



COLLEGE OF INFORMATION

Date: Friday, May 3rd, 2024 – 9:30 to 11:30 am

Location: Edward St. John Building Room 2204

AGENDA

Preliminaries

- Call to order

Quorum recognized

- Review and approval of minutes from April

Minutes approved without correction.

- Review and approval of this agenda

Agenda approved without correction

Assembly Items

Dean's Update

Happy May! Dean Marzullo congratulates us all for reaching the end of the academic year. He created a photo montage to showcase some of the college's achievements this past year, including but not limited to:

- David Plott's first Dean's Lecture, Beyond the Field A.I. Homecoming Address, INFO Halloween event, Jen Golbeck's Purest Bond book release, the first meeting of the Dean's Student Advisory Council, staff bowling event, INFO Winter Celebration, Black & White party at Pratt Library, UX Talk, Data Week, MLIS Pizza Lunch, Transcribe-a-thon, ALA Legislation Day in Annapolis, Do Good Innovator Awards, Maryland Day, Maryland State Library meeting, Terrapin Connect event, Unleashing the Power of Sports Analytics, Alumni Awards Event, UX Terps, Eclipse Party on top of AV Williams, and more!

Dean Marzullo offers kudos to the Communications team for capturing photos of all our events and keeping the college apprised of our many activities. If you think your photo should have been included in the presentation but it was not - send it to the Communications team! They are always interested in receiving your photos.

We are meeting our mission in various ways:

- With graduation coming up - we have 369 grads from College Park Information Science and 42 from Shady Grove
- The first (3) students are graduating from the InfoDesign program this May!
- We also have 61 grads from HCIM, 25 from MIM, 63 from the MLIS program, and 3 PhD students
- Research:
 - 250 research publications created by our faculty and students this year
 - We have 118 research grants

- 52 lead by us
 - 66 co-lead by us
- The work done by all of us is crucial to meeting our mission - faculty and staff contribute significantly. We are all here for the mission, and we are all doing our part
- Academic Advancement:
 - Dan Green is promoted to Associate Professor
 - Amanda Lazar is promoted to Associate Professor
 - Katie Shilton is promoted to Full Professor
 - Jessica Vitak is promoted to promoted to Full Professor

AIM Artificial Intelligence Interdisciplinary Institute at Maryland [[Hal Daumé](#)]

Hal is professor in Computer Science, has been with UMD since 2010, was a Professor of Computer Science at the University of Utah for 4 years prior.

[You can review his slideshow at this link.](#)

AIM's goals are to develop the next generation of artificial intelligence education, technology, and leaders

- Create a hub for inter-disciplinary AI collaboration
- Support faculty research
- Offer learning experiences to prepare students for AI-infused world
- Serve as a magnet for AI work and industry in our region
- Advance responsible and ethical use of technology in industry, government, and society

The institute will be interdisciplinary, involving all schools and colleges at UMD (many other University AI institutes are narrow, engineering, and/or CS-focused)

In the past academic year at UMD, there were about 10,000 hours of undergraduate coursework offered in AI and about 6,000 graduate hours

AIM's creation has moved extremely fast for a public university - from proposal last summer to launch yesterday (early May)

Core tenets:

- **Research**
 - Goals: Identify key themes that cut across AI and other fields of study, and organize research efforts around those themes
 - Key Activities:
 - Seed Grants for Interdisciplinary AI Research
 - Plan for 40 Total Faculty
 - ~20 Core AI TTK
 - ~10 Core AI PTK
 - ~10 Interdisciplinary AI
 - Postdoctoral fellowships
 - Research+Education AI compute cluster
- **Education**
 - Goals: Reimagine the future of AI-related learning to transform the workforce to leverage AI technologies; act as a central coordinating hub for educational programs and activities.

