Mission Statement

The mission of the Master of Science in Accounting Information Technology (MSAIT) program is to prepare students for successful careers in the accounting and information technology professions. The MSAIT program emphasizes oral and written communication, information technology, and technical and research skills needed for a careers in accounting and information technology.

Evidence of Improvement

In the academic year (AY) 2018-2019, Master of Science in Accounting Information Technology students were assessed on their ability of critical thinking, information technology, and communication. By comparing to prior results, the assessment indicates improvement in the following areas:

Outcome 3: Students will conceptualize a complex issue into a coherent written or oral statement. To fulfill the written portion of the outcome, the student will develop well-written reports, memos, and projects that explain findings, organize ideas into a coherent train of thought, and justify a conclusion or recommendation. Students will make effective oral presentations that explain findings, organize ideas into a coherent train of thought, and justify a conclusion or recommendation
Method 2: Student presentations
For ACC 5375 (Business Consulting), there has been improvement. Overall rigor was increased and writing in the class of spring 2019 exceeded performance in previous classes.

Outcome 5: The academic program will promote and realize gains in student success.
Method 2: The number of graduates from the academic program
There has been improvement, from 26.7% to 55.6% of students graduating from the program.

Action Plan

In the AY 2018-2019, MSAIT students showed substantial improvement on two of the six outcomes. However, regarding the method 1 of outcome 1 (information technology skills) in CIS 5368 (Information Security), the results did not meet the expectation. Compared to 2017-2018, the students in 2018-2019 perform with less success in learning information security. Details of specific action plans for each course used to help students meet the learning outcomes established for the MSAIT program are provided in detail for each course.

Outcome 1

Students will use information technology skills in decision making at a level expected of a master's student for practice in accounting and information technology. Students will learn to use information technology (IT) and be able to apply IT in analysis.

Outcome 1 - Method 1

CIS 5355 (Database Management Systems) and CIS 5368 (Information Security) will use exam-embedded questions. It is expected that 80% of the students will answer 85% or more questions correctly.

Outcome 1 - Method 1 - Result

Results:
During the 2018 fall semester, students enrolled in the CIS 5355, Database Management Systems, were assessed by the instructor. The results had 100% of the students scoring above an 85%. Also, students enrolled in the CIS 5368, Information Security, were assessed by the instructor. The results had 25 % of the students scoring above an 85%.
Action Plan:
For CIS 5355, since 100% of the students meet expectations, current presentations and evaluation of the course content will continue. For CIS 5368, the instructor will give practice how to write an explanation.

Outcome 1 - Method 2

CIS 5355 (Database Management Systems) and CIS 5368 (Information Security) will use a rubric to evaluate a set of out-of-class individual assignments/projects. It is expected that 80% of students will meet or exceed expectation with respect to their ability to use IT and be able to apply IT in analysis as defined by the rubric.

Outcome 1 - Method 2 - Result

Results:

During the 2018 fall semester, students enrolled in the CIS 5355, Database Management Systems, were assessed by the instructor. The results had 100 % of the students scoring above an 85%. Also, students enrolled in the CIS 5368, Information Security, were assessed by the instructor. The results had 100 % of the students scoring above an 85%.

Action Plan:

Since 100% of the students meet expectations, current presentations and evaluation of the related course content will continue.

Outcome 2

Students will apply analytical and critical thinking skills to evaluate information, solve problems, and make sound decisions in accounting and information technology problems. Students will synthesize and evaluate the relevance of data and demonstrate analytical and critical thinking skills in exploring new questions, analyzing complex issues from multiple perspectives and arrive at reasoned conclusions.

Outcome 2 - Method 1

CIS 5355 (Database Management Systems) will use a rubric to evaluate a set of out-of-class individual assignments/projects. It is expected that 80% of students will meet or exceed expectations relating to a student's ability to apply accounting and information technology knowledge in new and unfamiliar circumstances as defined by the rubric.

Outcome 2 - Method 1 - Result

Results:

The ability to develop relational database and write SQL queries for given scenarios was tested through assignments. The results had 100 % of the students meeting or exceeding the expectations.

