

COLLEGE OF SAN MATEO

Business and technology Division · Computer and Information Science Department



Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Computer and Information Science Program

April 16, 2026

MEETING INFORMATION

DATE	Thursday, April 16, 2026
TIME	5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. (PT)
LOCATION	Zoom — https://smccd.zoom.us/j/86571099502
Chair	Kamran Eftekhari, Ph.D.
RECORDER	Kamran Eftekhari, Ph.D.

ATTENDANCE

FACULTY/ STAFF MEMBERS (6) • Hellen Pacheco • Anupriya Vysala • Mohammed Akhoirshida • Bryce Martens • Kamran Eftekhari • David Chin	INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES (6) • Hadi Asemi • Daniel Elfving • Erica Jin • Su Latt Phone • Joshua Magashazi • Stormy Maddox
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ABSENT (EXCUSED) (6)

Ms. Kimberly Roberts • Stephan Pieraldi • Myra Roldan • Tom Ryan • Hamid Rategh
• Brian Troy

Agenda Item 1 · Welcome & Introductions

The meeting commenced at 5:30 p.m. in a warm and collegial atmosphere. The Chair welcomed attendees, reviewed the agenda, and invited each participant — both faculty members and industry representatives — to introduce themselves and briefly describe their professional background and area of interest. Introductions established a strong foundation for the substantive discussions that followed.

Agenda Item 2 · Computer Science Education in the Era of AI

The Board engaged in a comprehensive discussion regarding the evolving landscape of computer science education in the era of artificial intelligence and machine learning. Faculty and industry representatives exchanged perspectives on the competencies students must develop in order to thrive in an AI-driven workforce.

Key themes that emerged from the conversation included:

- Strengthening foundational skills in mathematics, statistics, and computational thinking as essential prerequisites for AI literacy.
- Integrating practical, project-based learning experiences that expose students to current industry tools, frameworks, and workflows.
- Emphasizing ethics, responsible AI practices, and critical evaluation of model outputs as core elements of the curriculum.
- Cultivating durable skills — communication, collaboration, problem-solving, and adaptability — alongside technical competence.

Agenda Item 3 · Proposal Presentations

Professors Hellen Pacheco and Anupriya Vysala presented their proposal for a new Certificate of Achievement (COA) in Data Science. The presentation outlined the program rationale, target student population, course sequencing, learning outcomes, and articulation pathways with regional four-year institutions.

Following the presentation, the advisory board engaged in a constructive discussion. Industry representatives noted strong workforce demand for entry-level data science talent and offered the following recommendation:

- Incorporate the R programming language as a component within the Data Science course sequence to complement Python instruction and align with industry practice in statistical computing and analytics.

Agenda Item 4 · Approval of Proposals

Following deliberation, the advisory board moved to vote on the proposals presented. Both items below were unanimously approved:

- Certificate of Achievement (COA) in Data Science — Approved unanimously.
- Inclusion of an R programming language component within the Data Science course sequence — Approved unanimously.

The Chair thanked Professors Pacheco and Vysala for their thorough preparation and the board for their thoughtful input.

CLOSING REMARKS

The meeting concluded on a positive and forward-looking note. Members expressed enthusiasm regarding the approved proposals and their anticipated impact on student preparation, transfer outcomes, and workforce alignment. The Chair thanked all attendees for their continued partnership and dedication to the success of College of San Mateo students.

ADJOURNMENT

7:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

April 2027

Respectfully submitted,

Kamran Eftekhari, Ph.D.

Computer and Information Science Department · College of San Mateo