



**Computer Information Systems Advisory Committee**

**Meeting Date:** April 14, 2025

**External Participants:**

David Klick – Retired Kishwaukee College Computer Information Systems Professor

Vickie Klick – Distinguished Member of Technical Staff, Nokia

Dale Boughton – Services Manager, SunDogIT, Inc.

**Internal Participants:**

Barbara Leach – Vice-President of Instruction

RJ McGarry – Executive Director of Campus Operations & Technology

Jescelynn Gibbons – Associate Dean of Instruction

Paul Gullman – Computer Information Systems Faculty

Pam Pascolini – Office Systems Faculty

Terry Lyn Funston – Director of Curriculum and Program Development

**I. College Updates**

**A. Costs to Kish Students**

- i. Review of changes that were implemented in the 2024-2025 academic year and discussion of proposed changes for 2025-2026 academic year.
  1. In 2024-25, the College completed the elimination of student fees and provided clarity to students in billing; easier for students to prepare for the costs of college.
  2. Textbook costs and affordability have been a high priority. In 2025-26, the College proposed a tuition increase that would cover the costs for textbooks and digital materials for students. This would simplify the process of acquiring books and save students money during their time at the College.
    - a. Summer 2025 semester “All In” program will be implemented. Increased tuition by \$8. The final cost is \$160 per credit hour and will include students’ textbook(s) for the semester.



II. Program Updates

A. Spring 2025 Enrollment

- i. College-Wide Growth: Enrollment has increased by 11.3% over Spring 2024.
- ii. Computer Information Systems: The Computer Information Systems (CIS) program recorded 538 credit hours in Spring 2025, reflecting a 5.9% increase over Spring 2024.

B. Program Facilities and Modalities

- i. New Location: The CIS program has transitioned to the A1300 Conference Center wing.
- ii. Hybrid Offerings: Expanded options now allow students to attend courses either on-campus or virtually.
- iii. Increased Face-to-Face Opportunities: Greater availability of in-person classes.
- iv. Enhanced Modalities: Combining asynchronous, synchronous, and hybrid formats expands student access and flexibility
- v. Designated Computer Information Systems lab in Fall 2025
  1. This will provide an opportunity for open lab hours and enhanced hands-on learning.
  2. The lab will include physical hardware, allowing students to install software. Different components will be utilized for students to assess and test while learning how to troubleshoot.

III. Employer and Industry Update

A. Industry Update/Employer Needs

- i. Trends
  1. Increasing use of AI in the industry. Teaching students how to debug and trouble shoot using AI.
  2. AI provides potential to increase productivity and automate tasks.
- ii. Skills in Demand
  1. Employability skills are critical. Continuing to teach students the importance of customer service skills and de-escalation techniques.
  2. Continue focusing on developing students' critical thinking and troubleshooting skills.
- iii. Industry Shifts
  1. Due to new administration and tariffs, many companies are holding back on spending and capital improvements.



B. Curriculum Feedback

- i. CIS 182 and CIS 282 (Currently Windows-Focused):
  - 1. Courses should emphasize core server functionality applicable across multiple operating systems such as Windows, Linux, Azure, AWS, and others.
- ii. CIS 283 and CIS 285
  - 1. CIS 283 and CIS 285 have shared learning outcomes and content. The department proposed merging the two courses into one course. The committee agreed and the department will work with the Curriculum committee to move forward.
  - 2. Integrate AI exposure and ethics into curriculum.
  - 3. Continue to work on reviewing and updating student learning outcomes for CIS courses.
- iii. Continue to incorporate AI into curriculum and teach students how to appropriately verify information for AI sources.