Action Plan:

The approach to enhance understanding by discussing additional examples worked well. Thus, this approach will be used in future semesters.

Outcome 2 - Method 2

In ACC 5375 (Business Consulting), projects will be used to assess students' ability to apply accounting and IT knowledge. The projects will be assessed using a rubric. It is expected that 80% of students will meet or exceed expectations as defined by the rubric.

Outcome 2 - Method 2 - Result

Results:

During the 2018-2019 fall and spring semesters, students enrolled in the ACC 5375, Business Consulting, were assessed by the instructor. The ability to understand consulting concepts was tested through a series of four in-class quizzes covering consulting concepts. The results had 86 % of the students meeting or exceeding the expectations.

Action Plan:

Rigor will remain the same. Greater emphasis will be placed on quiz preparation.

Outcome 3

Students will conceptualize a complex issue into a coherent written or oral statement. To fulfill the written portion of the outcome, the student will develop well-written reports, memos, and projects that explain findings, organize ideas into a coherent train of thought, and justify a conclusion or recommendation. Students will make effective oral presentations that explain findings, organize ideas into a coherent train of thought, and justify a conclusion or recommendation

Outcome 3 - Method 1

CIS 5368 (Information Security) will use out-of-class individual assignments/projects. The instructor will use a rubric to evaluate the set of out-of-class assignments. It is expected that 80% of the students will meet or exceed expectations established for written and oral communication skills as defined by the rubric.

Outcome 3 - Method 1 - Result

Results:

During the fall semester of 2018, students enrolled in the CIS 5368, Information Security, were assessed by the instructor. Students were assigned a project to present and PowerPoint slides were assessed. Students were provided a sample PowerPoint presentation used as guidelines for making their presentations. The results had 100% of the students meeting or exceeding the expectations.

Action Plan:

The course instructor will continue providing examples of PowerPoint presentations and discussing ways of effective communications.

Outcome 3 - Method 2

Oral communication skills will be assessed through student presentations in ACC 5375 (Business Consulting). A rubric will be used for the assessment. It is expected that 80% of students will meet or exceed expectations as defined by the rubric.

Outcome 3 - Method 2 - Result

Results:

During the 2018-2019 fall and spring semesters, consulting skills were assessed on style, flow, and analytical content based on a project's proposal and final report. The results had 100 % of the students meeting or exceeding the expectations. Students were provided with several examples of actual consulting proposals and two examples of a consultant's final report. Overall rigor was increased and writing in the class of spring 2019 exceeded performance in previous classes.

Action Plan:

Since 100% of the students meet expectations after increased scoring rigor, current presentations and evaluation of the related course content will continue.

Outcome 4

Students will understand the importance of group dynamics in achieving organizational goals and use the skills needed for effective teamwork. Students will demonstrate an ability to work effectively in teams.

Outcome 4 - Method 1

In CIS 5358 (Agile Project Management), students will be assigned to teams to work on a project or projects. Various aspects of effective, quality teamwork will be assessed based on a rubric. It is expected that 80% of students will meet or exceed expectations as defined by the rubric.

Outcome 4 - Method 1 - Result

During the spring semester of 2019, 18 students enrolled in the CIS 5358, Agile Project Management, were assessed by the instructor. Various group

project deliverables were assigned throughout the semester. Teamwork quality of product backlog, sprint backlogs, sprint review, and sprint retrospective, in addition to quality of final project deliverable were used for the assessment. The results had 95 % of the students meeting or exceeding the expectations (10% exceeding expectations, and 85% meeting expectations)

Comparing data from last year and proposed action plans: Add more interactive exercises (was not able to do that due to challenges with 2 sections), More active coaching on project (this was worse than last year with the 2 sections), Larger % grade for project (decided against this, considering lack of technical skill on team)

Instructor suggests the following action plan: Teach 2 sections separately. Explain better teamwork aspect of project and that everyone must participate.

Outcome 4 - Method 2

CIS 5355 (Data Management Systems) will use an out-of-class group projects to assess this skill, using a rubric. It is expected that 80% of students will meet or exceed expectations as defined by the rubric.

