IT Committee Meeting – Minutes

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

CP 303 / Zoom

<u>**Attendance**</u>

Voting Faculty: Bryan Goda, Deveeshree Nayak

Non-Voting Faculty and Staff: Raj Katti, Kira King, Zaide Chavez, Beth Jeffrey, Rachel Crook

Seminar Leaders: Jaime Paz, Zachary Grieser

<u>**Items**</u>

1) Approve previous meeting minutes

There was not a quorum for this meeting, so there were no votes taken.

2) Advisors

Juniors have been meeting with advisors asking for internship paperwork because they have been encouraged by faculty to find an internship for spring quarter. Since they are already taking 3 courses in spring, adding an internship would make it more difficult for students to succeed both in the classroom and in the internship. The goal of internships is for students to apply what they've learned, which is why we have encouraged students to find a summer internship instead of in spring. The committee discussed this further, and pointed out that a lot of summer internship applications have submission dates in winter quarter, which may be confusing students (companies like Microsoft have deadlines for summer internships in the fall). In this case, students should include which courses they are scheduled to take in spring quarter on their application and resumes, as well as the topics/skills they will learn in these courses. It may be helpful for faculty and advisors to touch base with employers and ask questions about timelines for applying for internships at our next spring career fair.

Admissions updates: 25 applications, with 6 admitted so far. 23 have started applications, and another 5 are under review. 2 applications the advisors have decided to wait on. This is a good and healthy place to be in the first months of applications. We should see another uptick of applications from transfer

students, whose deadline for general UW admits was on March 15th. Once they are admitted and receive their student ID number, they can submit supplemental applications.

3) Seminar Leaders (Demo ChatGPT)

There are currently 9 candidates for next year's seminar leaders. The current leaders will interview all candidates and pick the top 3 from this group of 9, and will present it to the Chair. The Chair will then choose the top 2.

The Seminar Leaders have noticed that homework answers have changed over time and are getting longer, and realized that this may be because of ChatGPT. ChatGPT's AI is extremely sophisticated and can program in any language. The Seminar Leaders heard from other students that people have been using this in all of their classes, and there are instances where it can do pretty impressive stuff that actually works. The Seminar Leaders provided a demonstration of the kinds of programming questions ChatGPT is capable of answering.

The committee was encouraged to consider reworking assignments to accommodate the popularity of using AI for homework assignments.

4) Committee Member's Reports

Bryan is acting Faculty Chair for the Faculty Council and attended a meeting in Seattle where they shared the upcoming initiative to change the Faculty Code to be gender neutral – this will be coming up for a vote soon. The ABET committee is also trying to standardize their ABET procedures before ME's upcoming evaluation (Civil will also be evaluated next year). Bryan encouraged the committee to consider becoming ABET trained – other programs are encouraging this as well.

On the JEDI Council, Deveeshree shared that there is a survey that is going to be sent to students to share their experience in the program. This survey will roll out in the next few weeks.

There will also be a spring career fair in April, with 50 companies planning to attend to recruit undergraduate students. The Seminar Leaders were encouraged to share this information with students.

5) MSIT

MSIT was approved by the Board of Regents, and will now need to receive a final approval from the NW Commission of Colleges and Universities. We are not sure when the next NW Commission meeting is,

but we may want to contact the office to make sure we're added to the agenda in their next meeting. Fall quarter 2024 is the proposed launch date.

6) MCL

This item was not discussed.

7) Cheating

One of the Seminar Leaders shared a homework submission that seemed suspicious with the Chair. The committee was encouraged to be observant and pay attention, since cheating is currently prevalent in this program. Faculty need to educate students on why it's wrong and bad.

One committee member mentioned that they've noticed that some students are not networking or socializing as much as they should be. Whenever there's an event happening, it's difficult to get students to attend the event, even if it happens on a weekend. The Chair reminded the committee that working in a team is one of IT's Student Learning Objectives, so students who are avoiding social/networking opportunities should be targeted by Faculty to try to find a plan of action for them. Students who aren't taking advantage of networking opportunities are not getting what they need out of this program to succeed, and may require some additional interventions.

8) 10-Year Review

Each program is required to write a portion of the 10-Year Review document (the Chair will begin working on this, and may ask for certain data). If anyone has a "success story" they'd like to share in this document, please let the Chair know.