One issue that came up at grad review this year is that students who get their MS here and then are later admitted to the PhD have their deadline clock reset by the PhD admission. For example, a student may come here for 3 years in the MS program and then switch to the PhD, at which point they will have an additional 5 years to advance to candidacy. This could potentially lead to problems if the student does not make good progress. To address this concern, I propose adopting the following policy:

"Graduate students newly admitted to the PhD program who were previously enrolled in the MS in Computer Science from UMCP shall have all deadlines advanced by the time spent in the MS program."

For example, a student who spends 3 years as an MS student and is then admitted to the PhD program will have 1 year to advance to candidacy.

This issue has arisen in the past, but some faculty were concerned that adding such a requirement would be unfair to our own MS students versus students who get an MS from another university. However, I think that is not a concern, for the following reasons:

1. Graduate-level courses taken for the MS will all transfer over to the PhD, since they are our own courses. This is not the case with other MS programs, which may have very different course requirements and whose courses may not qualify for our program.

2. This would be an internal program requirement, enforced by us and not by the graduate school. Thus, it enables us to encourage students to make good progress, but we will be able to take exceptional circumstances into account.