

BCSED Advisory Committee Meeting
June 1, 2012

Recommendations

Group Name: Computer Applications and Networking

Group Leader: Dr. Ed Beyer

Members in Attendance: Mr. Jimmie Bowen (Rocket Lab/AVC Adjunct)
Mr. Jonathan McCary (Unisys – EAFB)
Mr. Al Andrews (AVC Adjunct)
Mr. Ron Mummaw (AVC Faculty)

The members reviewed and discussed the status of the recommendations from the previous advisory committee meeting.

1. Since the previous meeting, several computer application and networking course descriptions have been transformed to generic descriptions to allow the course to offer current technology topics without the need to create a new course.
2. Members agreed that a high-level survey course of operating systems would be beneficial, and also agreed that a reconfiguration of the CA151 course to cover a survey of operating systems would suffice. Consensus was also reached on not needing a testing center on campus.
3. The types of certificates necessary for employment did not change; however, the requirement to possess the certificates has transitioned to a mandatory state – specifically, the Security + certificate. Members from EAFB expressed significant concern at the lack of a full-time networking instructor at the college who could spearhead the development of a computer networking security certificate and/or degree.

Further discussion was held on developing a multi-level computer network security certificate and degree program similar to the multi-platform computer-networking program. Members from EAFB were adamant for the need of such a program. Furthermore, the marketing of courses to the Air Force Base and the exploration of offering courses online were discussed and encouraged.

4. Members agreed that the JAVA course should continue and not be made obsolete as it is used extensively on EAFB. There was some discussion on the low student interest in JAVA and whether C++ would suffice as an alternate.
5. All members agreed that a scripting course (one that also includes object-oriented concepts) is still a valid need. Discussion was held around the push by Microsoft for Powershell (focused on replacing VBscripting) and the extensive use of Matlab. The idea

of developing a Matlab course was suggested and will be explored. Members agreed that the emphasis on Visual Basic should be moved to other scripting languages and perhaps offer Visual Basic every other semester.

6. Discussion was held on the need to better market courses and opportunities to base personnel, especially those that may already possess a degree, but still require re-certification.
7. Final discussion was held on the need to lay out a program and course of action for students that would provide a guaranteed path to completing a computer network security degree in a specific time frame. Mr. McCary inquired about the possibility of integrating testing curriculum from CompTIA (a non-vendor specific certification organization) into a program for credit at AVC; a concept that all agreed was worthy of further exploration.
8. A final emphasis was noted on the notion that the certification requirements levied by the Air Force are requirements that are applicable to all DoD jobs and not just the Air Force. Further information on certification requirements can be found in Air Force Regulation AFI 8570 and related documents.