- Key Activities:
 - Creation of BS and BA in AI
 - AI minors, concentrations, and certificates
 - Professional graduate program
 - Path-to-AI general education courses
 - AI4All literacy + critical thinking course
- **Partnerships**
 - Goals: Integration of faculty, postdocs, and students in AI-related disciplines across campus.
 - Key Activities:
 - Space: New AI building
 - Visitor program
 - Speaker series, workshops, community-of-practice events
 - Career support for students and postdocs
- **Community**
 - Goals: To create mechanisms to allow deep engagement between faculty and students and major AI firms, as well as AI-related private and public entities, making Maryland a hub for AI.
 - Key Activities:
 - Industrial engagement program
 - Graduate co-op program with AI firms
 - Cooperative AI research partnership with the public and private sector
 - Policy outreach

Questions

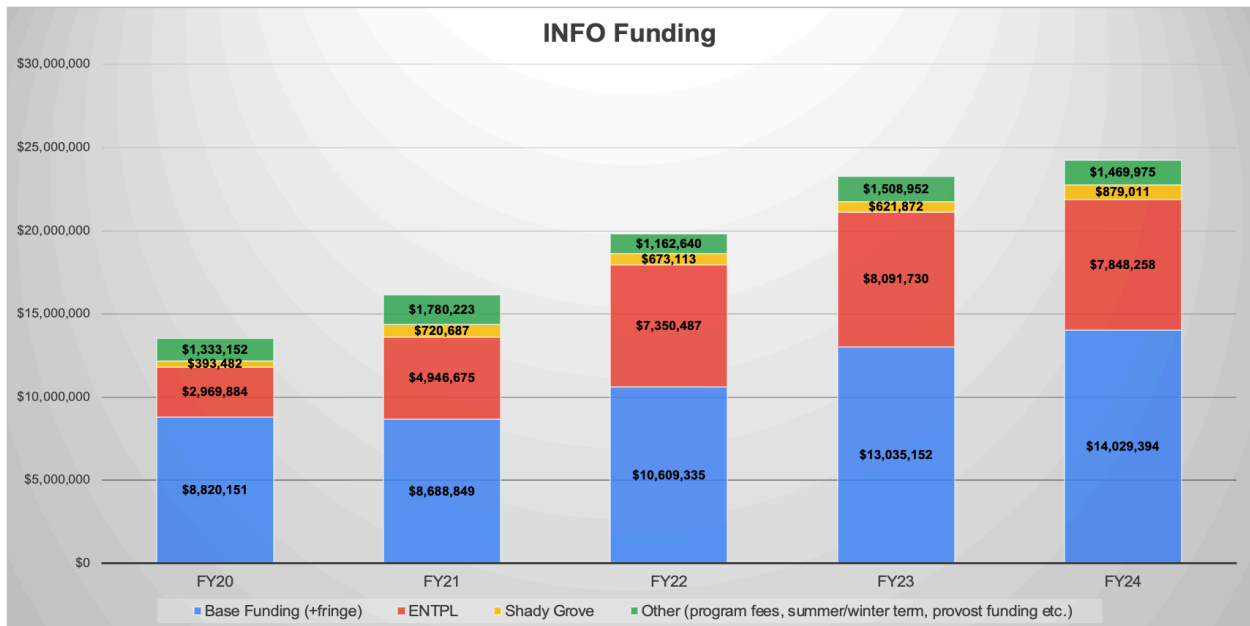
- Will AIM be welcoming freshmen in any sort of way?
 - Eventually. Regarding the timeline - we are still pretty early, there is no plan of organization yet, but it should be done soon. They hope to have activities in the fall, but at this point, they aren't sure what they're prioritizing. On the education side - they are emphasizing some of their Gen Ed courses, but the question about student involvement hasn't been discussed yet. Hal says they do want students to be involved early but they don't know at this point.
- Where is the money coming from now, and how will that money be kept sustainable?
 - Good question, but should be deferred to Provost Rice. Right now, they have a set budget coming from the Provost's office for staff and faculty hiring, and activities. There is a request to the state for more money, but it is unclear how much they will get. Faculty are expensive, buildings are expensive, staff are expensive. They expect to hire around 20 staff members, and not all of that money is in place right now. There is a hope that Post-Doc fellowship and named Chairs could come from future Donor gifts. The institute is more or less secure in funding for approx. 10 years, Hal estimates. Beyond 10 years it's an open question
- If you are interested in teaching a class on AI, who should faculty talk to?
 - For AIM-education related things, contact [Neda Atanasoski](#)
- Where is the overlap with [TRAILS](#)?

