

## Strategic Advisory Board Conference Call Minutes Monday, December 19, 2011

The NC State University Department of Computer Science Strategic Advisory Board met via conference call on Monday, December 19, 2011. Below is a summary of the discussion points.

**Identified Participants** – S. Worth, H. Miller, L. Harrell, J. Crume, T. Beyene, W. Clark, J. Faulkner, G. Keller, R. McIsaac, D. Ramoneda, G. Rouskas, M. Squire, K. Tate, D. Thompson, T. Tolle, M. Vouk, E. Wagner:

**Department Update** - Dr. Vouk & K. Tate provided an update on noteworthy departmental awards, highlights and indices since our last meeting in April 2011. Solid year so far, despite the budgetary woes. Good news is that we now have a budget and are functioning on a more normal basis. Demand for graduates has increased, with almost 100% of our Dec grads having jobs before end of semester (those who didn't, appear to have wanted a break). CSC applications and enrollments up across the board (fall enrollments - UG 680, MS 411, PhD 174 for a total of 1,265). Incoming fall class may be strongest ever. All three FI talks drew SRO crowds. Wozniak cancelled January talk due to increased demand post Steve Jobs' death; looking at a date in early 2013 to possibly launch grand opening of the new Hunt Library. Dr. Annie Anton named one of eHow's "Shift 100" – list of 100 women changing the world! Drs. Laurie Williams and Frank Mueller named as ACM Distinguished Scientists. Dr. George Rouskas named an IEEE Fellow. Alumnus and former SAB member, Jesse Fearington recently finalized estate plans with a \$500K endowment gift to the department.

**Feedback Opportunities** - Dr. Vouk provided three timely topics that he wants & needs industry feedback on. The topical areas will be summarized on the SAB MemberHub for ongoing virtual discussion and may become the focus of more in-depth discussions during our April face-to-face meeting. The items were:

- **Masters Program** – We have a very large master's program and the number of applicants continues to grow. The justification for having such a large program has been that our graduates are in high demand by leading companies, and we are providing a vital service in meeting the talent needs of our state and nation. However, actions and support tend to suggest that the legislature, and the university and college leadership, do not seem to agree. As a result, we have been put in a "no-win" situation in which we simply don't get the support needed to adequately run a masters program of our size. As a result, the department leadership is considering the possibility of reducing the size of the masters program, during a period when the demand for qualified technical personnel has never been greater. The question to the SAB – What is the overall industry demand for our masters degree talent? And if industry leaders

think we need to continue supporting a larger masters program because it is of substantial benefit to them, our state and country, how can they voice support in a way that the legislature and university leadership understand the need and potential impact of a reduction in talent.

- **Multi-disciplinary Masters Program** – The College of Management has approached us with the concept of a new professional masters degree, a CSC/MBA degree that might qualify for premium tuition. Is this idea something that is of interest to industry? J. Faulkner thought the idea sounded very attractive, and W. Clark said that he had been advocating this for years, that many other schools have done so with great success.
- **Virtualizing Centennial Campus** – The original vision for Centennial Campus has been taking shape for about 30 years, but campus leaders have now begun to think beyond that vision and ask if Centennial Campus will be able to meet the needs of the state and region with its current linear brick-and-mortar build-out plans. Dr. Vouk, Dennis Kekas and others on campus have been asked to consider what the vision of a Virtual Centennial Campus might look like, with a vision of shaping the digital fog to increase utilization of resources and dramatically increase the footprint of the campus. Both BTEC and the FREEDOM Center were discussed as great examples of virtualization potential. They are currently trying to assess the demand for such a vision, and to identify potential partners to help build the vision and make the virtual Centennial Campus a living laboratory. Charts on the subject have been included with this mailing and will be located in the “Files” section of the SAB MemberHub.

**New Member Selection** – With four members departing after our spring meeting, Ken offered four new member names for the groups consideration and feedback including Chuck Musciano (CIO of Martin Marietta Material and active member of the SIM Organization), Mike Huska (alum and CIO of Incential Software, Inc.), Jerry Frederick (alum and SVP at Bank of America), and Gareth Stageman (Director at Deutsche Bank Global Technology). Barring any feedback from the current members, all will be submitted to Dr. Vouk for his consideration and action.

**Spring Mtg** – Our annual meeting here in Raleigh on Centennial Campus will be on **Thursday, April 12th, 8:30 am - 4 pm**. Tentative plans also include a reception/dinner (5:30-7:30) on April 11th. We may conduct a new member orientation via conference call in advance of the meeting. Commitment made to structure agenda to be much more interactive. More details to follow on this event, but please mark your calendar and make your travel plans now. Also, **pls send Ken any suggestions you have for the agenda**.