

**AMARILLO COLLEGE
CIS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
January 26, 2007**

- MEMBERS PRESENT:** O. J. Blankenship, Rob Butts, Ken Crandell, Lee Ann Estep, Larry Gray, John Hintz, Ted Hennis, Clay Jackson, Jimmy Lemmons, Alice, Morris, Jimmy Newman, Marion Rivas, Elizabeth True, Pam Zenick, Sandy Wilkinson
- MEMBERS ABSENT:** Amjad Abdauilat, Debbie Boyer, Warren Cornelius, Robert Giedeon, Mike Hibbs, Mike Lindley, David Norris
- OTHERS PRESENT:** Rudy Bratcher, Carol Buse, Mark Buse, Jana Carver, Ron Faulkner, Linda Hendrick, David Hernandez, Bobbie Hyndman, Minh Lam, Duane Lintner, Mark Usnick

The meeting was called to order by Duane D. Lintner on Friday, January 26, 2007 at 12:35pm in the Plaza Restaurant Banquet room. Duane told the group there were some changes that needed to be instituted in the FALL 2007 Catalog which requires a vote of the CIS Advisory Committee.

There were hand-outs to suggest changes to the major class requirements in the catalog. Duane explained that hypothetically, if a new student were to enroll in the CIS department for a class, there would be two options. They could sign up for COSC 1301 which is a 3 hour Computer Concepts class that was originally created for non-computer majors or secondly, they could sign up for BCIS 1405 that is a 4 hour class that was originally designed for computer majors. Both classes are taught from the same book and both classes teach basically the same information. The only difference is in the 4 hour class for computer majors, we add additional information on the database.

Duane said that was fine for the last four or five years when we had numerous students enrolling that were non-computer literate. Now, there is an enormous change, not only with the amount of people enrolling in the CIS department, but in business in general. We now have fewer students that are non-computer literate that come from the high schools, etc. with a lot of computer information.

We also recognize there is still a small segment of people that come to college for the first time that don't know what a computer is. What we are proposing to do is cancel the class for non-computer majors, COSC 1301 and take the BCIS 1405 class, a 4 hour class for computer majors, and change that to a 3 hour class and open it up for everybody, computer majors and non-computer majors. We believe the way the industry is going today we need to produce a more computer-literate group of students. Even those people who are not computer majors will benefit

from knowledge about database. We want to take the COSC 1301 and BCIS 1405 classes and merge those students together and have them take BCIS 1305.

Recognizing that there is still a small segment of our student population that is non-computer literate, what we also propose to do is on the first day of class giving them a basic computer literacy test. The students that pass the test will go on with their BCIS 1305 class. The small segment of society that fails the test, we propose to recommend them to go enroll in a new course COSC 1300 which is Introduction to Computing where we will teach them those basic skills they need so that when they do take BCIS 1305 they won't lag behind the rest of the student population.

The only other thing we plan on doing is normally, when you sign up for a class as a computer major, you take the BCIS 1301 class. It's a course taught using Microsoft Office as a vehicle. Then you would go from that class into BCIS 1301 which is a secondary Microsoft Office class. We plan on changing that to BCIS 1401 so we can keep the same 7 hour requirements on computer majors.

To sum it all together; we plan on merging the two basic courses BCIS 1405 into COSC 1301 and making one basic course, BCIS 1305. We envision creating a remedial course which is COSC 1300 and we envision changing the secondary BCIS course from BCIS 1301 to BCIS 1401 so that we have an extra hour of lab time to teach them more advanced topics in Microsoft Office.

Duane opened the forum for any questions the group had.

Elizabeth True asked Duane to explain "what basic computer skills are." Duane replied, "This is a computer, this is a mouse, this is how you use a mouse, this is file hierarchy, and this is how to copy one file to another file." These are the very basic things that seem to hang that small segment of the student population up.

Duane asked for any other questions. There were none.

Duane then asked for a vote from the CIS Advisory Committee as to whether to make these changes to our FALL 2007 catalog. All the CIS Advisory Committee voted 'yes' for the changes. Nobody was against the changes.

Duane announced we had one other change to bring to the committees' attention. The CIS department has 5 Associates of Science degrees. One of them is AS/400 Technology. In AS/400 Technology we teach two RPG courses, a Beginning RPG course which is RPG3 and an Advanced course which is RPG4. We're going to do away with the advanced course and teach RPG4 in the basic course and add a JAVA course as a replacement for the Advanced RPG4 course because JAVA has gotten gigantic in the AS/400 world.

Rob Butts questioned, "Along with all those programming courses, do you have any plans to increase each curriculum as far as 'Design & Analysis'? We see a lot of programmers coming out of college, this is general, not just Amarillo College, that are technically competent in

programming but lack the skills as far as analysis and design. That is one area that needs attention.”

Duane responded that we do have one Design and Analysis course that’s a requirement for all our degree plans. We are exploring the use of a vehicle called ALICE to teach more logic design in our basic programming course. So, yes, we are following that train of thought.

Pam Zenick asked, “Will these changes have to be submitted to, or approved by the Coordinating Board?”

Duane replied, “yes”. He then explained the process that he puts together. The proposed changes which are approved by our ‘Advisory Board’, then go to a committee within the college called ‘Academic Affairs’. They have to be approved by the Academic Affairs Committee, and then submitted to the Coordinating Board for approval as well.

Clay Jackson questioned, “Keeping along the lines of project management, in terms of database design. When he delegates projects to a couple of employees and they are given the authority, how do you control the end-user, the customer that does not know actually what he wants, some kind of structured approach.

Linda Hendrick equated Clay Jackson’s question with ‘problem-solving’ which the CIS department is attempting to resolve in the classes we offer. Linda did ask in an informal survey how many people used 2003, XP, or 2007. Nobody used 2007.

Clay Jackson asked if anybody knew how ‘robust’ 2007 was? No one was familiar with 2007.

Ken Crandell asked if we were going to have a computer security class.
Duane said it was under consideration.

Duane adjourned the meeting at 1:00pm. and thanked everyone for attending.

Respectfully submitted,

Hazel Talley, committee meeting Scribe