



**Educational Policies Council
Minutes of the Meeting
Tuesday, 12 May 2020**

Ex-Officio Members present (or represented): Interim Provost Melody J. Tankersley; Co-Chair Pamela E. Grimm; Deans Sonia A. Alemagno, Barbara A. Broome, Kenneth J. Burhanna (represented by Kara L. Robinson), James C. Hannon, Mark S. Mistur, Eboni J. Pringle, Amy L. Reynolds, Deborah F. Spake, Cynthia R. Stillings, Susan J. Stocker (interim); Associate Deans Cathy L. Dubois, Jocelyn Harrison, Miriam L. Matteson, Babacar M'Baye (interim), Stephen A. Mitchell, Kara L. Robinson, Wendy A. Umberger, William T. Willoughby

Ex-officio Members not present (or not represented): Deans James L. Blank, John R. Crawford-Spinelli, Alison J. Smith; Senior Associate Dean Vincent J. Hetherington; Associate Dean Maureen McFarland

Faculty Senate-Appointed Representatives present (or represented): Professors Edward Dauterich, Richard L. Mangrum, Donald L. White; Associate Professors Jeffrey Ciesla, Jennifer M. Cunningham, Helen Piontkivska

Faculty Senate-Appointed Representatives not present (or not represented): Professors Darci L. Kracht, Robert J. Twieg; Associate Professor Ann Abraham

Council Representatives present (or represented): Dean Sonia A. Alemagno; Professors Michael W. Chunn, Christine A. Hudak; Associate Professors Ivan Bernal, Thomas W. Brewer, Duane J. Ehredt, Derek Kingsley, Denise M. McEnroe-Pettite, Jonathan F. Swoboda, Matthew J. Crawford, Ann Heiss, Dandan Liu, Oana Mocioalca, David B. Robins; Assistant Professors Brian R. Barber, Sara Bayramzadeh, Yvonne M. Smith

Council Representatives not present (or not represented): Associate Professor Lawrence J. Marks

Observers present: Morgan Stilgenbauer

Consultants and Guests present: Susan M. Augustine, Arvind Bansal, Aimee J. Bell, Benhaida Salma, Alicia R. Crowe, Larry G. Froehlich, Mary Ann Haley, Jeremiah Harris, Lynette Johnson, Jennifer S. Kellogg, Javed Khan, Shelley Marshall, Felix Offodile, Gail M. Rebeta, Hollie B. Simpson, Elizabeth A. Sinclair, Linnea C. Stafford, Therese E. Tillett, Lana K. Whitehead, Cathy M. Zingrone

Interim Provost Melody J. Tankersley called the meeting to order at 3:20p.m., on Tuesday, 12 May 2020, via Microsoft Teams.

Joint EPC Action Item I: Minutes of meeting on 20 April 2020.

Professor Edward Dauterich made a motion to approve, and Professor Christine A. Hudak seconded the motion.

With no questions or comments, the item passed unanimously.

Undergraduate EPC Action Item I: Establishment of a Cybersecurity [CYSE] major within the Associate of Applied Business [AAB] degree. Minimum total credit hours to combined program completion are 60.

Interim Dean Susan J. Stocker explained that the program is 60 credit hours and pending fall 2020 approval.

Co-Chair Pamela E. Grimm expressed concern for a lack of communication across units. She said there was mention in the proposal that there was no cyber security at the university. However, the topic was being reviewed in Computer Science and Aeronautics and Engineering. There was no supporting documentation coming from other academic units. Additionally, she expressed concern for the proposal not having specific information about demand for students with bachelors, associates and masters. She asked how the program fits generally at the university and what assessment of demand there was for this program.

