

Minutes from July 26, 2024 Zoom Meeting

+ we only need two people to be Club Officers, President and

Treasurer, since both of them can serve as Even Planners. three

students have come forward expressing interest in being club

officers and they have been sent an email telling them how to get

UMB club officer training

+ a mail ballot will be sent out to all club members listing the

students who have taken the training and the 4 possible officer

positions

+ two new people were asked to tell us a little about themselves

+ we talked about the old Unix lab and what a great place it was. it

was just down the hall from the CS office and both CS and IT

students would hang out, help each other and socialize. when the old

Science building was torn down, we were given a room to replace it,

but the room is at the other end of the building from CS office on

the 3rd floor of McCormack and no one uses it, so it's not

really a

replacement for the old Unix room. we need to encourage people to hang out there so they can meet other students

+ every IT student needs a network of people who work in IT. they need that for help in learning new technologies, to learn about job prospects and to share their experiences

+ we will have two Zoom meetings each month. a mailing will be sent out to determine the best times for everyone. we might have each meeting at a different day of the week to give more people a chance to attend

+ Glenn will be going to the CS Lab a few days each month to help students and encourage them to hang out there

+ it's important for IT people to get in the habit of talking to people. it's very important for career advancement

+ at some time Tom Mullaly, the CS head sysop, will conduct a tour of the small server room in the CS office area explaining what goes on there

+ there was an IT Club many years ago and it set up a Discord server,
which is still up and running. there is a link on the Club web site
(<https://www.cs.umb.edu/itclub/>) that will bring you to the Discord
server and allow you to create an account

+ a Club member wanted to find a group of people to study networking
together. they are talking to each other on the Dicord server and
Tom has given them some spare equipment to play with to help them
learn

+ discussion of some of the benefits of joining the club

- getting help with questions or problems
- learning about new developments in IT
- information about classes and instructors
- meeting other people in the IT field
- chance to learn new skills
- anything you do with the Club can be put on your resume

- group study sessions to prepare for certification test

- chance to work on projects

+ discussion of volunteer opportunities

- create video tutorials
- create cheat sheets
- work on Club projects
- sign up for a shift in the CS Lab helping students

- + Dhriti said that the IT Club could help women share ideas about dealing with some of the unique problems of women in IT
- + Chantelle said the club should have a project to reach out to other students to demystify IT and show that it is not as difficult as some people think. she will write up
- + Glenn is going to try to spend a couple of hours in the CS lab on Wednesdays for the first few weeks of the semester
- + Gael thought it would be a good idea to create something like a cheat sheet for people new to IT. Glenn will work with him on this
- + we should send out an email asking students about what they would like to learn more about
- + Dhriti, Julia and Chantelle talked about their experiences doing presentations
- + Chantele talked about an IT Fair
- + Ledoux said he was a video creator and a photographer

so he could

help with video tutorials and similar projects

+ we talked about a skills assesment. we could send out a email asking

members what they know, are pretty good at, and would be willing to

contribute those skills to a club project

+ Dhriti thought this could be done with a Google form.

Dhriti and

Chantelle volunteered to work on this

+ Dhriti talked about the Club Instagram account and asked for

volunteers to help her

+ Dhriti sugested we create a IT Club presence on Linked In

+ Chantelle said we should be on BelInvolved. there is already an

account, but we need to be an official club before we can use it

+ Chantelle said we need 20 signatures to make the Club official

+ we looked at the IT Club web site

+ Tom has created a directory on the Unix filesystem for

the IT

Club. The web site is located there. the group associated with this

directory is itclub. right now Tom and Glenn are the only members of

the group, but we can added anyone who needs access

+ all club members should improve their skills on the Unix command

line. without that ability you are greatly limited in what you can

do it IT

+ Tom talked about access to the data center for the CS department. in

the old Science building the data center was right next to the Unix

lab. Ric Martin, who used to have Tom's job, was able to work with

the student operators and give them hands on experience with a

working data center. we were promised the same setup the when the CS

department moved to McCormack, but we did not get it. instead, most

of the machines in the CS data center where moved to the campus data

center where no one from the CS department has access. Tom has a

small room with some servers in it but it is not as big as the

campus data center. this means CS and IT students are

denied an

opportunity for hands on experience that we used to have. in the old

setup the operators worked in a room next to the data center and the Unix lab.

now the operators work in the CS lab on the third floor of McCormack

far away from the real data center, which means they have very

little hands on experience. the lab fees that all students pay

finances the data center and they are not getting the value for

money that they used to enjoy

+ in the small room where Tom has some network equipment, he is trying

to install equipment that is not doing anything mission critical but

that students can use to get some hand on experience

+ Tom wants to move the IT Lab to another room and use it for an

office and a data center room. he would like the IT Club member to

help put pressure and the administration to make this happen, since

student lab fees support our network infrastructure