- TRAILS is multi-University and does not have an educational mission in the same way that AIM does. Education overlap is almost zero, but there is overlap on the research side. TRAILS is really focused on building **trustworthy AI**. Largely, within UMD, our scope is much more broad.

Budget Update [Bridget Faherty]

Kyran Richardson has been promoted to Director of FNSPOP!

Historical Trend of INFO Revenue:



We've seen consistency in base funding, which has been steadily increasing over the last 4 Fiscal Years

We expect to have an over-expenditure of 2.5 million this year

Course Support is the largest expenditure for the college

- Adjuncts teaching overloads, TAs, GSIs, - 95% of course support costs are to support **undergraduate** programs
- Dean's commission on course support is reviewing allocation method to see if there are any efficiencies we could make here
- This is affected by UMD's push to minimize online courses; in-person courses requires more course support
- How Computer Science being a LEP affects us remains to be seen

Looking towards FY25

- UMCP budget from the state for FY 25 includes a mandated round of COLA & merit increases for regular employees
- Provost values INFO and is interested in helping us find stability
- There will be budget reductions totaling \$33m

- \$17m to come from Academic Affairs
- This reduction was based on an increase in the FY24 turnover rate (from 2-4% for academic units)

Questions:

- Will the COLA be affecting graduate student stipends?
 - Yes
- Where do the 4% budget cuts come from? Where is the cut felt?
 - Each year we get a Schedule H sendout from the Provos which is our allocation for the coming year. The overall budget is reduced by 4% overall - we just don't get that money in the first place.

Doctoral Committee Update [Jessica Vitak, Diana Marsh, Emily Dacquisto]

Regarding the PhD Integrative Paper - our faculty and students are very opinionated and lack consensus on this milestone.

Feedback on milestone process:

- Students were much more positive toward current IP than faculty.
- Challenges with current IP:
 - Not enough opportunity to develop deep domain knowledge
 - Time-frame is too short
 - Students getting 'stuck' post-IP/underprepared for dissertation
 - Not sufficiently preparing students to take on dissertation-level research project
 - Too much compromise
 - Too focused on academic career paths.
- Student/faculty agreement that domain expertise is (slightly) more important than research expertise in advancing to candidacy
- Most faculty agree that oral defense is critical for post-IP success

Path forward - Reorganizing process to prepare students for success:

The PhD program team will begin drafting a new policy this summer, to hopefully include in the 2024-2025 doctoral student handbook (pending program and PCC approval, etc.).

New milestone will include the following:

- Longer timeline (generally 2-3 semesters)
- Main components:
 - Semester 1: Independent study focus on developing domain expertise with deliverable of lit review and/or annotated bibliography; assessment at end by committee – this could take the place of the annual review in Year 2.
 - Semester 2+: Independent research. Building on lit review, student will complete a research study* and prepare a paper of publishable quality.
 - Oral defense and assessment by committee.
 - Students advance to candidacy upon successfully completing the milestone.

Questions:

- Does this mean students are writing 2 dissertations?
 - No - students will be working on what will become their dissertation. For qualitative students where research takes longer, they'll be doing relationship building prior to research, etc. - that's still something that's publishable, but it doesn't result in the sort of rigor, depth, of a dissertation - it's important that students get that practice by doing a smaller piece of it prior to writing their dissertation.
- One person expressed a concern after hearing from some PhD students about burn out
 - This is a difficult question to answer because students may burn out regardless. The goal with these changes is to make sure that the steps we're taking are helping to guide students towards the goal of obtaining a PhD.

Dean's Student Advisory Council DSAC [Asabea Agyemang '25, Daniel Kalashian '26]

- Asa is the Chair of the DSAC this year
- DSAC is comprised of different majors & years
- This year, they focused on 4 initiatives:
 - Conducted 2 Career-focused events at Shady Grove
 - Addressing student concerns - distributed a Communication Enhancement survey
 - Events & Community Engagement
 - There's not really a cohesive place for students to make connections and build community with their peers, but they planned many successful events including a January Game Night, February Craft Night, Study & Chill Night in May
 - Strong positive reception from students and participants
 - Social Media Engagement Initiative
 - Accomplished:
 - Promotion & recap reels for DSAC events
 - Fun promotional flyers for DSAC events
 - Immense increase in student engagement on social media!
 - Analytics on Instagram shows that engagement is truly working
- Asa and Dan expressed gratitude to faculty & staff and are looking forward to next year

Question - What was your experience being both students AND the community builders in the college?

