticity Neurotherapeutics, Cutie Vapors
  - o Zane Conner, Christian Guzman, David McGary, Kade Schwarzlose, Ryota Takei; Cameron Whaley
- Dusty Barn Distillery: Local Grown-Local Made
  - o James Beckman, Austin Blacklock, Warner Karger

NEXT STEPS: Chair Letterman provided a Nest Steps summary:
- More robust and diversified senior projects
- A reminder email will be sent out to all faculty to form a committee tis discuss ways to support the hiring of more CS faculty.

Foroughi thanked the students for their presentations.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 am