

Fall 2018 MIS Fall Advisory Board Meeting in Atlanta

Meeting Minutes

11/2/2018

Welcome

- Hugh Watson welcomes everyone for coming and introductions are made.

Introductions and Departmental Update – Maric Boudreau

- One-word summary – “Growth”
 - Fall 2018: record number of MIS applicants (290) and acceptances (180)
 - Currently recruiting for new faculty with a start date of August 2019
- New Programs
 - MSBA, MADA/KPMG, Area of Emphasis in Information Security, BBA/MAcc Double Dawg Program
 - Certificate in FinTech -> aiming for Fall 2019

Review of the MIS Curriculum – Maric Boudreau

- Currently, 6 required classes, at least 1 MIS elective
- Areas of Emphases
 - Information Security
 - Data and Analytics
- Feedback on the curriculum
 - Infrastructure elective should include some cloud platform, such as AWS
 - Could be a well-rounded class that includes DevOps or GitHub
 - Important that students understand version control software such -> unanimous agreement by the Board.
 - Students need to understand that infrastructure and DevOps are interconnected
 - Agreement that System Analysis & Project Management could be combined
- MIS Classes for all Business Majors
 - MIST2090 -> fundamentals of IS/T & Excel
 - Not necessarily an MIS class, like MGMT3000 is a management class
 - *Possible new class*: MIST3000 (Introduction to Data Literacy in Business): Goal is to provide foundation for analyzing and understanding data-oriented problems and support decision making -> SQL and Python
 - Consensus is that this class is critical to fill gaps in the MIS program
 - General business students do not need to have depth in SQL, but rather understand how to fetch and present data
 - Sentiment for including a data access and analysis tool such as Tableau or Power BI

Is Java Still the Language of Choice - Maric Boudreau

- Is Java still the language of choice in MIST4600?
 - Java is a good foundational language to learn the object-oriented foundational skillset that is applicable to other languages
 - The ability to pick up and learn things is more important than being proficient in several languages -> understand version control, DevOps, etc.
 - Companies that are looking for a hardcore Java programmer are not going to Terry MIS
 - Overall, no agreement about one language over another but a strong focus on student's ability to understand foundational programming concepts

MIS FinTech Initiatives – Maric Boudreau

- Georgia FinTech Academy: talent development platform at the state level that UGA is a part of
- FinTech Certificate: 3 required classes
 - 3 required classes: FinTech Principles and Practices (MIS), Financial Technologies (MIS), FinTech and Commercial Banking (Another department)
 - Looking to hire part-time instructor to teach on/both classes, starting in spring or fall 2019

The New MSBA and MADA Programs – Hugh Watson

- 40 students total – 25 in MSBA and 15 in MADA KPMG program
- Working with AI, Watson Analytics, Tableau, SQL, R and Python. Also taking Marketing analytics, econometrics, etc. to build holistic data analysis toolkit
- Any board members interested in looking at student resumes send Hugh an email

An Issue with Student Job Offers – Hugh Watson and Kaylee Ewing

- Demand for our major is very strong, but there is an issue because companies have gotten more aggressive with their recruiting timelines at UGA.
- Students are having to accept or decline full-time return offers from internships before school starts -> creates difficulties for students
- Feedback from Board:
 - From an employer perspective, they invest a lot into an internship program. Try to make it clear beforehand that the goal of the internship program is to hire interns for full-time
 - Employers have massive hiring plan that they have to fill. Going into fall recruiting, they need to know what the hiring plan and budget is going into on-campus recruiting.
 - Students need to be more selective with an internship -> MIS program should work to educate students to better understand that internships are essentially job offers.

Date for Top 10% Event – Hugh Watson

- Important to move the event up to have engagement with students and not miss opportunity to recruit all students
- Pre-selects for interviews are typically made immediately after the career fair. Would serve better as a recruiting tool if the Top 10% event was earlier.

Students Missing Class due to Excess of Company Events – Hugh Watson

- A request that companies be sensitive when pulling students from Athens to events in Atlanta because it creates disruption in the classroom.

Possible Company Fatigue from Student Organizations – Hugh Watson

- 7 MIS student organizations
 - Society for Management Information Systems - <https://www.ugasmis.com>
 - Women in Technology - <http://womenintechuga.wixsite.com/womenintechuga>
 - Society for Cyber Security - <https://ugascs.com/resources>
 - Society of Business Intelligence - <http://ugasbi.weebly.com>
 - Terry Student Consulting - <https://www.terrystudentconsulting.com>
 - Women in Business - <http://www.ugawib.org>
 - MIS Student Advisory Board - <https://www.terry.uga.edu/about/boards-councils/mis-advisory-board/students>
- Does MIS need to centralize control? Or do you like the fact that you have many opportunities for face-time with students?
 - SMIS is the general body meeting -> niche subsections in other clubs
 - Like having the ability to segment -> the organizations provide companies with opportunities to have more targeted messages
 - Companies want more information about specializations of each group, not particularly fatigued -> should check out student organization websites listed above

MIS Coffee Series – Kaylee Ewing

- Alternating professors and professionals at coffee series events?
 - Definite interest by board members -> we will work to fit your schedule
 - Hugh will send out information to those interested

Projects for MBT and MSBA Programs – Craig Piercy and Hugh Watson

- Need for a capstone project for these programs
- MBT -> moved to online a few years ago. Most recent cohort has 40 students
 - 9-month project, 5 students on a team -> need 8 projects. *Please contact Craig Piercy if interested*
 - Projects start in January and run through December
 - Type of projects: mobile app solution, web application connected to database, development type projects

- MSBA -> a one-off project for students to conduct analysis, build a system/model, etc.
Please contact Hugh via email if interested

Thank you for attending the Fall 2018 MIS Advisory Board Meeting in Atlanta!

Meeting minutes prepared by Ethan Mann and Hugh Watson