

MIM Committee

Thursday, September 21, 2017

10-11:30AM

HBK4113

Committee Report

Submitted by Tetyana Bezbabna

Present committee members: Phil Piety (voting), Taverekere Srikantaiah (voting), Kathy Weaver (voting), Jeff Waters (voting), Vanessa Frias - Martinez (voting), Adam Kriesberg (voting), Namrata Walanj (voting), Tetyana Bezbabna (voting), Lindsay Sarin (non-voting)

Absent committee members: Brian Butler (non-voting)

1. Course Proposal for INST 728 xxx Personal Health Informatics and Visualization Course.
2. MIM and iSchool Events
3. Waiver process for the MIM Capstone Classes (INFM 736 and INFM 737).
4. Topical consistency of multiple section of a particular core course.
5. 2017-2018 MIM Committee Initiatives

Course Proposals

MIM Committee voted and approved a course proposal for a new special topic *INST 728 xxx Personal Health Informatics and Visualization* course.

MIM and iSchool Events

The iSchool held an Open House event on October 3, 2017. Prospective students were able to get more information about different iSchool graduate programs, meet iSchool faculty and staff, and attend one of the courses taught that day.

The MIM program held a Data Science lecture/workshop for its students on Tuesday, October 17, 2017. The workshop was led by a MIM alum from May 2017, Sanjna Srivatsa. Sanjna is currently working as a Data Scientist at Juniper Networks in California. At the event, Sanjna shared her story with our students, explained how schoolwork helped her in the process of getting this job, and taught several open source data science tools.

The MIM Program is currently collecting student feedback about their program experience (with program's current operations, processes, activities), and will hold a virtual discussion forum to address any questions and concerns our students would like to express.

The iSchool will hold an Internship and Networking fair on Tuesday, November 7. iSchool invites information organizations from the Washington, DC metro area to meet with our students to promote their career and internship opportunities. At this event, students are able to explore employment opportunities in their fields of study, meet potential internship/capstone/field study partners, and network with local information professionals. This event is open to all iSchool students.

Waiver Process for the MIM Capstone Classes

Background The MIM program would like to give its students a chance to waive the Capstone Project requirement of the program, offering these students an opportunity to complete a weekend take-home exam, as a culmination event, that will demonstrate their knowledge of Information Management.

Waiver Qualifications and Process

Process:

1. Student submits a waiver request for INFM 736 and 737 to the MIM program to qualify for waiving the 2 courses by February 20 of the previous academic school year
2. INFM course instructor, along with the MIM Program Coordinator and Director, will review the request
3. Student will receive an official reply by March 10 from the MIM program
This will provide student enough time to plan for alternate classes
 - a. Note: This year we will accept waivers until July 31, with an official reply from the MIM program by August 14.
4. Student will take 6 additional credit hours of electives, which matches the requirements for waiving any of the other core courses.

Qualifications:

1. Student must:
 - a. Be in good standing with the MIM program
 - b. Have a >3.0 GPA
 - c. Currently working in a 40 hour a week job
 - d. Have 6 or more years of relevant professional working experience
2. Exceptions will be made on an individual basis if needed.
 - a. For example: If a student has more than 6 years of professional experience in a field relative to IM, but is not working full time, the submitted waiver will be reviewed.

The committee is now working on developing a list of questions/case studies for the weekend take-home exam. The committee will vote on a final list in its November meeting.

Topical consistency of multiple section of a particular core course.

To make sure MIM students are equally prepared for advanced MIM courses, it is important that multiple sections of the same core course are consistent in their topical content (e.g. programming languages taught, readings and assignments given, speakers invited). To ensure this, instructors teaching different sections of the same core course should discuss and stay in agreement about the content they are teaching throughout a given semester. In November, the MIM Committee will review and vote on a policy that enforces a consistent content in multiple section of a same core course within one academic semester.

2017-2018 Committee Initiatives and Assignments

1. Program Branding
 1. Increase MIM program attractiveness in the information management industry, driving the companies to:
 1. Hire MIM students (who our MIM students are? What they can do and what they can be? Why they are competitive? - **Adam, Vanessa**
 2. Partner with the MIM program (who we are? How our partners can benefit working with us?) - **Kanti**
 2. MIM Program Learning Outcomes for students
Define skills/knowledge MIM students have to know/have prior to graduating - **Phil**
 3. MIM membership in the local chapters of Information Management groups/associations (e.g. Society for Information Management DC Chapter) - **Kathy and Namrata**