

# Computer Information Technology - Advisory Committee

March 15, 2016

IB 2144

## MINUTES

Present: Fergus Raphael (Chair), Mathew Lynch, Nicole Geske, Chris Rabl, Jake Waiboer  
Students: Elin, Sylvain  
Faculty/Staff: Rita Halma, Stephen Graham, Terry Allred, Shoja Mazidi, Barry Robinson,  
Dennis Sheppard  
Regrets: Candace Lewko, David English, Cal Koskowich, Obed Maurice  
Recorder: 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 2015 advisory meeting were approved as circulated

### 4. College-wide Updates

Dennis gave an overview of the college-wide update.

- Institution applications overall are up by 35%. Confirmed up by 50% overall from this time last year. Part of the effort is through the recruitment process, they are revamping their process, and the economy Increase on the international intake over the entire institution, including CIT.
- Dennis took a moment to complement the community involvement; we have seen a huge increase this year.
- Apprentice numbers across the province has been down for next year. Some institutions enrollment is down by 14% ours our down by only 4%. Next year we hope to have 1100 apprentice. We had our first intake ever of plumbers was January and all our students passed, with a higher than expected average.
- Members were notified that the college is looking a fall reading week. Potentially making Nov 11 holiday a long weekend.

### 5. Student Feedback

- ♣ Elin first year student shared that she thought the program is well organized and very engaging. She likes how she can transfer her skills from first semester into second semester, and can really see the connection. From talking with her peers, the students find the small class size appealing.

She had looked at a number of different schools and decided on Lethbridge college because of the transfer ability. She mentioned that students feel that the program is very condensed and there is a lot to learn, which can be a challenge, but overall is very good.

- ♣ Sylvain second year student feels that students should be made aware that they can take the accounting course during the spring semester, to lighten the course load. He feels that the business courses aren't valuable at this point for him. If the business courses were eliminated the program could go more in-depth with the CIT courses. The last semester of the second year is stressful; there are tons of assignments and not enough time, a positive

because it forces students to time manage. Sylvain would like the School of Business to do more in terms of community/student engagement.

## 6. Program Updates

- ♣ Enrollment- currently we have 81 applications compared to 49 a year ago. We have 45 seats filled and 11 students on the waitlist.
- ♣ Student events- two groups of students went to the ACM Programming Competition on November 14, in Edmonton. Although the groups did not place, they did find it a great learning experience.

CIT Networking Night- was a chance for employers and students to mix and mingle in 5 minute question and answer sessions. Both students and employer enjoyed the event, and we will be looking at hosting this again.

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

## 7. Other

- \* Members are asked to pass along contact information for possible practicum hosts.
- \* Stephen Graham has been approved to take his masters of science in artificial intelligence at the university of Edinburgh in Scotland (1 year leave).

## 8. Student Engagement and Retention:

Completed four surveys this semester:

- ⊞ IPS Institutional Priority Survey- Administered to all faculty and staff, to get their perceptions of what they think the students think of the college.
  - ⊞ Student Satisfaction Survey- data collected to see what the students think of the college.
  - ⊞ National Health Survey- to get a better idea of what health issues students are facing on campus.
  - ⊞ Were calling because we care survey- all students who started in the winter, got a phone call (automated phone service) asked a listed of questions, struggling with planning health financial, if they answered yes to any of the questions, they got a follow up phone call from that specific department on campus.
- Change to the Career Centre—students now automatically have an account to access the job board.
  - A hand out was presented to member to show the statistics from the February Open House.

## 9. Membership – new member suggestions

- ♣ Members are requested to connect with other individuals within the community to expand the membership list.

## 10. Marketing

- ♣ Suggestion was to market our student success stories.
- ♣ Market to companies show off how full our program is and the graduation rate, this might benefit our practicum placements.

## 11. Next Meeting Date & Time

- ♣ The next meeting date is set for 6:00 pm on October 25, 2016.