CIS Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes – 05-04-2018

PROGRAM COMMITTEE NAME:	Computer Information Systems Advisory Committee			
CHAIRPERSON:	Dewayne Higgs			
MEETING DATE:	05/04/2018	MEETING TIME:	12:00 pm	MEETING PLACE: Room 103, Byrd Business Building, WSC
RECORDER:	Kathy Davenport		PREVIOUS MEETING:	05/24/2017

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

List all members of the committee, then place an X in the box left of name of those present

	NAME	TITLE	EMPLOYER INFO	PHONE	EMAIL
	Jeff Babb	Associate Professor/Gensler Professor of CIS	WTAMU	806-651-2440	jbabb@wtamu.edu
X	James Baker	Software Engineer	LinkedIn	720-378-0906	jamesleebaker@gmail.com
X	Brad Burdett	Director – IT Infrastructure Operations	Pantex	806-477-3597	brad.burdett@cns.doe.gov
X	Duane Crowley	SEG Manager Core	CSI	806-676-6395	duane.crowley@csiweb.com
X	Rich Gagnon	Chief Information Officer	City of Amarillo	806-378-3000	rich@amarillotech.org
	Reagan Hales	Vice President, Communications & Marketing	Amarillo Economic Development Corp.	806-379-6411	Reagan@amarilloedc.com
	Minh Lam	Network Administrator	Sprouse Shrader Smith	806-468-3390	minh.lam@SPROUSELAW.com
X	Brad Sanders	Manager	Westgate Computers	806-352-4243	bsanders@westgatecomputers.com
X	John Summers	Professional Consultant	Hewlett Packard	806-576-8420	coolsailing@att.net
X	Jim Syphokham	Web Development Director	ROI Online	806-236-4825	jim@roionline.com

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

	NAME	TITLE	EMPLOYER INFO	PHONE	EMAIL
	Tamara Clunis	VPAA	Amarillo College	806-371-5429	ttclunis@actx.edu
	Frank Sobey	Associate VPAA	Amarillo College	806-371-5472	fesobey@actx.edu
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	Joseph Melius	Laboratory Supervisor	Amarillo College	806-371-5221	jamelius@actx.edu
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X	Pam Madden	Director of Title V	Amarillo College	806-371-5087	pjmadden@actx.edu
X	Kathy Davenport	Administrative Assistant/BSET	Amarillo College	806-371-5269	kathy.davenport@actx.edu

X	Cailynn White	Student/Amarillo College		806-679-9333	cailynn888@gmail.com
X	Oscar Thipphakhinkeo	Student/Amarillo College		806-471-0194	oscar.thipphakhinkeo@gmail.com
X	Justin Tolley	Student/Amarillo College		806-444-7391	j0559997@amarillocollege.com
X	Samantha Raleigh	Student/Amarillo College		806-316-6898	sbfulce@amarillocollege.com

AGENDA ITEM	ACTION / DISCUSSION/ INFORMATION	
Old Business:	NA	
Continuing Business:	NA	
New Business:	CIS Program Accomplishments Upcoming Events Changes due to Apple partnership	
Curriculum Decisions:	NA	Advisory Committee
Other:	Open Discussion, Q & A	
KEY DISCUSSION POINTS	DISCUSSION	
Continuing Business		
New Business:	The meeting was called to order at 12:05PM by Dewayne Higgs. Mr. Higgs started off by having everyone in the room introduce themselves. After introductions were complete. Mr. Higgs moved into discussing what the students have been doing over the past academic year. He spoke about the USITCC competitive conference in San Antonio, Texas, in April. There were four students that were in attendance at the meeting, and all four of the students had placed at the conference. There are approximately 30 schools that participate in the conference, including Perdue University. The Amarillo College students in attendance ranked higher in the competitions than the students from Perdue University. Mr. Higgs turned the discussion over to Karen Boatman to elaborate on the conference and what the students do when they are in competition. Karen asked the students to discuss the conference and tell more about it. Oscar Thipphakhinkeo stated that there are four different areas of competition: Microsoft Office, Application Programming, PC Troubleshooting, and Mobile App Development. In Mobile App Development, Oscar created an app for USAA. The app was an inventory tracker for their clients to track items within their home so that in the event of a disaster, they would have an accurate record of items in their home. There was a four hour window to create the app, and Oscar was awarded second place. He contributed his ability and knowledge to the education he received here at Amarillo College. Cailynn White spoke about her area of competition being Application Programming. She used programs such as Visual Studios and NCSharp to create an application that would allow volunteers to view and register for various events. She stated that there were both team and individual competitions. She competed in the individuals, and also with a four hour time window, completed the application and also placed second. The two remaining students, Justin Tolley and Samantha Raleigh, competed in the Microsoft Office suite competition and were required to create a number of various office documents. They were given four hours to create the documents. Justin stated that in the time frame given, no team was able to successfully finish all of the required documents. The two students as a team placed in Honorable Mention. Karen Boatman spoke again discussing how impressed she was with the students and how well they did considering that the competition was a new environment for all of the students. Ms. Boatman also stated that she feels

