Department Annual Report
2012-2013

Computer Information Systems

Digital Graphics

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Document Prepared By:

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Department Information

Current year goals

The goal for this year was to revise the curriculum so that the skills in the program are a better match for job market requirements. We did not accomplish this goal. Instead, we took a look at the bigger picture as part of our extensive program reassessment effort this year. This particular program has a fairly robust enrollment rate. The concern we discovered with this program is that no other institutions offer a similar program and no employment opportunities exist with this degree based on statistics from the Department of Labor in the State of Michigan and extensive Advisory Committee feedback.

The feedback we received from our Advisory Committee and surrounding institutions is that this program, which used to be extensively targeted at printed media, has changed and become focused almost exclusively on digital content transmitted on computer. We also found that this degree is not so focused on creating art as it is for taking existing artwork and placing it into digital formats suitable for presentation on the Web and other computer platforms.

Therefore, we made the decision to discontinue this program and merge it in with the Web Design program. Students who learn the skills in this program go on to develop graphics that are placed into web sites and mobile applications. In either case, employers demand these individuals not only generate the graphics, but also are able to integrate them into web sites and/or build the remainder of the web sites. Breaking this program out distinct from the others is no longer a viable reality in today’s technological climate.

Goals for next year

The goal for the coming year is to take the graphics courses from this program and place them into our new Web Design and Development program we will build in the coming year. At that time, we may decide to change some of these courses, add new ones, or drop existing ones.

Internal collaborations and partnerships

We have collaborated with the Art department on some of the overlap between our program and their offerings. We need to better delineate these distinctions and will be doing so in cooperation with Nick Antonakis over the coming year.

External collaborations and partnerships

We have not collaborated with any other organizations for this program because we plan to dismantle and rebuild it in the coming academic year.
**Departmental needs for support from other departments within the college**

We are collaborating extensively with Katie Daniels, our Curriculum Design Specialist, as well as Institutional Research, in order to obtain data to give us guidance on the direction we should move and to redevelop an improved program and curriculum to support it.

**Program accreditation Updates**

No accreditations have taken place this year for this program.

**Description of departmental advising plan and outcomes**

The advising plan for this program has worked successfully. The challenge has been to find employment opportunities for students with this credential. Most end up freelancing on their own. Some learn the skills necessary to build web sites and, along with their skills acquired in this program, leverage them together to freelance building web sites or join an organization where their skills can be used to build, support, or maintain web-based infrastructure.

With the new program that combines all of these skills into a single program, we believe students will have a much better rounded degree and have a much better credential to leverage when seeking employment.

**Updates About Student Organizations and Achievements**

Several courses in this program require students to build advanced graphical content. We have showcased much of this content on our department monitor in the hallway so students can see what is possible learning the skills this program offers them.

**Other department updates**

The faculty of the Computer Information Systems department is well aware of the drop in enrollment over the past several years in our department. While we have noticed similar drops in enrollment in other colleges comparable to ours across the state, we are no less committed to increasing enrollment. We want to do this by ensuring students we want them to succeed. We are redesigning all of our programs, launching better marketing efforts, and devising plans to reach out to students through the entire process of reaching a degree and gaining employment.
Faculty & Staff

Departmental Professional Development Activities (Contractual Obligations for Departmental Faculty Development/6 hours)

All faculty members in our department participate in bi-monthly curriculum planning and design meetings. The purpose of these meetings is to establish a plan of analysis and possible revisions of all our academic programs, including curriculum within each program. The meetings result in tangible steps, or “assignments”, each faculty member contributes to fulfilling so that we move forward and make progress as rapidly as possible while maintaining quality.

Faculty Professional Development Activities- Year End Summary

Tim Koets has worked extensively with Katie Daniels and Patti Trepkowski to analyze how successful this degree has been (measured by several benchmarks) and how best to improve it. This work has included research on pass rates, employment opportunities, concerns with curriculum, the nature of the program and how it interfaces with the Department of Labor and surrounding institutions, and the creation of measurable plans in improving the program.

Faculty Development Plans for Upcoming Year

I expect each faculty member to contribute in designing a program to replace this program. I need members within my department to assess the place of and effectiveness of each course in the program. We need to determine what should stay and what should go, and if any new courses should be developed. Numerous opportunities for faculty development should present themselves as we progress through the upcoming academic year.

EOL/Release Time Work

No documented EOL/Release Time work has been recorded for this program.

Faculty & Staff Accomplishments/Awards

No documented faculty and staff accomplishments, awards, innovations, or presentations for the 2012-13 academic school year.

Program Data- Perkins Indicators

1P1: Technical Skills Attainment
State Level Expectation: 91.08%  Program Level: n/a  Met Expectation: n/a
Data Trend: No prior data to trend.
2P1: Credential, Certificate, or Degree Attainment

State Level Expectation: 26.93%  
Program Level: 25.007%  
Met Expectation: Yes  
Data Trend: No prior data to trend.

3P1: Student Retention and Transfer

State Level Expectation: 70.00%  
Program Level: 100%  
Met Expectation: Yes  
Data Trend: No prior data to trend.

4P1: Student Placement

State Level Expectation: 70%  
Program Level: 0%  
Met Expectation: No  
Data Trend: No prior data to trend.

5P1: Student Participation in Underrepresented Gender Groups

State Level Expectation: 23.62%  
Program Level: 52.17%  
Met Expectation: Yes  
Data Trend: no prior data

5P2: Student Participation in Nontraditional Fields

State Level Expectation: 20.65%  
Program Level: 0.00%  
Met Expectation: Yes  
Data Trend: no prior data

Summary

The 4P1 indicator level tells us we are not able to place students into employment positions with this credential. Our advisory committee and other employers and experts within the field back this up. We believe the merge of this program with the Web program will round it out much better so that it is an employable credential.

Curriculum

Course Improvement Projects

We focused our efforts on overall program modifications this year as opposed to specific course improvements. Now that we have established a set of academic programs, our next step is to get all of the additions, modifications, and deletions of each program approved. Then, in the coming academic year 2013-2014, we will be doing extensive course improvement project work. Therefore, while there is none this year, we are gearing up for a lot of activity this coming year.

Program Improvement Projects

As already discussed, we took on the project of improving all of our programs this past year. As a result, we decided to discontinue the program in its current form and merge it with the Web program. We are confident of this merge in looking at how other community colleges across the state are approaching the challenge.
Course Document (CARP) Updates completed this year
CO117, CO122, CO124, CO156, CO205, CO255, CO262

Assessment of Student Learning

Please answer the questions below for each assessment project that you are working on this year. If you have more than one project, simply cut and paste the headers for each section below, in order to create a report for each.

Program Learning Outcome(s) assessed this year

We did not do a program learning outcome assessment for this program this year. The reason is that the department is doing a massive redesign of its programs across the board. We are creating new outcomes and objectives and revised curriculum for almost every program. Due to this massive undertaking, the additional effort of assessing program learning outcomes that may change was decided not to be the best use of limited resources this academic year. This decision was discussed and agreed upon by the Associate Provost and Dean of Instructional Support and Interdisciplinary Studies.

Measures of Student Learning

n/a

Initial Data and Findings

n/a

Curricular or Pedagogical Changes Implemented

n/a

Data and Findings (post improvement/change)

n/a