- Asa - it's been great! Professional experience organizing people, balancing schedules, working with faculty/staff - it was fun and rewarding. Got to know a lot of people in info college
- Dan - agree with Asa, enjoyed getting involved in this professional opportunity, it was a lot of fun

Next year, the hope is to have a Graduate-student-led Dean's Student Advisory Committee in addition to an undergraduate committee. Constituencies are very different so folks are still working out what this will look like, but they are hopeful to launch it in the fall.

INFO Embedded Counselor [Monique McIntyre]

- Monique (she/her) is so excited to be here and to meet all of us! She is a licensed clinical Social Worker and holds a MSW from University of Baltimore. She has worked in schools, foster care,

and most recently private practice. She has a good deal of familiarity with current issues affecting students

- Her permanent office is in Patuxent on the 2nd floor. Students are welcome to come to her office. She is an extension of the counseling center
- 3 things her role entails:
 - 1) Direct service to students. She'll do a brief assessment, typically a 30-min meeting where she meets with the student and determine next steps
 - 2) Events
 - 3) Faculty & Staff consultations. The counseling center runs a warmline [(301) 314-7651] where you can call and discuss non-urgent student concerns. Those warmline concerns will go to Monique.
- She is here to support us and support the students. She is NOT replacing any emergency services - still contact UMPD/911 for an emergency.
- Some things are still being determined, like how scheduling will be set up or how students will get referred to her. Look out for further communication from her regarding this - this is a new program so things are still in-flux.
- You can continue to send students to the counseling center. For urgent visits, students can see a clinician immediately if they need immediate support.
- Monique's services will go online inter-semester. She enjoys meeting folks and chatting, so feel free to reach out to her with any concerns and ideas

Nominating Committee:

Election for PTK Representative to University Senate

Polly O'Rourke - Faculty Senator (PTK) - Has never served

Ballot 1 - Assembly Officers

Jacob Davidson - Assembly Chair - has never served

Jen McGovern - Assembly Secretary - has never served

Christopher Hawley - Assembly Parliamentarian - has never served.

Ballot 2 - APT Officers

APT Co-Chair (TTK) - Jen Golbeck - Incumbent with 2 years served, no term limit

APT Co-Chair (PTK) - Kathy Weaver - Incumbent with 5 years served, no term limit

Ballot 3 - Graduate Council Representative

Ryan O'Grady - Incumbent with 1 year served, 3 year term limit

Ballot 4 - College Advisory Committee:

TTK - Assistant Professor - Caro Williams-Pierce - Incumbent, 1 year served

TTK - Associate Professor - Beth St. Jean - Has never served

TTK - Full professor - Jonathan Lazar - Incumbent, 3 years served
PTK - Instructional - Galina Madjaroff Reitz - Has never served
PTK - Faculty Specialist - Polly O'Rourke - Incumbent, 1 year served
PTK - Research - beth bonsignore - Incumbent, 4 years served
Staff, Non-Voting - Craig Taylor - Incumbent, replacement for 2024
Staff - Voting - Jacqueline Arstrong - Has never served
Staff - Voting - Shelia Spears - Has never served

Destination Graduation Survey [Kevin Kenneally]

- [First Destination Graduation Survey](#) - please promote this to your undergraduate students. this is ONLY for undergraduate students, there is not currently one for graduate students.
 - Intended to collect the “next steps” they are taking after graduation.
 - Military? Jobs? Continuing education?
 - We are learning about the employees they're going to, salary info, etc
 - Segmented by college
- Survey is open now and stays open for approx. 6 months after graduation (until December). Greatest response rate is in the weeks leading up to graduation.
- You can review past Grad Survey dashboards at reports.umd.edu

