

CIS advisory committee April 7, 2016

Present: Eric Epps, Dave Kornfeind, Adam Larson, Mark Uscian, Susan Grever, Jim Sager, David Klick, Vickie Klick

Called to order 6:15PM by Eric

Move to approve Fall 2016 minutes – Adam; seconded Vickie; approved unanimously.

College news: David

School has started advertising for a new full-time CIS instructor with a networking emphasis. The advertisement was corrected to not require experience in teaching biology.

Unclear if the new instructor will be Cisco certified and certified as a Cisco instructor; students can go to Rock Valley if needed. Some possibility of teaching Cisco 1 and 2 locally if population warrants it. Mike Ebner is certified as a Cisco instructor, but his position as a full-time employee makes it difficult or impossible to have him teach here.

There are some problems with the fall schedule that need to be addressed before registration goes live Monday morning.

The general relationship between administration and faculty has improved considerably since the new president came in. A couple of administrators who were real problems for the faculty have left, and marketing now reports to the president and is being responsive to faculty needs. The new college president comes from a technical college and is actively promoting the Career Technology division, which is a change from the past few years.

Java 1 and Java 2 have been accepted by IAI as CS1 and CS2; however, that information didn't make it into the new catalog.

CIS 123 (Management Information Systems) was reorganized over the Christmas break to try to address the high failure rate. Last semester, the midterm failure rate was about 50%; this semester it was about 10%. Retention is also much better this semester. This course is important since it is required for business students and is articulated with IAI (including being accepted by NIU).

Susan reported on the new approach she's been using for CIS 150 with an e-book for the class. This semester, there's a dramatic difference between the day and evening sessions, which makes it hard to tell much about the new approach. Oddly, this time the evening class is worse than the day class.

David said the current students in Java II and C++ II are doing very well. A couple of students are doing a (very difficult) honors project.

The budget situation in Springfield has still not been addressed. With the cuts in clerical and administrative staff, many things aren't getting done.

There apparently is still a demand for COBOL programmers (somewhere).

Adam mentioned that PowerShell is becoming increasingly useful in their organization. The current Windows Server classes incorporate PowerShell in every lab. Real programming in PowerShell would probably be a separate course (perhaps with bash in the same course, to cover both environments

where network administrators might be working). David is planning to put together a PowerShell course this summer so that the materials are available when it's time for the course to go forward (perhaps initially at Working Connections Illinois next summer).

Graduation numbers: Susan

Three completed in fall 2015. From discussion, the total numbers for the 2015-2016 school year will probably be similar to the last couple of years.

Job placement: Susan

Job placement information comes from student satisfaction surveys post-graduation; CIS has very few respondents, so there is little information to go on. All they have is anecdotal information from students who choose to write.

Curriculum changes: David

CIS 110 (VB 1) is not being taught but is required for the #437 degree (programming option). Proposal is to replace CIS 110 with CIS 119 (JavaScript). Jim pointed out that it would be useful to put CIS 119 in spring to follow CIS 118, and move either CIS 150 or CIS 160 to fall. David mentioned that he would like to teach a functional programming language like Haskell or Lisp, but that would be a second-year seminar (CIS 206) that would be taught occasionally, rather than a course that would be required and taught regularly. **Recommend: Approve replacement of CIS 110 requirement with CIS 119. One possibility is to rework CIS 110 into a mobile app development class.**

David mentioned that CIS 170 needs to go from two courses/year (fall and spring) to one course/year. Scheduling does not need approval by the committee.

CIS 124 (XML) has not been taught for some time, but is required for the #437 degree (web option). The substitution has been CIS 122 (web creation software), which is currently not required for the degree but is required for the certificate. **Recommend: Approve replacement of CIS 124 requirement with CIS 122 in #437, but don't remove it from the catalog for now.**

CIS 143 (Wireless Communication): This is a 2-hour course - the content is now covered in other classes. Mark recommends dropping the course. **Recommend: Remove requirement for CIS 143 for #460 and #467, but don't remove it from the catalog in case a new instructor might want to revive it.**

Action item: Before the fall 2016 advisory committee meeting, David will send out a list of courses that are not being taught for review by the committee (by email). It needs to be sent out early enough so that it can go to division and curriculum committee before Nov. 1.

The three changes were moved for approval by Adam, seconded by Vickie, approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15PM.