

Graduate Council Program Review Summary

Prepared by: Agamemnon Crassidis, Chair, Graduate Council

Program Title	Old Program Title: Information Technology New Program Title: Information Sciences and Technologies
Originating College	GCCIS
Program Contact	Jeff Lasky
Degree Type	Master of Science, M.S.
SCH New Program	30
QCH Old Program	48
NYSED IRP Code:	19856
HEGIS Code:	0669.00
Conversion Type	Type 1 Conversion: <input type="checkbox"/> Type 2 Conversion: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Recommendation	Graduate Council recommends approval of this program
Responsible Sub-Group	Graduate Council Group B
Meeting Date/Time	Wednesday, April 6 th , 2011/10 am – 11 am
Meeting Attendance	Agamemnon Crassidis (KGC OE); Linda Underhill (CAST); Angela Kelly (CIAS); Julius Chiavaroli (NTID); Don Wilson (SCB); Hossein Shahmohamad (COS); Steve Polly (Student Rep, KGC OE); Christine Licata (Provost Haefner's Delegate); Hans-Peter Bischof (GCCIS); Chip Sheffield (CIAS, At Large); Carol Woodlock (CIAS); Jayanti Venkataraman (KGC OE, At Large); Peter Lutz (GCCIS); Jeff Lasky (GCCIS)
Meeting Location	CST Rm 82-1150
Checklist Complete?	Yes
Concerns?	<p>No major concerns sited. Type 2 conversion due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program title change, Old Program Title: <u>Information Technology</u> New Program Title: <u>Information Sciences and Technologies</u> • Substantive changes (1/3 more in program outcomes) • Program Options changes <p>Additional required documents to send to NYSED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course proposal form for 3 SCH Capstone course (team based) • Course proposal form for 6 SCH Project (individually based) <p>Required changes to documentation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Program title on 1st page of state form should include both the old name and proposed new name title 2. Part B. of the NYSED form should include both the old and new options names 3. Expanded rationale for new program title on Part C. of the NYSED form 4. More descriptive title for the ISTE-610 Information Sciences and Technologies I course 5. More descriptive title for the ISTE-610 Information Sciences and Technologies II course 6. Course number change for ISTE-720 to a 600 level course 7. Update Table 1b reflecting Changes 5. and 6. 8. Update Table 2 with comments on which courses are being deleted

	<p>from this curriculum but still being taught for use in other programs</p> <p>9. Updated Outcome #1 on the submitted documentation to reflect what was presented in the presentation.</p>
Discussion	<p>The proposed semester-based program is a near direct conversion from the current quarter-based model (48 QCH to 30 SCH). The program is a Type 2 conversion due to a proposed name change: <u>Information Sciences and Technologies</u> from <u>Information Technology</u>. Also, substantive changes were made to the program outcome and options/concentrations have been modified. The program was first approved and first offered in 1995. Over time, the program served as a container for a large number of IT sub-disciplines including: programming, application development, software project management, database and knowledge management, interactive media, game design and development, web systems and technologies, Human-computer interaction, networking, security, and systems administration, eLearning technologies. The sub-disciplines matured and developed into separate disciplines and degrees: MS Human-Computer Interaction, MS Networking and Systems Administration, MS Computing Security and Information Assurance, and MS Game Design and Development. The current program has 220 active matriculated students with 42 newly matriculated students for the 2010-2011 AY (95% intend to study fulltime, 64% are international students, and 12% are female). Several external trends were considered in conversion of MS Information Technology including: computing becoming ubiquitous and accessible, Internet is becoming ubiquitous (primary channel for distribution of information of all kinds), and the development of very large collections of data in digital form. The primary motivation for the name change is to be more consistent with the program's explicit focus on the application of information processing technologies to enhance information value. Also, the emergence of information sciences is often termed informatics and to distance program from certain meanings attached to Information Technology such as Networking and Corporate Computing. Information Science is an interdisciplinary discipline primarily concerned with the collection, transformation, organization, storage, analysis, retrieval and dissemination of information. The revised program goal is to <u>prepare graduates to work and to be engaged in the field of information sciences and technologies</u>. The revised program outcomes are: 1) Engage with academic or professional communities of practice interested in the information sciences and technologies; 2) Apply specialized analytical and technical skills to a domain of work; 3) Design information services to enhance the value of information; and 4) Explore/extend creative uses of emerging information technologies. The program focus is a balance between information technologies and the use of these technologies to enhance the value of information. The new proposed program structure includes 4 foundation/core courses (12 SCH total); 4-5 track courses (4 courses comprise a track from a list of 5 available courses) depending on which culminating element is chose; and the culminating element (a 3 SCH team based Capstone project, or a 6 SCH individual project, or a 6 SCH thesis). The thesis option is rarely used currently. The curriculum has the following entrance requirement: 1 year</p>