that the competition is something that we as Amarillo College will continue to participate in. She stated that it says a lot for our college and the industry standards that Amarillo College is committed to maintain.

Dewayne Higgs continued the meeting with discussion of extra-curricular activities that Amarillo College engages in. The first program discussed is the "Girls Who Code" pilot program. Delane McUne is the leader of that program, and Ms. McUne was asked to give more information about the program. The "Girls Who Code" program is designed to target girls from sixth to twelfth grade who are interested in pursuing computer programming later in life. The pilot program at Amarillo College began in November, 2017, and there were seven girls participating. The girls met one hour every week to learn a variety of coding languages. The project that they were assigned in the program was that each student had to develop her own website about a community project. The project that the girls chose was to create a website that users could ask for help with certain life situations – how to deal with a break-up, how to deal with the "friend zone", etc. Each of the girls was able to create two full pages of their websites during the course of this year. All of the girls have expressed interest in returning the following year to continue their work. Ms. McUne also discussed that this program has opened the door to a possible grant that would allow them to reach out to a different population of girls aged sixth through eighth grade during the summer. There was no information available about whether or not the grant had be approved at the time of the meeting. Ms. McUne stated that regardless of the summer grant, the "Girls Who Code" program would continue in the following academic year, and she was expecting anywhere from 15-20 girls to join the program.

Mr. Higgs stated that in addition to extra-curricular programs, the CIS department is also working to partnership with outside organization at the corporate level. One such partnership with Apple will allow Amarillo College to incorporate iOS and SWIFT programming into the CIS curriculum.

Mr. Higgs discussed upcoming events. Partnering with OPSU and WTAMU, Amarillo College will co-host the first annual South Central USITCC Regional Event in late October, 2018. It was discovered at the national conference earlier in the year that the USITCC did not have any regional events to feed into the national conference. They agreed to set up a series of regional events. The regional territories for the South Central region will be Texas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, and Colorado. Depending upon the successfulness of this regional conference, there could be doors opened to other regions across the United States.

Mr. Higgs moved on to discuss another event planned to help out our community. It is planned that in 2019, Amarillo College will host the annual Texas Panhandle High School I.T. Symposium. The event targets high school students all across the Panhandle area and offers students a chance to learn more about what I.T. really is. The event is still in the planning stages, but potential dates are January or February of 2019. The event is meant to give students an idea of the future they could have if they go into I.T. In addition to this, it is planned to offer a UIL Computer Science practice round. There is a lack of practice resources available to students that may be competing in the UIL competitions. The symposium will be a resource that students from all across the Panhandle can make use of. Some high schools in the region, Dimmit High School in particular, have already expressed an interest in participating in an event such as this.

Discussion was brought back to the Apple partnership and the inclusion of iOS and mobile app design into the curriculum. While there was already a mobile application course at Amarillo College, it focused mainly on Android OS. Now with the introduction to the iOS, there have been three new courses designed. The current Major path for CIS is changing from "CIS/Programming" to "CIS/Coding and Design" to reflect the inclusion of the new iOS courses and mobile programming. Additional changes to the program include changes to the course requirements. ITSC 1307, "UNIX Operating System 1" will be replaced with ITSE 1333 - "Mobile App Development", which will be the first course in the 3-course curriculum. The "Introduction to Computer Programming" course, COSC 1315, will be repurposed into

