**Information Technology Advisory Meeting**

Spring 2016 Meeting Date

February 12th @ 1:00 in room B142

Minutes Taken By: Dave Hjalmquist

**Attending**

Steve Erickson – M State Administration

Tim Preuss – M State Instructor

Deb Flaskerud – M State Instructor

Dave Hjalmquist – M State Instructor

Joanna Jesser – M State Instructor

Janet Johnson – M State Instructor

James Anderson – City of West Fargo & Chairperson

Bruce Curtis – NDSU

Don Steiha – Titan Machinery

Barb Halverson

Cathy Altendorf – American Crystal Sugar

Barry Seidel – Otter Tail Power Company

John Tassava - Consultant

Jason Peterson – Eid Bailly

Randy Holcomb – US Bank

**Agenda**

The detail agenda can be found at: <http://brazil.minnesota.edu/advisory/advisory.html>

**Advisory Member Functions**

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

**Discussion**

James Anderson welcomed everyone and we did introductions

Barb Halverson moved and Joanna Jesser 2nd a motion to approve the minutes from the Fall 2015 Advisory Board meeting, motion carried

Tim talked about the curriculum and asked what do students need to know before graduation?

Tim said Microsoft is pushing harder on Microsoft PowerShell

Bruce talked about the use of Puppet and implementations of Software Defined Networking.

Barry said the biggest lapse is security and more focus should be put on security. Randy talked about his organizational requirements of yearly coding security education for all developers.

Jason discussed a cloud based approach and the knowledge needed

Barry mentioned there should be projects where students are end users for another student group for testing purposes

There was more group discussion on testing code prior to putting into production. Additional discussion brought up life cycle management.

Barry said the one area where future employees lack is SQL programming and was happy we offered a class just in SQL

Cathy discussed whether we can incorporate more logic training as some employees do not have good logically skills

Cathy said they embed SQL in COBOL

The group agreed that the SQL was a must for students

John said employers like to see Visual Basic, .Net and Java skills now days

Barry asked what the difference is between the IT and Computer Programming programs, Tim and Deb explained the differences between the two programs.

Tim explained why the IT program requires Python as the programming language IT students take. It’s because of a transfer agreement with MSUM. They take one semester at MState and another at MSUM.

There was group discussion concerning the Robotics class and the programming involved

Janet said that the Robotics class interests high school students which helps with enrollment

Tim showed what the graphic programming looks like for the Robotics class and then what the actual code looks like

There was group discussion on whether Microcomputer Operating Systems should still be offered and Janet discussed a project her students were doing concerning it

Randy said security must be a core requirement

Janet said that there should be more security taught in our programming classes or adding strictly a programming security class

There was group discussion concerning security

Don brought up that programming students and IT students should work together maybe on semester long projects. Tim said we may need to look at the old Systems Project class.

There was group discussion on corporations allowing employees to pick their own IT devices and the coming changes with IT devices in corporations.

Deb talked about adding PHP to the programming program and asked the group what languages they would like to see.

John re-enforced the need for Java and .Net programming

There was group discussion on COBOL

Randy mentioned that there are a lot of COBOL programmers retiring

Janet talked about the Wadena Technology Expo, which is April 8th

Tim mentioned the Randy Johnson benefit which is March 31st from 4:00-6:00 with a silent auction.

Bruce talked about identity base security and asked about Hamachi VPN.

Jason Peterson moved and Don Steiha 2nd a motion to adjourn the meeting, motion carried