

Agenda: HCIM Committee Meeting

HBK 4113, 10:00am-11:30am, March 2, 2016

Voting Members: M. Chetty (3/3), J. Golbeck (5/6), N. Elmqvist (6/6), C. Holl-Jensen (6/6), J. Waters (5/6)

Non-voting Members: R. Marr (5/5)

Absent: C. Boston (5/6), M. Brescia (4/5), B. Butler (4/6), A. Weeks (3/5)

Also in Attendance: Fernando Marciano

1. Proposed changes to online HCIM application process
 - a. Both HCIM program and Student Services receive a lot of questions about the online application, often due to inconsistent naming and unclear instructions. To address as many of these issues as possible, some changes are recommended to the language of the application instructions.
 - b. Recommended changes:
 - i. Clarify names in the essay (specifically admission statement vs statement of purpose) portion of the application.
 - ii. Clarify application directions, especially providing word limit instead of page limit.
 - iii. Drop December 15th “best consideration” deadline.
 - iv. Add option to include portfolio, using work experience field of online application; portfolio not required.
 - c. Discussed whether the second essay should be a requirement at all; committee opted to keep that essay.
 - d. Discussed a possible waiver on a student-by-student basis for GRE scores based on faculty discretion as The Graduate School does not require those scores.
 - e. **ACTION ITEM:** Carlea to implement changes
2. Course proposal: Introduction to Interaction Design (Carlea and Niklas)
 - a. Proposal + syllabus
 - i. Course was suggested by HCIM students. Tentative draft syllabus was revised by adjunct candidate, Kenneth Lennon, to focus more on Interaction Design and to teach prototyping software. The course would be taught in the Fall.
 - ii. New proposed adjunct faculty member, Kenneth Lennon, has strong qualifications and industry experience to teach the course.
 - iii. **VOTE:** For: 5; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; initiative passes.
 - iv. **ACTION ITEMS:** On course approval, Carlea to look into software that students will need for the class. Perhaps there is a way UMD can pay for the software needed.
3. Admissions update (Niklas)
 - a. This year there were 141 applications submitted.
 - b. Last year, HCIM admitted a total of 61 students, and last year’s yield was 17 students.
 - c. This year, there were 30 in yes pile, with 2 or 3 having already accepted.
 - d. There is a possibility of putting “maybe” students on a waiting list.
 - e. Our hope is that at least 20 more students accept and matriculate next year.
4. Concerns from the students (Carlea, on behalf of Michael)
 - a. Do we have relationships with companies that students could partner with for capstone projects?

- i. These relationships are not in place at present, but we are working on developing them. One concern about this approach is to properly vet the projects to ensure they are appropriately HCI-specific.
 - ii. MIM does a similar program, where a client is used in the capstone.
 - iii. **ACTION ITEMS:** Carlea will research how MIM partners with companies for capstone.
- b. Students would like the option to waive the internship course
 - i. Carlea had talked briefly to Ann Weeks about how to waive the internship course.
 - ii. **ACTION ITEM:** Carlea to draft language for waiving internship course.