

CIS BOARD MEETING NOTES – FALL 2007
OCTOBER 13, 2007

- In the pre-meeting breakfast, SUNY Potsdam President “Fritz” Schwaller – overall welcome & appreciation of CIS BOA.
- Introduction of CIS BOA Officers by James Cottrell and around the room introduction
 - Welcome to new board member Jen Mincar
 - Welcome and general thanks and remarks from Provost Maggie Madden and Galen Pletcher
 - There are no members leaving the board
 - Welcome to new faculty member Dwight Tuinstra
- Elections of Board Officers
 - For chair, Alethea Pratt and Adam Myatt were nominated for chair.
 - For vice chair, Rob Gray and Pat Caffrey were nominated.
 - For secretary, Jeff McGraff and Jen Mincar were nominated.
- ACM Report – James Snow
 - Overview of changes to the leadership
 - Last semester activities
 - Sent group for CCSCNE @ RIT
 - Rewrote constitution
 - Building stronger ties with other departments and clubs
 - Recruited more ACM members by becoming teaching assistants across campus.
 - ACM is considering joining SGA, which would allow them to do more things such as selling things in the Union and promoting the ACM in the Union, SGA would provide some funding (from student fees), and it would be easier to be active as a campus organization. The downside is that you need to attend frequent SGA meetings. It was pointed out that it can take over a year after joining SGA to get funding from them. The Board discussed ideas on how to ask for accelerated funding via creating a plan. Tim raised the idea of having the Board pass a resolution to encourage the ACM to join the SGA. Said proposal was unanimously approved. The idea of presenting the ACM with a list of programming contests over the last few years was presented, in order to accelerate funding. The Board may draft a letter requesting this from the SGA also.
 - Tim brought up the idea of having students become members of the National ACM. The cost is \$19 per year. The value of ACM membership was discussed by the Board. Alethea Pratt, as a hiring manager, told a story of how job postings usually resulting in companies receiving hundreds of resumes. Folks who are in the ACM set themselves a part with things like ACM membership. Brian Ladd gave an overview of National ACM benefits – for \$19 a year students can get access to the Digital Library. The national chapter also provides marketing materials.
 - James indicated that he is working on setting up a guest speaker for a cryptography speaker. Faculty members indicated that they are happy to assist in this effort.

CIS BOARD MEETING NOTES – FALL 2007
OCTOBER 13, 2007

- CIS & ACM members have access to the Study Area and Library in the CIS Dept.
- Meetings are now every two weeks, averaging 10 students. Discussions include programming contests, recruitment, computer science concepts.
- A discussion ensued regarding about how to raise money via offering technical help for things like speeding up students' PCs, etc.
- Future Plans
 - ACM website is being built
 - Creating a whole new site
 - Student submitted content via wiki
 - Calendar
 - Media from students
 - Donated servers are being configured and then will be used in Dr. Ladd's networking class next semester.
 - ACM, ICT, PVGC Game Night
 - Guest Speakers from ACM Distinguished Speakers Program, Professors, Alumni, and Board Members.
- On average 10 students attend meetings
- Nancy Griffin, Development Officer – Scholarship Report
 - The goal established for CIS Scholarship was \$20,000.
 - The total raised included a transfer of \$6920 from the CIS general fund.
 - An overview of the scholarship criteria was given.
 - The selection of the winner is determined by the department chair and the admissions department.
 - The board would like a mailing to go out to CIS alumni to raise more funds.
 - The idea of getting alumni to add endorsements to the letter was raised.
- Mike Cifelli – Internship Report
 - Completed a 10 week internship at GE Global Research Center
 - There are 3 international locations
 - He worked in the Industrial Research Lab including medical images, jet engines, and lighting.
 - He worked under Adam Myatt in Application & Database Services
 - Expectations
 - Learn how to apply the skills gained in classes at Potsdam
 - Get a feel for deploying software in industry
 - Web technologies
 - Web Application Development
 - Initial design phase
 - Worked on UI aspects
 - Two successful demos provided
 - Created a Javascript / CSS Best Practices Guide
 - Compared Javascript frameworks
 - Tour of GE Plant
 - Intern Events including Lunches and Mini-golf
 - A number of questions were asked by the Board and Mike provided answers.

CIS BOARD MEETING NOTES – FALL 2007
OCTOBER 13, 2007

- Nelson Gedeon – Internship Report
 - Completed “Low-Interaction Honey Pot Analysis & Malware Experiments” at Clarkson during the summer of 2007, as a part of the NcNair Scholars
 - The Honey Pot is a place to attract hackers to test out their scripts.
 - Over the course of a year they collected 200 tools from around the world.
 - He analyzed the tools and collected characteristics of each.
 - Learned about Phishing Sites, Bouncers, Back Doors DDOS, Defacement, and Root Exploits.
 - With the unknown attacks, he worked to understand them using two virtual machines.
 - A number of questions were asked by the Board and Nelson provided answers.
- Election Results
 - Secretary: Jen Mincar
 - Vice Chair: Rob Gray
 - Chair: Alethea Pratt
- Brian Potter – Internship Report
 - Worked on the ‘Speed Team’ for Websphere Application Server
 - Skills: OSGi and Spring
 - Provided end of project presentation
 - Learned: development in group setting; wiki maintenance; well styled code; dealing with difficult people; interacting with management; project scheduling.
 - Likes: Money; Equality; Impact; Community; Open dress code
 - A number of questions were asked by the Board and Brian provided answers.
- Jamie Szafran – Internship Report
 - Worked for 10 weeks at NASA at the Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral
 - Received Haden Land scholarship
 - Over 100 buildings, 24000 employees, and 7 restaurants.
 - Was able to tour many areas of the shuttle and space station projects.
 - Met astronauts after a mission for Q&A and pizza.
 - Was one of only 3 CIS interns out of 99 total.
 - Saw launches of missions 117 and 118 onsite.
 - Attended Intern Lecture Series
 - Was assigned to a team on the Moon, Mars, and beyond project.
 - Worked in Engineering Avionics to develop criteria for off-the-shelf software to be used for launch systems and provisioning.
 - Worked as Lead Developer to develop a system to allow people to report wildlife sightings. Used GISMap classes to develop this mapping application in Java.
 - Worked with wikis.
 - Survived a major car accident.
 - Has been asked to return next year.
 - Java applet for wildlife tracking is scheduled to go online later this year on the Merritt Island Fish & Wildlife public website.

