Southern Connecticut State University

College of Education

Department of Information and Library Science

Information and Library Science Advisory Board Meeting

Friday, November 17, 2023

1:00 – 3:00 P.M.

Virtual

UNAPPROVED

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Bernhey, Dr. Beth, Mr. DeMilia, Mr. Farara, Dr. Kim, Ms. Knapp, Dean Langley (Chair), Ms. Minichiello, Ms. Paolini, Mr. Piezzo, Dr. Schander, Dr. Shaw

GUEST

Dr. Soroya

RECORDER

 Ms. Opalenik

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

1:00 P.M.

INTRODUCTIONS

Three new board members and one new ILS faculty member:

Amy Beth, Director of Library Services, SCSU

Maria Bernhey, City Librarian, New Haven Free Public Library

Julianna Paolini, Graduate Student Representative, SCSU

Saira Soroya, Associate Professor, SCSU

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Motion to approve previous minutes by Dr. Mr. DeMilia and seconded by Dean Langley

Motion: to approve the minutes from March 15, 2023

Vote: all in favor 10; opposed 0; abstained 2

BUSINESS

* MLIS enrollment & Percentage of Minority Students;

Dr. Kim reported that since the new MLIS program was launched in the fall of 2016, enrollment has increased 17% each year. The trend continues; however, it is anticipated that the numbers will level off at 200 students. Citing that there are many online library programs to choose from today.

The minority enrollment has also seen an increase. One out of five students fall into this category.

The IMS B.S. program will close at the end of the fall 2024 semester. All ten students are on track to complete their degrees.

The COE Dean recognizes that the ILS Department is running at full capacity.

* TK20/BB9 Data Collection and Summary (Fall 2022);
	+ TK20 ($130) and Blackboard9 (Free) from Spring 2023

In the past, prior to the spring 2023 semester, students had to purchase a TK20 Account for $130 for TK20 data collection. In the spring 2023 semester the transition to the BB9 platform began and now, all data collection is available on BB9. BB9 is free for students. It is anticipated there will be additional minor tweaks made to the data collection this semester, however, overall results are good from the spring 2023 semester.

The results of the summary report for fall 2022 semester are good. The rubric data is based on Student Learning Outcomes. Each course data is analyzed by the teaching professor for strengths and weaknesses. Based on the results, an Action Plan is developed. Lastly, Cumulative Observations are made. All this information is to help strengthen the course. The professor will incorporate any necessary revisions before the course is offered again.

* New Accelerated 4 + 1 Pathway;
	+ B.A. History + MLIS

The B.A. History + MLIS pathway has been approved and will be released in the next academic year. Seniors can take two ILS courses in each of their last two semesters. In the fifth year, students will work towards completing their MLIS degree.

A new Accelerated 4 + 1 Pathway (B.A. ENG + MLIS) was also pursued and voted down by the English Department Faculty Members, citing that too many ENG electives would be given up. The ILS Faculty Members will revisit this option again later.

* New “Academic Library” Concentration;
	+ ILS 525: Collection Development and Management
	+ ILS 536: Academic Libraries (new course)
	+ ILS 575: Instructional Design Principles
	+ ILS 590: Research in Library and Information Science

The new Academic Library concentration was released this semester and is showing promising results. There are no academic credentials shown on the student’s transcript upon completion of this concentration. Students looking for employment in an academic library setting will be advised to follow this concentration. Development of this concentration was based on a meeting with Ms. Rockenbach, Yale University Librarian, and her team’s interests and support in hiring more MLIS students and by providing internship opportunities. It continues with their efforts to connect with the New Haven community.

* Review of the results of a Graduate Spring/Summer 2023 Exit Survey;

Dr. Kim reviewed the results of the Graduate Spring and Summer 2023 Exit Survey. He identified two areas of concern, first, addressing and improving faculty member advisement. The return rate on Student Progress Reports has been slowly declining. And second, not being able to provide enough electives. Faculty members continue to develop new courses and hope to alleviate the shortfall soon.

* ILS Department SWOT Analysis

Every few years, the ILS Department completes a SWOT Analysis. The ILS Board’s input is important. Dr. Kim reviewed the department’s new SWOT Analysis. Below are some of the Board’s comments.

Strengths

Support from COE Dean, SCSU, and leadership

Support from CT libraries

Weaknesses

Technology retraining to keep faculty members current

Require programs that support both theory and practice

Opportunities

Continue efforts to expand outside of CT

Threats

No comments

Please send any additional comments to Dr. Kim, kimh1@southernct.edu

* Other
	+ Planning of a Stakeholder Meeting in the fall of 2024. More information will be forthcoming at the next meeting.
	+ Many of the ILS alums are doing splendid work in their fields. It was suggested to follow up to see where they have landed.

NEXT MEETING

 TBA

MEETING ADJOURNED

 3:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Opalenik, Recorder

Department of Information and Library Science