

Management & IS Department Chair's Report, Fall 2021

**prepared for the Spring 2021 IT Alliance Zoom Meeting
7:30-9:30 a.m., Friday, December 10, 2021**



Romain College of Business

I would like to take this opportunity to thank...

- It Alliance members, for your unconditional support.
- Alan Letterman, ITA Chair, and Chair-Elect David Smith, for their leadership and continuous support for our CIS and CS Programs and activities.
- Interim-Dean Brian McGuire, for his inspiring leadership and support of our departmental programs and activities.
- Gongjun, Josh, and their CS and CIS students, who worked so hard on the senior projects they presented today.
- My hard-working, dedicated colleagues.

Department Updates, Fall, 2021

- We have a new CIS colleague, Ms. Jiaying Liu, from Louisiana State University, who started teaching this fall.

She is ABD and in the final stages of completing her Ph.D. Her expertise is in MIS, Data Analytics, Database Management and R (Programming language)

Jiaying, please stand and introduce yourself.

- We are also conducting two faculty searches:
 1. for a tenure-track CIS position with expertise in Cybersecurity.
 2. for a full-time instructor in CS

Department Updates, Fall, 2021

- In addition to our existing Data Analytics for Business Certificate and Cyber Security Certificate for traditional students, we also implemented the new online accelerated BUAD degree for adult learners this fall.
- A new Supply Chain Management Certificate, consisting of three courses and a directed elective, has been approved and will be offered in fall, 2022.

Courses include

MNGT - 331 - Supply Chain Management

MNGT - 332 - Managing Warehousing and Transportation

MNGT - 333 - Global Supply Chain Management and Risk Assessment

Department Updates, Fall, 2021 (cont.)

CIS/CS colleagues participated in JobSpark:

- Four of our CIS and CS faculty participated in JobSpark, a technology career-awareness program for middle/high school students offered through Junior Achievement and sponsored by RCOB alumna and current Berry Global CIO, Debbie Garrison.
- This virtual event made students aware of career options and the exciting topics they can learn about in our RCOB courses.

Presentations included:

- Dr. Xue Han-“Hello World”-- an example of simple coding
- Ms. Jiaying Liu- data visualization and story telling
- Mr. Josh McWilliams – examples of student consulting projects
- Mr. Kasra Pourang – AI and machine learning

Department Updates, Fall, 2021 (cont.)

- **Prep for Senior Projects Course**

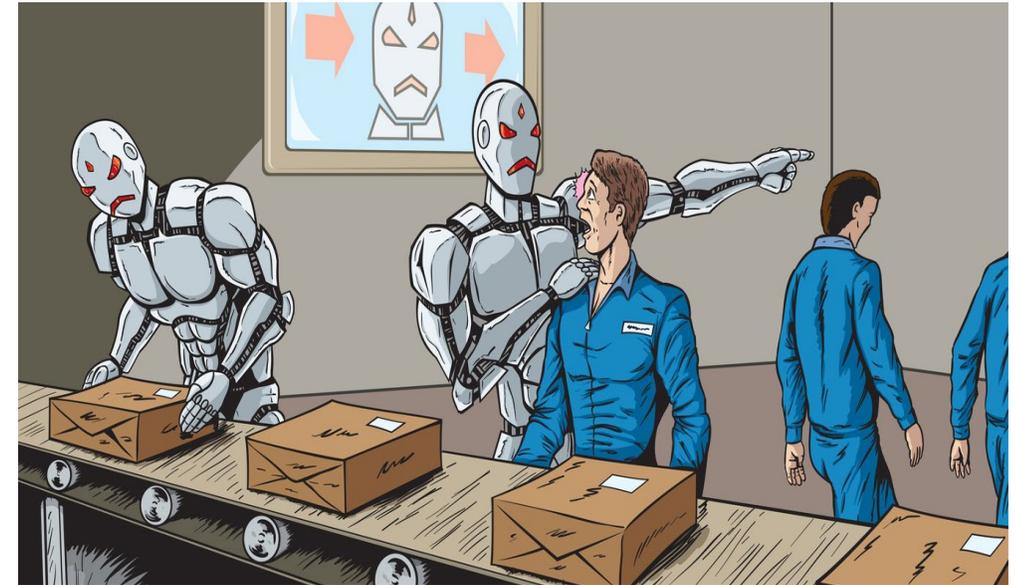
In addition to the CIS and CS courses that prepare students for the Senior Projects courses, Dr. Xue Han uses short projects in his CS478 course to prepare them for advanced coding in their senior projects.

The four projects are:

1. NLBG.STORE: Billiards Gear Selling System
2. Rose the Demon Slayer: An Action-Adventure, Metroidvania-Style Video Game
3. Atari AI Agent: Beat Atari Games with Machine Learning and Computer Vision
4. Chess

What is Next

- With the fast pace of the integration of IT and AI in the workplace (digital transformation), employee skill gaps are quickly widening.
- To address these gaps, we are **exploring the possibility** of developing other relevant micro-credential certificates, such as coding/programming, web/ecommerce, software engineering, and CIS and CS MBA concentrations.
- We are securing additional faculty resources to address these needs.



Thank you for attending today's meeting

Your feedback and guidance are enlightening and inspiring—and always highly valued by all of us.