

# Computer Information Technology

## Advisory Committee Meeting

### Minutes

Tuesday November 4, 2025

10:00am – 12:00pm

**COMMITTEE CHAIR: *Chris Rabl***

### PRESENT

**Chris Rabl**- Independent Consultant

**Lee Mosemann**-Windscribe Ltd.

**Nicole Daub**-National Research Council

**Jonathan Arnoldussen**-Nerds on Site

**Chris Toch**-First Technical Systems Inc.

**Nathan Johnson**-Stratus Advanced Technologies

**Brock Price**-Altis MSP

**Michael Hacker-Lemay**-1<sup>st</sup> Year Student Rep

**Anita Ngenyuy**-2<sup>nd</sup> Year Student Rep

**Sheldon Anderson**-Dean

**Lorne Atwood**-Program Chair

**Irina Cole**-Program Assistant

**Timothy Frantz** - Faculty

**Stephen Graham** - Faculty

**Shoja Mazidi** – Faculty

**Terry Allred**-Endpoint Technologist

**Adrianna Smith**-Student Affairs



# Computer Information Technology

## Advisory Committee Meeting

### Welcome and Introductions

Chris called the meeting to order at 10:00am. He thanked everyone for their attendance and led the roundtable introductions.

### Approval of Agenda

Chris moved to approve the agenda.

### Approval of Minutes (March 5, 2024)

Chris moved to approve the previous meeting's minutes. It was noted that it has been a while since the last meeting.

### Dean Comments – Sheldon Anderson

- introduces the idea of a post diploma certificate program aimed at business, CIT, and engineering graduates to enhance their data management and analytics skills
- seeks feedback from the committee on the program's value and potential impact on graduates and industry needs
- explains the driving idea behind the program, focusing on high-need areas in Alberta and oversubscribed programs
- discusses the timeline for the program, emphasizing the need to prove demand and avoid duplicating existing programs
- program must meet government criteria to ensure it is not diluting existing programs and meets industry needs
- mentions the importance of delivering the program in a way that accommodates working professionals, such as evening or distance learning
- the program's success is contingent on stakeholder feedback and ensuring it meets the needs of the target audience

# Computer Information Technology

## Advisory Committee Meeting

### Industry Comments – Post Diploma Certificate

- support the program, stating it would be highly employable and valuable for their company
- highlight the importance of moving beyond relational databases to non-structured data and big data
- emphasizes the value of sending existing employees for additional training to stay competitive

### Faculty Discussion

- the student attendance is as expected, with some changes in course loads due to faculty adjustments
- the program received accreditation from the Canadian Information Processing Society, which is beneficial for industry recognition
- challenges of maintaining student commitment and the impact of COVID-19 on student engagement

### Student Comments

- Anita Ngenyuy – Second Year Student Representative
  - highlighting the challenges faced by international students and the need for better job prospects after graduation
  - disconnect between resume-building assignments in English courses and industry expectations
- Michael Hacker-Lemay
  - asks about the availability of instructors for extra help
  - suggests incorporating stress management classes to help students prioritize their mental health

### Industry Expectations

- discussed the disconnect between resume-building assignments in English courses and industry expectations
- the difference between resume assignments and real-world applications, emphasizing the need for tailored resumes



# Computer Information Technology

## Advisory Committee Meeting

- providing feedback to the School of Business to align resume-building assignments with industry standards

### **Mental Health and Stress Management**

- concerns about the stress levels of first-year CIT students and the need for better mental health support
- suggestions incorporating stress management classes to help students prioritize their mental health
- discuss the importance of time management and industry-appropriate skills in handling stress
- increasing awareness of mental health and the need for better life skills training for students

### **AI Integration in the program**

- the potential of AI in documentation management and how it can teach basics to junior developers
- the educational benefits of AI, particularly in networking and IT, and the need for structured exposure to AI
- integrating AI into assignments to evaluate the effectiveness of prompts used, rather than just completing the assignment
- importance of AI in enhancing solutions and the need for learners to understand its responsibilities
- students often use AI as a tutor to understand complex concepts, especially when instructors are unavailable
- AI can help programmers transition between different programming languages, providing a competitive edge
- the importance of educating young people on the proper use of AI to avoid pitfalls in the industry
- the discussion on AI's practical applications, emphasizing its role in enhancing solutions and filling knowledge gaps



# Computer Information Technology

## Advisory Committee Meeting

### Action Items

- investigate the possibility of making more advanced AI models and tools available to CIT students, either through academic licensing or self-hosting
- provide feedback to the School of Business on the disconnect between the resume writing advice given in the English communication course and the industry's expectations

### Closing of the meeting

Chris Rabl will Chair the next meeting since no volunteers came forward to do it next time.

Chris concluded the meeting with appreciation for the students' perspectives and a reminder of the next meeting in the following year. He also expressed gratitude to all participants for their time and contributions to the program's future.