

HCIM Program Committee Meeting for May

May 8th, 2020
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM
Virtual meeting

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

Attendees: Bill Kules (8 / 8), Carol Boston (8 / 8), Kate Izsak (6 / 8), Niklas Elmqvist (8 / 8), Ge Gao (8 / 8), Alex Leitch (8 / 8), Jeff Waters (5 / 8), Dustin Smith (7 / 8), Amy Asadi (Note Taker)
Additional Attendees: Jonathan Lazar

Agenda and related documents [here](#)

Please bring: None

Minutes of the Meeting:

Agenda item: (1:00) Approval of [April meeting minutes](#) **Presenter:** Bill Kules

Discussion: The minutes of the April meeting were adopted by unanimous vote.

APPROVED: Vote: **5** voted yes, **0** no, **0** abstain

Agenda item: (1:05) Program updates: admissions statistics; re-opening of applications for domestic and in-country international students (new round of app review after July 1); application for 2021; graduation; congrats to Alex on the Instructional Innovation Award **Presenter:** Bill Kules & Carol Boston

Discussion:

Bill and Carol provided programmatic updates related to admissions.

- Committee congratulates Alex for receiving the Instructional Innovation Award.
- Currently 61 applicants have accepted offers (11 in-state domestic, 9 out-of-state domestic, 33 international, and 9 in-country international).
 - To date, 14 international and 1 domestic applicant have deferred their starting date to Fall 2021; visa issues related to the pandemic will likely limit the ability of most international students not already in the country to arrive for the start of the 2020-21 academic year.
 - At present, there are no deferrals to Spring 2021. Admitted students seem concerned that being out of sync with the regular academic year could affect their

educational and hiring experiences in terms of summer internships and graduate assistantships.

- The Fall 2020 application deadline has been extended to July 1st for domestic and international applicants currently residing in the US.
 - Outreach has begun to undergraduates in the iSchool's BS in Information Science program regarding the July 1 extension
 - 9-10 applications from those within this program are in progress.
- The program is currently projected to have an incoming class of 25-30 students for Fall 2020 and a larger class in Fall 2021 due to deferrals.
- A new application system to replace Hobsons is being tested by the Graduate School and expected to roll out for the Fall 2021 application season.
- Fall 2020 orientation in late August will be conducted online and will include both synchronous and asynchronous activities.

Agenda item:	(1:20) Looking ahead to 2020-2021: 4+1 model	Presenter:	Kate Izsak
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Discussion:

Kate provided updates regarding the 4 + 1 model for the MLIS program.

- Program has been officially approved and could serve as a strong model for a potential 4 + 1 HCIM program.
- Such joint degrees require only Senate PCC approval.
- If the HCIM program considers a 4 + 1 degree plan and intends to launch it in Fall 2021, then approval from the Committee and iSchool PCC will be required in Fall 2020.

Conclusion:

A joint 4 + 1 degree program will be an agenda item for the HCIM Committee next year.

Agenda item:	(1:35) Update on program outcomes work and discussion about how to move forward. What does the Learning Outcomes Affinity mapping in Miro suggest about necessary changes to the HCIM curriculum?	Presenter:	Bill Kules
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Discussion:

The Committee discussed current and next steps to fulfill program learning outcomes work.

- The timeline for completion was pushed back due to the unexpected priority of adapting the program to go online in March due to Covid-19-related campus closure.
- The most pressing need for more in-depth insights is now in the area of HCI research and doctoral degrees. Committee members will next need to gather information related to *What do students who enter with the goal of working in HCI research and/or obtaining a PhD need to know and be able to do as a result of participating in our program?*
- Discussion also covered how the program can best serve students with varying skills and backgrounds, such as those coming from undergraduate programs versus others who have several years of professional experience.
 - Finding a midpoint line to standardize the skills of all students and helping them surpass that point should be a goal.
 - Students who do not master the essential skills can retake classes and current grade will replace previous grade.

- It's important to keep in mind, however, that having a lot of student loans can later hinder people from taking monumental steps or positive risks in their careers.
- Remote learning has presented additional challenges for achieving learning outcomes, and these challenges will need to be addressed.

Conclusions:

The Committee will continue to reach out to contacts within their networks who are instructing in doctoral programs or doing HCI research in order to compile data about learning outcomes in those areas. Committee members will use the template provided to collect data by June 5. Bill and Carol will extract insights and draft learning outcomes, reaching out to the Committee by email for approval this summer.

Agenda item: (2:00) Presentation of [accessibility certificate proposal](#) - **Presenter:** Jonathan Lazar

Discussion:

Jonathan Lazar presented a current proposal for an accessibility specialization. This specialization includes four courses and a Trusted Tester Certificate associated with INST 704.

The proposal was adopted by unanimous vote.

APPROVED: Vote: **6** voted yes, **0** no, **0** abstain

Conclusions:

Over the summer, Carol and Jonathan will work with Kate to format the accessibility specialization proposal for PCC approval (e.g., describe correlation with UMD's mission and provide details about the job market for students with this background). Jonathan will discuss with colleagues whether the specialization could also be available to students outside the HCIM program and whether it could also become a certificate program.

Agenda item: (2:15) Review action items and move to closed session **Presenter:** Bill Kules

Following a recap of action items and a thank you to all for their service this year, the meeting moved to a closed session to review nominations for the HCIM Excellence Award.

Agenda item: (2:20) Select HCIM Excellence Award winner **Presenter:** Bill Kules

Members of the closed session reviewed faculty nomination materials to select a winner and honorable mentions for the inaugural HCIM Excellence Award.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
<input type="checkbox"/> Committee Members will reach out to contacts within doctoral programs to gather insights for research/academic oriented learning outcomes using this interview template . All insights will be gathered by June 5th and sent to Carol .	Niklas, Ge, others if they have contacts	June 5th

- **Carol** and **Bill** will synthesize learning outcomes **over the summer**. Carol Boston, Bill Kules Summer 2020
 - **Carol** and **Bill** will reach out to **Committee Members** for feedback on learning outcomes via email **over the summer**. All Committee Members Summer 2020
- **Jonathan** will discuss internal and external options (whether specialization should be offered to HCIM MS candidates only) with colleagues **by June 15** Jonathan Lazar June 15
 - **Kate** will send format for specialization proposal to **Carol** by **May 29**. Carol Boston, Kate Izsak May 29
 - **Carol** and **Jonathan** will add info about UMD mission and job market by **June 30**. Jonathan Lazar June 30