2011-2012

Committee Annual Report

Committee Name: Vernon College Computer and Information Sciences Advisory Committee

Chairperson: Mike Campbell

List of members:

Ms.	Kimberly	Bowman	High School Instructor	Munday High School
Mr.	Stephen	Caldwell	Math Instructor/Cisco Local Academy	Vernon High School
Mr.	Mike	Campbell	Media/Computer Coordinator	Region IX Education Service Center
Mr.	Jeffery	Peterson	Software Engineer, Network and Desktop Support, Internet Sales	Xtreme Technologies
Mr.	Mark	Schroder	Administrator, Perot Sys.	Sheppard AFB
Mr.	Casey Alan	Barnes	IT Support Administrator	Workforce Solutions-North TX
Ms.	Mary	Prater	Workforce Case Managers	Workforce Solutions-North TX

List of Faculty Attendees:

Mr.	Richard	Warren	Computer Information Science	CCC – Wichita Falls
Mr.	Steve	Underhill	Computer Information Science	CCC- Wichita Falls

Dates of meetings: 11/3/2011; update letter to Advisory Committee 4/18/2012

Accomplishments: The committee reviewed the program objectives and workplace skills and approved them with no change. Members approved course changes in the curriculum that will keep the skills students learn up to date with industry requirements. Also, the committee approved reducing the number of courses offered by two to eliminate the redundancy and overlap of information in several courses. The committee discussed the ongoing technology changes and the importance to keeping up-to-date hardware/software and related technology. The committee further discussed the ongoing need for making the public aware of the various course offerings within the CIS program and to promote further advertisement.

Recommendations: Members suggested having local IT employers as guest speakers to the classes to emphasize the importance of IT certifications and to have a recent graduate talk to the classes.

Membership suggestions: Membership needs to reflect the race/ethnicity of the service area.

Agendas, exhibits and minutes posted to Vernon College web site address: Advisory Committee meeting agenda and minutes; spring 2012 update letter for Advisory Committee members.

Submitted by: Sharon Wallace

Date submitted: 8/3/2012

April 18, 2012

RE: Advisory Committee Follow-up

The time has come again to follow-up on the discussions we had at our annual Advisory Committee meeting in November 2011 concerning the Computer Information Science program. Also, I will be sending out invitations later this summer for you to serve on my Advisory Committee for the next year, I hope you will be able to attend.

I have attached a copy of the minutes from our fall annual meeting for your review of the topics covered as well as other documents related to the content of this letter.

We are winding down the spring semester, and I am proud to inform you that we had 12 graduates from the fall 2011 and spring 2012 semesters and a projected 7 completers for this upcoming summer 2012 semester.

Enrollment in the CIS program has been steady and, through continuous advertising and having a well-rounded training program for a rewarding career and advancement, has had many individuals show an interest in attending Vernon College.

During our last meeting, I proposed some changes to the Computer Information Science associate degree and certificate to reflect the on-going changes that occur with technology. I also reduced the number of courses offered to eliminate redundancy and overlap of course materials.
The Advisory Board approved these changes, and I have started incorporating the necessary materials to deliver high quality instruction to prepare our students for whatever job opportunities that might arise. I have enclosed copies of the revised degree and certificate curricula.

As always my goal is to provide students with the most up-to-date information and skills possible through use of state-of-the-art technology and curriculum. As you know with all computer-related fields, that as technology changes and advances so must Vernon College change. I also continue to encourage all the students to take the tests to obtain certifications within the areas of training.

Still ongoing is my continued effort to work with the other programs at Vernon College (e.g., HVAC and Industrial Automation Systems-Electronics) to offer courses teaching the skills, knowledge, and abilities that are essential in many career fields. This might include courses in the fundamentals of computer technology, programming of PLC's, and other related areas.

There have been no additions to my labs or equipment updates although we will review this on a year-to-year basis. Software has been updated on an as needed basis when new versions are published.

As stated at the meeting, I am still working on locating internships for the CIS courses and have been given possible resources to job sites that would be willing to take some students as interns. During the fall 2012 semester I am also going to follow-up with Workforce Solutions in Bowie to invite them to

come to Vernon College and conduct class lectures on job related issues. Everything is moving forward in a positive format.

This year I have not planned on attending any professional development activities and will be devoting much of my time to implement and modify the courses changes for the Computer and Information Science program. In the future I do hope to attend the Cisco Convention, IT seminars or any other up-coming training courses on new technology.

The last thing I wish to mention and, if not the most important is, I will continue to do my part in recruiting for the Computer Information Sciences program by going to various high schools and telling them about the benefits of attending Vernon College and the CIS program. In addition, I will continue to support VC with the great ads they have placed in the media. I also hope to reach out to the parents of high schools students about the programs we offer here at Vernon College and all of its advantages so they might encourage their children to come to Vernon College. Also, with the joint effort of the Work Hard Work smart program and Vernon College, the employment possibilities are far greater in the Wichita Falls and outlying areas.

It has always been our goal to offer the best education possible to our students and provide them with every resource available regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, and special needs. No one person is at a disadvantage since we strive to assist all students with any special needs they might have. Vernon College has wonderful facilities and resources and always worked closely with the faculty and students for the benefit of the student's education.

I want to personally thank you for your serving on the committee and attending the meeting and look forward to our upcoming meeting this fall. Your attendance and input is vital to the success of the CIS program and the students. I will send invitations well in advance for the next meeting as to the place and time so that we can make any adjustments to assure all can attend.

If you have any questions or need further information, please call me or email me any time.

Sincerely,

Sharon Wallace
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Vernon College Skills Training Center
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