	the second course of the 3-course curriculum. The current course of COSC 1320 will be modified to a 16-week course to accommodate the existing C# curriculum. Due to the repurposing of COSC 1315, the 1320 course will now include the introductory curriculum, as well as the advanced. The CIS program has always allowed for 1 elective course. That elective course is being replaced with ITSE 2359 – "Advanced Computer Programming". Mr. Higgs believes that these changes will offer a more robust educational package to our CIS students, as they will now not only receive an education in the Android app development, but development of iOS apps, as well. In addition to the changes to the AAS degree, Mr. Higgs discussed two new certificates that will now be available to students. The first certificate available will be the Marketable Skills certificate, an entry level service certificate called "iOS App Development". The certificate will be comprised of 9 credit hours including the following courses: ITSE 1333 "Mobile App Development", COSC 1315 "Introduction to Computer Programming", and ITSE 2359 "Advanced Computer Programming" – SWIFT 1, 2, and 3. The second certificate available is the Level 1 certificate, "Coding and Design". It will be an 18 credit hour certificate. In addition to the three courses needed for the Marketable Skills certificate, the following courses will also be required: ITSE 2343 "Advanced Mobile Programming" (Android), ITSE 1311 "Beginning Web Programming", and INEW 2334 "Advanced Web Programming". Mr. Higgs explained that the certificates are stackable, meaning that they can be achieved in order and will flow into a full Associate's Degree. Mr. Higgs explained that all changes have already been approved by the curriculum committee and will become active in the Fall (2018). There will not be any voting options since the changes have already been approved.
Curriculum Decisions:	None to be made.
Other:	A question was brought up concerning the UNIX operating system and if that would still be offered. Mr. Higgs replied that there are several courses, specifically "Programming Fundamentals", still being offered that do rely on a Linux environment, so the students will get at least a basic introduction to the Linux command line. CETT Networking majors do still have the requirement of the UNIX 1 course. Christopher George stated that in addition to the introductory course, the students also have a Server 1 class where the students actually build a server and Linux virtual machines and windows. Mr. George also stated that his Cyber Security and Digital Forensics classes are starting to rely more and more on open-source software and Linux based software. The gentleman that asked the question stated that their front end of operations is more Windows based, but the back end is Linux based, and that incoming employees who have been exposed to Linux typically acclimate to the company environment better than those who do not have that Linux background. Samantha Jewitt, academic advisor, stated that when she is advising students taking the Software Security Networking option, she is advising them to take the UNIX class as their elective. She stated that there is a Network Essential certificate that will stack into their current course study if they take the UNIX class. Ms. Jewitt also stated that she would like to see that UNIX course be made a requirement for that course of study rather than an elective. Mr. George stated that he is currently requiring his Digital Forensics students to study the Linux system, as well. Brad Burdett from Pantex stated that much of the talk has been about software programming and cyber security, but at Pantex, one thing they are looking for is to hire people right out of college with knowledge about infrastructure – how to set up servers, secure servers, understand clustering and high availability, networking – how to stand up and manage switches, OSI model. Christopher George stated that we are CISCO Networking Academy, so students are getting some exposure to those things. Carol Buse and then Dewayne Higgs did confirm that while most of the talk this meeting has been about the programming side, there are other CIS degree options including Software and Security Networking option and the Dedicated CETT Networking, as well as certificates. There was some additional discussion with Mr. Burdett and Mr. George regarding security clearances needed by students at Pantex. Mr. George has military students that still have military issued security clearance, which would save Pantex the security clearances that they must acquire. Another question was raised regarding writing secure code, and asked if we offer any sort of training in writing

secure code. Mr. Higgs replied that we do not have any specific dedicated course, however, the material is covered in a series of topics and concepts in other courses that are offered. Mr. Higgs continued that in some of the courses that he teaches, he does place a good bit of emphasis on the secure coding.
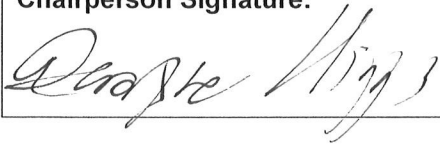
Carol Buse commented on the ability of Amarillo College to offer a wider variety of courses as compared to other, higher level institutions, so the AC graduates do get exposed to more than some others at 4 year universities might. Mr. Higgs agreed with her and stated that by the time a programming student graduates with an Associate's Degree, they have been exposed to at least six programming courses.

A question was asked if there are any plans to incorporate any Project Management course work into the curriculum. Delane McUne stated that there is CE training available, and Carol Buse stated that the Management department will be incorporating that, as well.

Mr. Higgs gave a brief recap of the various topics discussed. He also asked if anyone in the meeting was in control of the data centers within their organizations and could arrange for students to tour the data centers – to be able to see firsthand what it was they are working towards – AC would be very open and excited to have our students tour the facilities.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55PM.

Chairperson Signature:	Date:	Next Meeting:
	10-4-18	To be announced