Election Results:

Election for PTK Faculty Senator - 64 votes

Polly O'Rourke - 63 votes; 1 abstention

Ballot 1: Assembly Officers - 70 votes

Assembly Chair: Jacob Davidson (67 votes); Fabian Faccio (1 vote); 2 abstentions

Assembly Secretary: Jen McGovern (70 votes); no other votes

Assembly Parliamentarian: Christopher Hawley (70 votes); no other votes

Ballot 2: APT Officers - 65 votes

APT Co-chair (TTK): Jen Golbeck (64 votes); Tammy Clegg (1 vote)

APT Co-chair (PTK) - Kathy Weaver (63 votes); 2 abstentions

Ballot 3: Graduate Council Representative - 73 votes

Ryan O'Grady - 73 votes; no other votes

Ballot 4: College Advisory Committee - 70 votes

TTK - Assistant Professor

Caro Williams-Pierce (59 votes)

Ge Gao (1 vote)

Daniel Greene (1 vote)

Ana Ndumu (1 vote)

Irene Paschetto (1 vote)
Ido Sivan-Sevilla (1 vote)
Victoria Van Hying (1 vote)
Wei Ai (2 votes)
Katrina Fenlon (1 vote)
Joel Chan (2 votes)

TTK - Associate Professor

Beth St. Jean (60 votes)

Eun Kyoung Choe (2 votes)
Tamara Clegg (1 vote)
Sheena Erete (1 vote)
Vanessa Frias Martinez (1 vote)
Amelia Gibson (3 votes)
Kari Kraus (1 vote)
Katie Shilton (1 vote)

TTK - Full professor

Jonathan Lazar (56 votes)

Jen Golbeck (3 votes)
Paul Jaeger (2 votes)
Wayne Lutters (3 votes)
Richard Marciano (1 vote)
Doug Oard (1 vote)
Mega Subramaniam (4 votes)

PTK - Instructional

Galina Madjaroff Reitz (57 votes)

Susan Campbell (1 vote)
Vedat Diker (3 votes)
Dennis Frezzo (1 vote)
Renee Hill (2 votes)
Bill Kules (2 votes)
Katy Lawley (3 votes)
Ryan O'Grady (1 vote)

PTK - Faculty Specialist

Polly O'Rourke (55 votes)

Carol Boston (3 votes)

Emily Dacquisto (7 votes)

Andrew Fellows (3 votes)

Kate Izsak (2 votes)

PTK - Research

beth bonsignore (60 votes)

Chris Antoun (3 votes)

Jason Baron (2 votes)

Charles Harry (1 vote)

J Bern Jordan (4 votes)

Staff, Non-Voting

Craig Taylor (54 votes)

Jacqueline Armstrong (1 vote)

Max Balagtas-Badoy (1 vote)

Chris Beatty (1 vote)

Alison Cardenas (1 vote)

Neil Dhingra (3 votes)

Fabian Faccio (1 vote)

Sarah Grun (1 vote)

Kibbi Henderson (1 vote)

Kourtney Roussey (1 vote)

Shelia Spears (1 vote)

4 abstentions

Staff - Voting

Jacqueline Arstrong (34 votes)

Shelia Spears (26 votes)

James Battle (1 vote)

Chris Beatty (2 votes)

Diana Bridgett (1 vote)

Alison Cardenas (1 vote)

Neil Dhingra (2 votes)

Matt Krishnan (1 vote)

2 abstentions

INFO College Awards and Recognitions [Keith Marzullo]

William G. Willson Staff Excellence Award - *Chris Hawley*

Student's Choice Teaching Award - chosen by students - *Aric Bills, Dennis Frezzo, and Ana Ndumu*

Instructional Innovation Award - *Stacy Surla, Galina Madjaroff Reitz, Vedat Diker & Pam Duffy, and Joel Chan*

5 years of service: *Luis Cortes, Fabian Faccio, Sara Grun, Cecilia Penn-Diallo, and Rochelle Robinson*

10 years of service: *Jeff Waters, Carolina Ethridge*

25 years of service: *Chris Stark*

Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn. Accepted.