Interim Associate Provost Manfred H. van Dulmen explained that since October, a group of people interested in cyber security across the university have been meeting regularly. They meet, at least, once a month to coordinate these proposals. The group reflects IT, CCI, Business, Arts and Sciences, Regional Campuses, Computer Science and Aeronautics and Engineering. The group agreed that any proposal that goes to EPC around cyber security would first be reviewed by the group. The initial inquiry and current proposal was reviewed. Upon the review, there were changes made to the initial inquiry based on the feedback. The group, especially Sue and Shelley, are working to create a website where students can go to see the differences in cyber security programs. Furthermore, this group is working on a microcredential in career and cybersecurity. It is important that the information about this group is communicated in proposals.

Interim Provost Tankersley encouraged that if this proposal passes, information about the collaboration should be added.

Associate Lecturer Shelley Marshall stated that some of the conversation had about this is that are different roles in the industry in cybersecurity. When looking at the demand for cybersecurity roles, there is a huge, unmet demand. The students with an associate degree are cybersecurity professionals that will work in smaller businesses doing both IT and cybersecurity. They are generally the very first level. They are probably working under cyber security professionals doing the work as directed. The degree was built so that it can easily fit with the Bachelor of Science in IT and cybersecurity or applied cybersecurity and forensics. This program is a steppingstone and an initiative that has the need and the backing of Ohio.

Co-chair Grimm explained that this made sense, but was also concerned about marketing and how that will go. From her research, she saw a lot of cybersecurity positions wanting a bachelor's degree. She does not want this degree to be oversold, especially, for students looking to advance in cybersecurity.

Interim Provost Tankersley agreed that it is important to talk about industry demands and job potential and to have one place for faculty to get the data and information that can be pulled into the process. She suggested that Curriculum Services, Therese and Mary Parker could collaborate on something that streamlines the process of getting data and to make sure it is in the proposals.

With no further questions or comments, the item passed unanimously.

Graduate EPC Action Item I: Establishment of an Artificial Intelligence [AI] major within the Master of Science [MS] degree to be offered on the Kent Campus. Minimum total credit hours to combined program completion are 30.

Interim Associate Dean Babacr M'Baye explained that the proposal is to establish a Master of Science in Artificial Intelligence beginning fall 2021. It comes from trends in computer science, the study of robotics and the job market. There are around 30,000 job openings in AI related areas. The industrial demands need educational systems to graduate students at a faster rate. The limited number of AI graduates is choking the AI revolution in multiple sectors. Whether students decide to enroll in a master's program or later into a doctoral program, they are well prepared to understand all elements of artificial intelligence. The coursework is a total of 30 credits. 24 credits for coursework and 6 credits of either a thesis option or non-thesis option. Some students may work directly with the industry after their master's degree and may not need the thesis. Those students thinking about moving onto doctoral studies will be encouraged to write a thesis. Additionally, the faculty will have expertise in the various areas of artificial intelligence.

Associate Dean Stephen A. Mitchell made a motion to approve the item, and Associate Dean William T. Willoughby seconded the motion.

An EPC member asked how this program is different from the Data Science program.

Chair Javed Khan explained that what is coming after Data Science is Artificial Intelligence. The difference is that data science is focused on understanding data of human beings for various purposes. Additionally, in AI, user data information beyond humans is gathered in a way that would be building intelligent systems. There is overlap with Data Science, but they have a very different purpose. AI is targeted for automation with the things that we do. Data Science is to create our understanding about the nature and our environment.

An EPC member said that they have typically seen AI as a concentration in Data Science rather than them being separate. They asked if there were common courses between Data Science and AI.

Javed Khan explained that Data Science uses machine learning techniques which AI also uses. There are a lot of overlap in the tools. However, the goal is very different. One gives the information and knowledge and the other executes the action.

Arvind Bansal stated that some of the universities offer AI as part of Data Science if they do not have as much to offer, but still want to include it. Kent State has a lot to offer on the spectrum.

With no further questions or comments, the item passed unanimously.

With no other comments, questions or concerns, Interim Provost Melody J. Tankersley adjourned the meeting at 3:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Christa N. Ord
Administrative Secretary, Curriculum Services
Office of the Provost