CIS BOARD MEETING NOTES – FALL 2007
OCTOBER 13, 2007

- A number of questions were asked by the Board and Jamie provided answers.

One question asked of all students was did they feel that Potsdam provided the educational foundations needed for their internship. All responded yes.

- Pat Caffrey – IBM
 - Pat met with Toby White regarding the new mentor program.
 - This web site allows students and alumni to register and it will provide a clearinghouse for linking the users.
 - The site is at Potsdam.edu/eo
- Breakout Group Report: Community Colleges
 - Susan Haller reported on discussions regarding building articulation agreements with community colleges and making personal visits.
 - She hopes to get at least 4 done this year.
 - Other types of collaboration: info packets, publications, intern success stories, programming contests for community colleges.
 - If anyone has any contacts at community colleges please let Susan know. Gary Wager and Pat Caffrey have volunteered to contact local community colleges.
 - The Board discussed community college vs. high school contracts with regard to recruiting. High schools are hard to get into.
- Breakout Group Report: BS in CS
 - Charlie Marshall reported on the breakout session. He presented a spreadsheet outlining competing SUNY colleges with CS: Brockport, New Paltz, and Fredonia.
 - Dana Harris presented a class list proposal for the BS. The Board discussed course selections extensively and this feedback will be used to refine the major.
- Breakout Group Report: ICT (Information & Communication Technology) E-commerce
 - This issue here is to define a couple of courses that could be taught by the CIS department but could be replaced into the existing ICT program (offered by the school of professional studies). The target audience is graduate students in the ICT program as well as undergrad undergraduates.
 - Bryan Ladd presented the concept of ‘Geekonomics’ which is an internet business degree which is essentially the target for this.
 - The group discussed what sort of courses would be applicable for this. An important potential issue is that the same course may not work for both grad and undergrad students.
 - Brian Ladd offered to build a new course in Web Development.
- Breakout Group Report: Turkey Collaboration
 - Tim reported that an opportunity exists to build a relationship with a 2 year college in Turkey to receive 3rd year students. Issues to be researched further include: estimating the potential numbers of students, visa issues, whether these students may get discounted tuition or room/board, and using web technologies to link the student sets even before they arrive.

CIS BOARD MEETING NOTES – FALL 2007
OCTOBER 13, 2007

- This also ties into the new proposed BS because this transfer students will probably more interested in that track.
- Chair's Report – Tim Fossum
 - Some CIS activities since the last meeting:
 - Attended CCSC-NE @ RIT
 - Established Go FIGure learning community (Fossum)
 - Ongoing relationship with Michael Linderman @ Norconnect
 - Florida AI Reseach Symposium (Haller)
 - JoAnn Winson visited from IBM
 - Information Literacy Workshop participation (Haller, Fossum)
 - Information Workshop at Georgia Tech (Haller, Fossum)
 - ITiCSE conference in Scotland (Haller, Fossum)
 - NSF panel participation in DC (Haller, Fossum)
 - ICPC Northeast Region preliminary contest in Oswego (Ladd + students)
 - Microsoft Academic Alliance membership (Ladd)
 - Hired Dwight Tuinstra to fill in for Fossum leave of absence
 - 42 CIS Majors declared as of Sep 11 2007
 - An overview of CIS faculty participation on campus was given.
 - An overview of current course offerings was given.
 - Tim gave a quick overview of his experience of working at NSF
 - He has principal responsibility for SFS program (security) and an \$11.4 million budget.
 - He also has an allocation for student-level scholarships.
 - He is living in the DC area.
 - He provided an overview on day to day operations.
 - Tim gave an overview of upcoming conferences and programming contests.
 - There is a possible project to create a formalized CIS department history with the help of former chair Dalphin.
 - Susan Haller will be working on a self study this semester.
 - The breakout sessions agenda items are all future initiatives that are moving forward.
- NEXT MEETING TENTATIVE DATE: April 4-5, 2008

ATTENDEES:

Dean of Arts & Sciences Galen Pletcher

Provost Maggie Madden

College Program Development: Nancy Griffin, Mike Bristol, Colleen Baker

CIS Faculty: Tim Fossum, Brian Ladd, Susan Haller, Dwight Tuinstra, Charlie Marshall

IT: Andy Harradine

Board Members: Jim Cottrell, Pat Caffrey, Jeff McGrath, Jeff Crump, Adam Myatt, Dana Harris, Alethea Pratt, Andy Harradine, Gary Wager, Jen Mincar, Robert Gray

CIS BOARD MEETING NOTES – FALL 2007
OCTOBER 13, 2007

CIS Students: James Rood, Jamie Szafran, Matt Molanare, Mike Cifelli, Nelson Gedron, Damon Redchick-Brown, Bryan Potter, James Snow, Alvin Dike, Justin Washington, Megan Griffin, Eric Hutchins, Dan Wilson, John Hobait