Outcome 4 - Method 2 - Result

A small group project requiring students to write a term paper for a database related topic was used for the assessment. The results had 75% of the students meeting or exceeding the expectations.

Action Plan:

Emphasis will be placed on explaining selection of an appropriate topic, and finding articles and working as a team to write the term paper.

Outcome 5

Goal:	1. Promote the success of all students.
Initiative:	1.3 Increase student retention and graduation rates.

The academic program will promote and realize gains in student success.

Outcome 5 - Method 1

Student retention success will be measured by observing one year retention rates of students enrolled in the academic program from their first to second year. Data will be obtained from the university's certified enrollment records at the end of the fall semester. Rates of retention success will be expected to be at or above the university average for this level of program.

Outcome 5 - Method 1 - Result

The number of entering students enrolled in the academic program who returned the second year provided the data to assess retention. In this program, 6 of the 6 entering students in 2017-2018 returned for their second year in fall of 2018 for a one-year retention rate of 100.0%.

Outcome 5 - Method 2

Student graduation success will be measured by observing the number of graduates from the academic program in during the fall, spring, and summer semesters and comparing the number of graduates to the number of students enrolled in the program. Data will be obtained from the

university's certified enrollment records for the fall, spring, and summer semesters. The number of graduates is expected to be at or above the university rate of graduation for this level of program.

Outcome 5 - Method 2 - Result

The number of students graduating from the degree program during the 2018-2019 fall, spring, and summer semesters along with the total number of students enrolled in the program provided the data to assess student graduation success. In this program, 10 of the 18 students enrolled in the program graduated in the fall, spring, and summer semesters for a graduation percentage of 55.6.

Outcome 6

Goal: 4. Provide the necessary services, resources, and infrastructure to support the university's strategic direction.
Initiative: 4.11 Provide programs and services that support and enhance the health and wellness of the university community.

The academic program will promote and realize diversity among its student population.

Outcome 6 - Method 1

Student gender diversity will be measured by reviewing the number and percentage of male and female students enrolled in the academic program during the fall, spring, and summer semesters. Data will be obtained from the university's certified enrollment records at the end of the fall semester. Student gender diversity will be expected to be balanced (50/50).

Outcome 6 - Method 1 - Result

The number of male verses female student enrolled in the academic program during the 2017 fall semester provided the gender data. In this program, 10 of the 18 students or 55.6% were female while 8 of the students or 44.4% were male. Compared to 2017-2018, the student population in 2018-2019 appears to represent a more balanced gender distribution.

Outcome 6 - Method 2

Student racial and ethnic diversity will be measured by observing race and ethnicity of students enrolled in the academic program during the fall, spring, and summer semesters. Data will be obtained from the university's certified enrollment records at the end of the fall semester. Student racial and ethnic diversity will be expected to mirror percentages in the population of the state of Texas.

Outcome 6 - Method 2 - Result

The number students of various ethnic backgrounds enrolled in the academic program during the 2018-2019 fall semester provided the data to assess ethnic and racial diversity. In this program, 1 of the 18 students or 5.6% (compared to 0.0% in 2017-2018) were African-American; 1 of the 18 students or 5.6% (compared to 0.0% in 2017-2018) were Hawaiian/Pacific Islander; 2 of the 18 students or 11.1% (compared to 6.7% in 2017-2018) were Asian; 7 of the 18 students or 38.9% (compared to 33.3% in 2017-2018) were Hispanic; 5 of the 18 students or 27.7% (compared to 33.3% in 2017-2018) were White, non-Hispanic; 0 of the 15 students or 0.0% (compared to 0% in 2017-2018) were of other minority or unknown backgrounds; 2 of the 18 students or 11.1% (compared to 26.7% in 2017-2018) were of nonresident International students. The student population in 2018-2019 appears to represent a diverse background.

Approval History

Approval History Event	Approver
Outcomes Approved Level 1	Ju Long (jl38)
Outcomes Approved Level 2	Denise Smart (ds37)
Outcomes Audit Report Submitted	William Chittenden (wc10)
Results Approved Level 1	Ju Long (jl38)
Results Approved Level 2	Denise Smart (ds37)
Results Audit Report Submitted	William Chittenden (wc10)