Undergraduate Program

School of Information Sciences

Board of Visitors 2014

Robert R Perkoski

Following are some highlights regarding the undergraduate program.

Enrollment

Our enrollment has remained basically steady while the admissions and enrollment team has continued in its recruitment efforts to attract quality students. However, the design and development of a new undergraduate marketing campaign was placed on hold while the Information Science school engaged with the branding firm Elliance. They recently presented their findings highlighting their NEXT idea and a recommended communication plan to the faculty and staff. I see the majority of work in facilitating the branding of the school happening in this next year.

Curriculum

Credits:

The major emphasis this year was meeting, educating and working with undergraduate faculty regarding the competitiveness level of the undergraduate curriculum. I conducted research on other I-Schools including Penn State, Syracuse and Washington along with other two year schools at Pitt and gave a presentation to the undergraduate faculty meeting. This report summarized the credit requirements for programs similar to our own. I was able to gather the necessary support to move forward in this area. Currently, I am looking at a feasibility analysis and resource impact of moving to 33-42 credit limits. Our current requirement is 30 credits which places us at the very low end in regards to our competitors.

Summary of Minimum Major Credits Required

School/Degree/Major	Minimum Credits
BS Information Management & Technology – Syracuse University	42
BS Systems and Information Science – Syracuse University	36 - 52
Three options under BS Information Sciences and Technology – Penn State University	45
School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences - BS Health Information Management – Univ of Pittsburgh	63
BS Social Work – School of Social Work – University of Pittsburgh	48
BS Computer Science – Dietrich School of Arts & Sciences - Univ of Pittsburgh	43
BS Information Science – School of Information Sciences – Univ of Pittsburgh	30

Problem Based Curriculum:

The BSIS program is promoting conducting applied research projects under the supervision of a faculty member to satisfy the capstone experience.

Examples

- Mazda – Business School collaboration

    - http://sis-teach-01.sis.pitt.edu/archive/mazda/

- Riverhounds

    - http://studentprojects.sis.pitt.edu/archive/riverhounds/

- WISER Simulation Center – UPMC medical simulation center (in progress)

    - Business Analysis for Learning Management System implementation

    - Web based simulation feedback tool

    - Data Standards for Magee Hospital – Obstetrics

- Google Glass Theatre Project –(in progress)

- Studio 721 – A student based video filming student that will produce both student and faculty videos for the school. (in progress)

- Start Up Firms

    - Mobile Start-Up Company

        http://ceagent.com/

    - AthleteTrax – Start-up firm with over 500,000 funding

        https://www.athlete-trax.com/

Career Placement Information

- 94% Placement Rate – Average Salary in mid 50's

- Companies hiring Information Science graduates

    - PPG

    - IBM

    - DelMonte

    - Oracle

    - UPMC

    - Bank of New York

    - Alcoa

- Job Titles – Systems Analyst – Business Analyst – Network Analyst – Interface Designer – Application Developer – Project Manager – Database Manager