programming; 1 database type course; statistics type course; and web experience). Bridge courses are available and normally are taken in summer prior to entering the program. The new proposed program contains 4 tracks: Information Management and Database Technology; Web Systems and Integration Technologies; Discovery Informatics; and a Special Topics track. 12 tracks are being eliminated from the program. The culminating element is either a 3 SCH team based Capstone project, or a 6 SCH individually based Project, or a 6 SCH Thesis.

-Agamemnon Crassidis: wondered how a 700 level course (ISTE-720) could be a prerequisite for two 600 level courses (ISTE-610 and ISTE-620)?

-Ans from Jeff Lasky: the ISTE-720 is a bridge course and would expected and equivalent course. It is offered in the summer so students go take the bridge course prior to entering the program.

-Christine Licata: indicated that the course number for ISTE-720 should be at the 600 level if it is a bridge course.

-Ans from Jeff Lasky: agreed to make it a 600 level course. Documentation will be updated to reflect the change.

-Agamemnon Crassidis: wondered how both ISTE-610 Information Sciences and Technologies I and both ISTE-612 Information Sciences and Technologies II can be taken in the same semester. Asked if ISTE-610 was a pre or co-requisite for ISTE-612?

-Ans from Jeff Lasky: really two separate course with similar but different content.

-Agamemnon Crassidis: proposed a more descriptive title for both the ISTE-610 and ISTE-612 courses to indicate the different content?

-Ans from Jeff Lasky: agreed to change the course titles.

-Don Wilson: asked what is in the Capstone project?

-Ans from Jeff Lasky: students are provided large set of data such as patient records and are posed a question to the project that is required to be solved. Capstone is team based with students from each track on the team if possible.

-Don Wilson: asked if this was project?

-Ans from Jeff Lasky: no since it is a course with little independent work unlike the 6 SCH project.

-Christine Licata: indicated that the difference between the Capstone project course and project must be specified and explain how the project and/or Capstone course is a culminating experience.

-Ans from Jeff Lasky: will include explanation in the course proposal forms.

-Carol Woodlock: stated that she was impressed that the semester process was used to redevelop the program. Asked if the program coordinators have looked outside RIT to see what other similar programs are doing and how the RIT program is distinct compared to those programs?

-Ans from Jeff Lasky: 90% of external reviews focused on Discovery Informatics (only 2 programs in the US encompass this area). The Information track is standard in the US and Web Development track is bit unique to RIT.

-Christine Licata: indicated that both the old and new option names need to

be included in Part B. of the NYSED form. Also, Part C. of the NYSED form requires a better expanded explanation of the proposed program title name change similar to what has been shown in the presentation.

-Ans from Jeff Lasky: assured the Graduate Council membership the documents will be updated.

-Christine Licata: wondered if the deleted courses shown in Table 2 were deleted from the program curriculum or are some still be offered to be used for other programs?

-Ans from Jeff Lasky: some will still be offered.

-Christine Licata: asked if comments can be included in Table 2 to reflect which courses will still be offered but deleted from the curriculum.

-Ans from Jeff Lasky: assured the Graduate Council membership the Table 2 will be updated to reflect which courses are being deleted from the curriculum but still being offered.

-Christine Licata: noted that Outcome #1 needed to be updated in the forms to be consistent to what was shown in the ppt presentation?

-Ans from Jeff Lasky: assured the Graduate Council membership Outcome #1 will be updated in the documentation.

-Hans-Peter Bischof: had a concern that the individual project was 6 SCH like the thesis?

-Ans from Jeff Lasky: ensured the Graduate Council membership that the work performed project is actually more than a thesis and the number of SCHs is therefore appropriate.

Vote Tally	Approve: 12	Not Approve: 0	Abstain: 0
Signature	Agamemnon Crassidis	<i>Agamemnon Crassidis</i>	