

**Jordan University of Science and Technology**

**Faculty of Computer and Information Technology**

**Department of Network Engineering and Security**

External Advisory Board-Meeting Minutes

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**Meeting No.:** 5

**Date:** 12/4/2021

**Time:** 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

**Place:** MS-Teams Platform

**Meeting Chair:** Dr. Omar Banimelhem

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**Attendees:**

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| 1. Eng. Amjad Frouqa          | Director of Quality Business Continuity, Umniah                       |
| 2. Mr. Ali Tamimi             | CEO and Founder, Hayyan Horizons.                                     |
| 3. Eng. Suleiman Oweis        | General Manager, Green Circle   |
| 4. Dr. Mahmoud Smadi          | Hashemite University, Zarqa-Jordan                                    |
| 5. Dr. Mahmoud A. Al shboul   | Deputy Director of Center of Excellence for Innovative Projects, JUST |
| 6. Dr. Moath Mowafi           | Director, JUST Cisco Academy  |
| 7. Dr. Ahmad Al- Hammouri     | Academic Staff Representative   |
| 8. Mr. Anas Khdairat          | NES Student Representative  |
| 9. Eng. Khaled W Al- radaydah | Alumni Representative   |

**Absent:**

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|-------------------------|---|
| 1. Eng. Mus'ab Mheidat  | General Manager, Networking Solutions & Services ( NSS )        |
| 2. Mr. Waleed Al Doulat | Chief Information technology, Orange                            |
| 3. Eng. Mohammad Jenini | Cisco Social Responsibility Program Manager, Levant and Bahrain |
| 4. Dr. Ahmad Shatnawi   | Manager, JUST SOC   |

**Agenda:**

1. Review the Program Educational Objectives for consistency with the institutional vision and mission.
2. Review the Program Educational Objectives for consistency with the department vision and mission.
3. Review the Program Educational Objectives for conformance with the industrial needs.
4. Evaluate the curriculum in terms of how it meets the industry's needs

**Meeting progress:**

1. The meeting started at 1:00 PM using the MS-Teams Platform with a brief welcoming message from the chair followed by asking the attendees to briefly introduce themselves, their professional background, and their expertise.
2. The chair updated the attendees about the application to ABET and that the department is in the process for applying to ABET this year.

The items on the agenda were then considered.

1. **Review the Program Educational Objectives for consistency with the institutional vision and mission.**

The EAB members found that the PEOs are consistent with the institutional vision and mission.

2. **Review the Program Educational Objectives for consistency with the department vision and mission.**

The EAB members were informed about rephrasing the mission statement base on the recommendation from the EAB in the last meeting on March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The EAB approved the new mission statement as follows:

**Mission:** The mission of the Department of Network Engineering and Security is to produce best quality Network Engineering and cybersecurity professionals by offering a broad-based education, encouraging life-long learning, fostering teamwork and leadership and promoting creativity and competitiveness. Furthermore, we support technological development and innovation and we deliver high-quality state-of-the-art research both theoretical and applied that meet the needs of industry and the local community.

3. **Review the Program Educational Objectives for conformance with the industrial needs.**

The EAB members agreed that the PEOs do conform to the industrial needs. No modifications were suggested.

The Chair asked the EAB members to consider the survey that was sent by email and it was added as an action item to be completed after the conclusion of the meeting.

4. **Evaluate the curriculum in terms of how it meets the industry's needs.**

The board members discussed several issues related to improving the quality of the graduates and to better meet the continuously evolving market needs:

- A. The board reemphasized the importance of project-based learning. The Chair and the Academic Staff Representatives gave examples of how such an approach is being taken in some courses on a minor scale.
- B. The board reemphasized on the importance that the graduates should have good presentation and communication skills. In addition of having the required skills for writing technical reports and working in teams.
- C. The board discussed the competitions that are organized locally, regionally, and international. There was a recommendation to encourage the students to participate in these competitions as these events motivate the students to improve and enhance their skills especially in the practical side.
- D. The board agreed that the students should be introduced to the newest trends and technologies in network engineering and security.
- E. The board recommended that the curriculum could be improved if it contains more courses in cybersecurity focusing on the practical side by increasing the number of Laboratories. The Chair and the Academic Staff emphasized that this issue will be

taken into consideration in the new curriculum where new courses and cybersecurity Laboratories will be added to the curriculum.

#### **Actions to be taken**

- After the meeting, an email was sent by the chair asking the EAB members to complete the survey.
- Discussing the recommendations, in the department council meeting, for improving the curriculum by adding new courses and Laboratories to the curriculum.
- Arranging for a meeting with the deputy director of Center of Excellence for Innovative Projects in JUST in order to introduce the students to the competitions that are administered or organized by the center.