

HCIM Program Committee Meeting for September

September 14, 2018

1-2:30 p.m.

Hornbake 4105

Meeting called by:	Bill Kules	Type of meeting:	Monthly Committee Meeting
Facilitator:	Bill Kules	Note taker:	Carol Boston
Timekeeper:	Carol Boston		

Attendees:	Bill Kules (1/1), Carol Boston (1/1), Joel Chan (1/1), Kate Izsak (1/1), Eun Kyoung Choe (1/1), Tamara Clegg (1/1), Niklas Elmqvist (1/1)
Please read:	Agenda and meeting materials here
Please bring:	Nothing needed

Minutes

Agenda item:	Welcome and Opening	Presenter:	Bill Kules
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Discussion:

- Thanks to Niklas for leadership last year and for continuing to serve on the Committee.
- Welcome and thanks to returning members Niklas, Tammy, Eun Kyoung, and Carol and new members Joel and Kate as the Dean's designate.
- Jeff will return to the Committee for the October meeting.
- A student member will be in place by the October meeting.
- Last year we focused on program research and re-envisioning the HCIM program. This year we are focused on beginning to implement the vision by prioritizing objectives according to what is realistic and most important to do first.

Conclusions:

The Committee discussed and agreed to guidelines for operation as follows:

- Meeting time will be preserved for formal adoptions and deep discussion.
- Time outside of the meeting will be used to gather information, draft materials, get feedback, iterate, and identify key points requiring the attention of the whole committee at the next meeting.
- Materials will be shared one week in advance of meetings to allow ample time to read ahead.
- Committee members will commit to a minimum of 4-5 hours/month (including attendance at the meeting) to move the work forward. We will review this in a few months.
- Task leads/subcommittee chairs will lead small work groups on activities between meetings.
- The Committee will commit to continuous learning and improvement through the use of data and reflection on processes.

Action items

Person responsible

Deadline

- ✓ Add Jeff to the Committee list on the website
- ✓ Recruit student rep to the Committee

Carol
Bill

September 28
October 5

Agenda item:	Course Approval - INST 711: Interaction Design Studio	Presenter:	Eun Kyoung Choe
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Discussion:

- INST 711 will replace INST 632 and is a practical and concrete course requiring students to bring in design artifacts and critique them. The size will be capped at 20; 2 sections are expected to be offered in Spring (Eun Kyoung and Bill teaching).
- Students will learn UX research methods in INST 710 and then briefly review them and mostly build on and apply them in INST 711 through individual anchor projects.
- Committee members reviewed the syllabus and discussed what prerequisites made sense for INST 711—INST 710/701 (UX Design Research Methods/Introduction to Research Methods) and/or INST 631 (HCI Fundamentals).
- Other curriculum-related matters discussed included 1) the importance of assigning portfolio-worthy projects in the first semester to help students applying for internships, particularly design-heavy ones; 2) the need to teach both qualitative and quantitative methods for future user researchers (our program is heavier in qualitative); and 3) the need for dedicated studio space where students can keep things up.

Conclusions:

Both INST 631 and INST 710/701 will be prerequisites for INST 711. The course was approved unanimously for Spring 2019.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Make minor changes: remove instructor and add new prereqs	Eun Kyoung	September 21
✓ Route approved course	Bill/Kate	PCC schedule
✓ Consult with MIM re: replacing INST 632 in MIM's UX specialization	Bill/Carol	October 8
✓ Discuss teaching plans	Bill/Eun Kyoung	October 12

Agenda item:	Review Program Vision Work and Identify Major Objectives	Presenter:	Bill Kules
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Discussion:

- The tagline for the vision is “academically grounded; industry engaged,” with the HCIM curriculum addressing real problems and challenges and focusing on helping students develop portfolio-worthy projects and skills in visual design, interaction design, user research, front-end development, and soft skills, including critique.
- Keith is very enthusiastic about the new vision, which was shared with faculty last May. Brian is working on how to soft-launch the UX design consultancy, including bringing in a business-development person whose job it is to bring partners to the table and figure out how to repackage partner needs into Capstone projects, smaller class projects, design challenges, etc.
- Last year, the HCIM Committee decided to tackle course reviews this year for INST 630 Programming, INST 717 Internships, and perhaps INST 631 Fundamentals of HCI (including increasing quantitative skills) and INST 702 Advanced Usability. Specifics will be discussed at the October meeting.
- Bill introduced and described 8 strategic priorities and invited committee members to use dot voting to indicate their sense of priorities (see numbers of votes each received in brackets).
 - **Program evaluation** (including outcomes assessment, which Kate indicated would be emerging as a Grad School priority next year rather than this year)
 - **Curriculum sequencing and alignment** (higher-level focus on where gaps are in core courses) [3 votes]
 - **Course reviews** (necessary and relevant to review/revise courses each year, with proposal and revised syllabus the expected outcome) [3 votes]
 - **Implement vision:** UX design consultancy, portfolios, tiered model of engaging industry professionals, etc. [8 votes]
 - **Develop more electives:** while keeping in mind who can instruct them [3 votes]

- **Implement 1-credit courses:** Offering 2 per semester in Professional Prep and Skills would aid international students especially [3 votes]
- **Support HCI/UX for undergrads** [6 votes]
- **Sponsor a design hackathon**
- **Enhance and promote HCIM identity** [2 votes]
- **Revise admissions processes** (could be done administratively and brought to Committee for approval)
- **Improve career fair options**

Conclusions:

- Implementing the program vision and supporting an undergraduate HCI/UX concentration are the highest priorities of the Committee. Other items may be deferred or addressed administratively. We will continue to refine priorities and work plan at the October meeting.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Share Committee priorities with Deans	Bill	October 5
✓ Draft strategic and operational work plans for further Committee consideration	Bill/Carol	October 5

Other Information

Special notes:

Eun Kyoung: Students should be encouraged to take statistics courses and INST 627 Data Analytics for Information Professionals to increase their qualitative skills because these are increasingly in industry demand.

Kate: Instructors should consider piloting 1-credit courses during Winter term and including undergraduates. Joel might be interested in a 1-credit qualitative methods course; Eun Kyoung, in a typography course.