**Information Technology Advisory Meeting**

**Spring 2012 Meeting Date**

**February 27th @ 6:30 in room B150**

**Adjourned @ 7:45**

**Minutes Taken By: Dave Hjalmquist**

**Attending were the following**

Tim Preuss – M State

Deb Flaskerud – M State

Chris Goltz – M State

Dave Hjalmquist – M State

Randy Johnson – M State

Kris Boland – Nodak Mutual Insurance (Chairperson)

Bruce Curtis – NDSU

Brian Kappel – Fargo Public Schools

Quentin Conklin – Ulteig Engineering

Joe Colving

Nick Ingolfsland

Travis Thomas

Andrew Haugen – John Deere (email comments)

Joe Jaskowiak (email comments)

Information Technology Advisory Meeting Agenda

Spring 2012

The faculty at M|State welcomes you to our advisory meeting. We very much appreciate your time and input toward improving our curriculum and instruction.

Agenda

* MSCTC welcome
* Announcement: Request for M State Foundation Golf tournament golfers and/or prize donation.
* Computer Programming AAS degree updates
* Information Technology AS, Diploma, and AAS degree updates
* Discussion: Should MSCTC pursue an educational relationship with Vmware, EMC, NetApps, etc ..
* Discussion: Should MSCTC add formal change management in classes? If so, what guidelines should we follow?
* Discussion: Should MSCTC intentionally mix majors to encourage DevOps ? DevOps is defined “better collaboration, integration and automation among software development teams and IT operations “
  + http://searchnetworking.techtarget.com/feature/A-DevOps-primer-for-network-engineers?asrc=EM\_NLT\_16164354&track=NL-375&ad=860479&
* Discussion: What does a student graduating in two years need to know and be able to do completely to get a job?
* Discussion: Identify current and future processes and technologies
* TechBiz ( [http://TechBiz.advanceitmn.org](http://TechBiz.advanceitmn.org/)
  + **Session 2: Industry & Careers Symposium - Faculty & Industry meeting, April 20, 8:30-Noon**
    - Keynote presentation on IT-related employment in Minnesota.
    - Panel Discussion with IT experts in various fields covering the IT.
    - Faculty/Industry small groups session by career track.
    - **INDUSTRY/MnSCU FACULTY REGISTRATION -** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TECHBIZ> (Student teams register through the link provided on the STUDENT TEAMS page)
* Questions and Answers

**Advisory Member Functions (MSCTC Advisory Committee Guide)**

Identify specific subject areas of program inclusion  
Prioritizing the recommend subject areas  
Specifying appropriate program content level  
Reviewing program outcomes on an ongoing basis  
Assessment of program quality  
Specifying appropriate foundational skill standards for local needs  
Identifying general education and related technical skills needed by graduates  
Recommending equipment to support the program content

**Summary of Comments**

* Deb mentioned the golf tournament for Dan Sperling’s endowment
* Deb talked about the Computer Programming AAS program changes
* RPG and Cobol will now be one semester classes instead of two
* Tim talked about the IT AS program changes
* Web Integration and the Database Integration courses will be database heavy
* Tim talked about the Informatics class and asked the group for comments
* Consensus among the group the Informatics class would be beneficial
* Tim discussed an educational relationship with EMC and NetApps
* Group mentioned they would like to pursue a relationship with Vmware
* Tim asked about formal change management in classes and the group was thought it was a good idea and there was much discussion concerning this issue
* DevOps discussion
* Tim told the group about TechBiz conference in Minneapolis where students can attend
* Tim asked the group what does a student need to know to get a job
* Give a speech, talk in front of a group
* Be able to answer technical questions in an interview
* Student portfolios were discussed, but no consensus was reached about value.
* Deb talked about MState exploring an articulation agreement with U of M Crookston on Software Engineering

Email Comments

*Hello Tim,*

 Thanks for the invite, I will be out of town that week. Here is some of my input on the agenda…

Educational relationship with \_ might be a bad idea. Here at Deere, we use VMware, NetApps, and rumor has it that the big data center in Moline has some EMC in it. For me, dealing with NetApps are a new and foreign thing. Getting useful information from our SAN admins is like pulling teeth.

Formal change management…. Just like documentation seems to be lacking in many organizations. Here, the only group that appears to do it well is the group that manages the big corporate datacenter. All the other regional organizations have disjointed or completely missing processes for change management. This is something I am currently struggling with.

The DevOps is an intriguing idea. I currently feel a great deal of animosity towards some of our developers and I know the feeling is mutual.  This is interesting because I was a developer for at least half my career. I think there will always be contention between those who want to get the task done as fast as possible and those who want to make sure the tasks are organized and the right thing to do. Perhaps something like DevOps would help…not sure. For now, I plan to thicken my skin and just do the right thing.     So, maybe a class on how to reduce sensitivity to whining, insults, and whispered mutterings. ;)

Getting a job…  Not sure.

Current and future technologies…

Current: SAP, Oracle (on the way out), SQL Server (growing), DB2, NetApps, EMC, VMWare, MS Clustering, Linunx

Future: More SAP, HANA, More SQL Server

Hope this helps and entertains,

***Andrew Haugen***  
ERP DBA  
John Deere Electronic Solutions

*Tim,*

                Unfortunately I will be in Minneapolis on the evening of the 27th, but I can certainly discuss anything via email. A few notes as follows:

 Discussion: Should MSCTC pursue an educational relationship with Vmware, EMC, NetApps, etc ..

* + VMWare would be a requirement in my opinion. VMWare and Hyper-V are only going to increase in usage, and familiarity with VM environments will become more and more essential as CAS (cloud) becomes more ubiquitous.
* Discussion: Should MSCTC add formal change management in classes? If so, what guidelines should we follow? It should be part of the more senior level classes, as it is required by most large organizations, and is starting to be used by many smaller organizations as well. Additionally, it is nearly essential for operating a cloud based infrastructure.
* Discussion: Should MSCTC intentionally mix majors to encourage DevOps ? DevOps is defined “better collaboration, integration and automation among software development teams and IT operations “
  + I don’t know whether mixing majors makes the most sense here. Building familiarity with the concept as well as general knowledge of business processes, collaboration and communication is probably a better approach. Maybe touching on Agile a bit would make sense here. Mixing individuals from multiple majors as a “capstone” type activity might make sense, but I am not certain how that would fit into a 2 year course plan.

**Joe Jaszkowiak**