

Industrial Advisory Board Meeting  
March 4, 2015

Participants: Mr. Adrian Vogeltanz (Digium), Mr. Dave Freeman (Limestone County), Mr. Kelley Burgin (MITRE Corporation), Dr. Adam Wade Lewis, Dr. Brady Rimes, Dr. Ronnie Merritt, Prof. Dave Fitzsimmons, Prof. Katia Mayfield

The program changes that had been previously discussed with the IAB for the CIS option were approved and those changes will go into effect starting in the fall semester. The changes included:

- Removal of business courses from the professional requirements of the degree plan.
- Students are now required to declare a minor.

These changes will now allow for the CIS option to be tailored offering flexibility based on students' goals after graduation. Some minor changes that were done to the plan were:

- Specifying a Programming for the Web course that would be transfer equivalent then allowing for any course to fit the requirement.
- Removed the course Digital Enterprise from the requirements and placing Systems Analysis and Design as the required course.

The current Capstone course has five groups of students working on different projects, those projects are:

- Website for Athens-Limestone 911 (new)
- United Way website & volunteer registration system (continuation)
- Game development for Biology department (new)
- Animal cruelty offender registry (new, student suggested)
- Cryptographic Alternatives to Gaussian Elimination in Network Coding (continuation)

**Students will be presenting on these projects on Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm in Waters Halls room N101. We would like to invite everyone to attend if schedules allow.**

New Update since meeting:

Last semester one of the projects that the students worked on was the re-design and implementation of the Athens Limestone Public Library. The following email was received from the library representative on March 20<sup>th</sup>:

“Hey guys, I just wanted you to know how successful the new site has been. It went live @ Feb 5th, and we have already had over 25,000 hits, with a total of 7800 in one day (when the weather was bad). Thank you again for helping us out . Everyone who has looked at the admin screen has said it is a lot easier to post to, and we are trying to keep it a bit more dynamic. If we have any issues we can't fix, I will let you know.”

The Capstone class for the summer has a smaller number of students enrolled and therefore we are only working on three projects.

- Game development for the Biology department (continuation)
- Fiddler’s Convention registration system (continuation)
- Athens-Limestone Learn2Read website and registration system (new)

The Computer Science department submitted a preliminary self-study report to ABET for purposes of obtaining accreditation. We did receive feedback from the reviewer with three areas of concern, two of which have to do with the writing style in which we provided our report, and one that has to do with our curriculum. Unfortunately they do not point out what the exact issue happens to be but the department speculates that it’s the fact that not all of our options require students to take Calculus, as we accept Business Calculus in its place for options other than CS. The department moved forward with submitting an application for an onsite visit. Our full report will be submitted by July 1, 2015 with the onsite visit taking place between September – December 2015 and a decision being provided to the department in 2016.

Since our meeting, Dr. Lewis and Prof. Mayfield have found that there is an ABET Symposium being held April 23-24 in Atlanta, GA and have received approval from the University to attend. We hope that the Symposium will give us some insight into the full report that we must submit along with what will take place next. Prof. Mayfield will also be trying to gain approval to attend the 2015 ABET Institutional Representative Day in July.

While discussing our enrollment trends for this year, we looked at the number of new students that we are getting versus the number of students that are graduating. The chart that was provided in the presentation did not distinguish between options, therefore that information is found in the chart below for the 2014 year.

<b>CS options - New Students/Grads</b>	<b>Fall</b>	<b>Fall</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Summer</b>	<b>Summer</b>
<b>Majors</b>	<b>New Students</b>	<b>Grads</b>	<b>New Students</b>	<b>Grads</b>	<b>New Students</b>	<b>Grads</b>
<b>2014 Totals:</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>11</b>
CN	6	2	3	1	2	2
CIS	13	2	9	6	9	4
CS	16	2	7	6	4	4
IS	0	0	2	0	1	0

On the action item list that we had from our meeting in October 2014 we gathered the following information:

In the last 10 years out of 180 Computer Science graduates with an option in CIS only nine of them obtained a minor in Business Administration. If you will recall, the way that the CIS option had been set up, students would only need an additional 3 classes to obtain the minor along with their major.

The average student age for CS majors is 30. Across the four options it ranges from 27 to 33.

A survey for IAB members was created (it is attached to the email along with this summary), if members could provide their feedback to its structure and questions, along with completing the survey for our institution that would be greatly appreciated.

The department has not established a special topics course in Testing however we are emphasizing it in the Software Engineering course.

Items that are currently being reviewed and still being considered by the department include:

1. The evaluation of the Information Security Course Requirements

We need to add two courses to the degree requirements; we need to have Digital Forensics and System Security Management. At the moment there are three Information Assurance Management courses that are needed for the degree:

- Management of Information Assurance
- Information Assurance Administration and Operations Management
- Information Assurance Strategic Management

We are proposing to keep the Management of Information Assurance course and replace the other two information Assurance classes with the Digital Forensics and System Security Management class.

2. The department is starting to have conversations with representatives from Calhoun Community College to be able to address the issue of students that are trying to transfer in to the program with an AAS vs. AS degree. An articulation agreement will need to be developed for the students in these situations. The reason being that students are coming in without having the majority of their General Education and Pre-Professional requirements completed do to the degree in which they are going for.

3. At the end of our meeting we held an open discussion about the views of the IAB when it comes to Online vs. Traditional Education. In the end there was a consensus that either form of education is acceptable, however that a students who chooses to take online courses must be able to have the “discipline” to do so, and that it is not for everyone. Therefore a combination of both online and traditional education is best to suit the different student population that we see.

**Next Meeting:**

Mid July TBD –

9:00 – Noon

Water's Conference Room 200, followed by lunch off campus.