

February 24, 2017

Present: Mr Toby Rimes (Mentor Graphics), Mr. SA Hale (Teledyne), Mr. Kendall Birdsong (student), Mr. Daniel Caywood (student), Dr. Adam Lewis, Dr. Brady Rimes, Dr. Dalvin Hill, Prof. Dave Fitzsimmons, Prof. Katia Mayfield.

We started this meeting off with introductions, we had a new board member present, Mr. SA Hale, a new student representative Mr. Kendall Birdsong, and our new faculty Dr. Dalvin Hill. We did go over some changes that have occurred to the board, we have had some representatives that have changed positions and are no longer able to collaborate with us and we have had members join that unfortunately were just not able to attend.

In addition to our current faculty the board consists of:

Russ Johnson – SAIC

Tom Counts – 3-GIS

Toby Rimes – Mentor Graphics

Chad Easterling – Dynetics

Kelley Burgin – MITRE Corp.

Wesley Marsh – NUCOR

Joe Green – Davidson Technologies

SA Hale - Teledyne Brown Engineering Inc.

Daniel Caywood – student

Kendall Birdsong – student

Since we had not reviewed our enrollment/retention numbers since our first meeting, we went over those numbers for 2015. As we have seen before there is a slight decline in student enrollment and Mr. Hale suggested using a trend line in comparison to how the economy is doing so that we can have a comparison of enrollment in regards to economic trends. **We will display and discuss these trends at the next board meeting.**

We followed up the discussion of our students with reviewing ABET's official response to our accreditation. This was something that we discussed last time and came up with a "plan" on how to address everything that they had flagged as a weakness or concern. During this meeting we discussed what those implementations have been. We also took the time to review our Program Educational Objectives and Student Outcomes. With the department about to offer a BS in Computer Science and a BS in Information Technology we plan to have objectives and outcomes for the students to be relatively the same. However, one objective:

"Use the background they have acquired from their study of a wide range of areas in computer science as a basis for continued self-motivated growth of their professional skill and knowledge"

Was noted as an objective that will need to be re-worded for the BS in Information Technology students.

The changes that are going to occur to student transcript displays to specify that student are receiving a Bachelors of Science in Computer Science was discussed. Currently the transcripts display:

“Major: CS – Information Security Option”

This is being changed to:

“Major: Computer Science – IS Option”

Since we are trying to obtain and keep accreditation for the Computer Science Program it must be spelled out on the transcript. Starting in the Fall (for students who start school in the Fall 2017) semester the transcripts will read:

Major: Computer Science

Concentration: Information Security

To be able to do this we are going to have to change the structure in which the requirements are displayed in the catalog. Students will have a block that shows the common courses between Computer Science and Information Security and then they will have an additional block where they must select the courses associated to just Computer Science or Information Security.

Some quick follow-ups that were discussed is the continued interest in having a Program Advisory Board website, we are still working on making this happen and in the near future we should be sending out requests for information to place on the site. The legal department at the university has finalized our liabilities statement for us to use with our clients for the capstone course and any other course that works with someone outside of the university. The department has also established a Remediation Plan for any student who does not pass the Exit Exam with a grade of 70 or above on their second try. These documents were included in the meeting packets and can be provided to you upon request.

Professor Mayfield completed the IDEAL Assessment Workshop through ABET in the beginning of this year and has come back with changes that we must make with some of our assessment gathering. ABET frowns upon the use of numerical grades for assessment purposes because grades do not provide information about performance and can be interpreted in different ways by different people. Therefore, within the classes that we will be gathering assessment data we must develop rubrics for those. At the moment the University has established a writing rubric for assessing students writing. Computer Science is currently working on developing generalized rubrics that can be used with programming assignments (a not applicable option would be included so that the rubric can be used for classes of different levels) and also a team work rubric where students are evaluated by their peers.

Mr. Toby Rimes mentioned that his company actually implements peer reviews and is willing to share that with us so we can see what the indicators are in the work place. If your organization has specific guidelines for programming or there are peer reviews that are implemented that you would

be willing to share with us we would greatly appreciate it. We understand that the requirements of industry will be different than that of the classroom but it can also help us better prepare our students for what is to come.

To wrap things up, there is an ABET visit that will take place in the Fall. It may be that they will request to meet with board members once again, if so we will definitely send out an invitation to everyone. Once this site visit has occurred Dr. Hill and Prof. Mayfield will be working to make sure that the IT degree requirements are aligned with the curriculum guidelines from ACM. We will also be looking into some specialized areas for this degree such as health informatics, database and data analytics, industrial automation and robotics, computer graphics and gaming, and also modeling and simulation. Mr. Hale also suggested that we explore the possibilities of adding a communications and social engineering techniques course.

To finish, our capstone students are doing their presentations on April 27th at 6:00pm and we would like to invite all of you to attend. The students will be presenting on the following projects:

1. Implementation of a web system for The SK Salon
2. Continued work on the Molecular Biology themed Serious Educational Game for the iPad
3. Maintenance and changes to Limestone County United Way website

Our next meeting will be tentatively scheduled for October 2017.