October 8, 2004

Education Committee Meeting Minutes

The second meeting of the Education Committee was held on Friday, October 8, 2004 beginning at 2pm in room 1121 CSIC. Larry Davis opened the meeting and gave a brief overview of the new course sequence, who had been involved in course development and those faculty members who had or were teaching one of the courses. He asked professors to inform him if interested in teaching one of these courses in the future and also indicated that Field Committees should respond to Kim with the names of those who will be teaching any of these courses in the Fall’05.

Larry further stated that, eventually, those teaching one of the new courses will not be given course relief. The intent is to build up a sufficient number of professors who are experienced in teaching these courses so that additional time will not need to be spent making adjustments to projects and curriculum.

Kim Ozga began the discussion regarding the need to revise the course description for CMSC 102. She indicated that the current description was similar to a course offered by the Business School. The following description was suggested: “An introduction to computer terminology and concepts of computing and information technology. Hands-on experience with a variety of tools available to access the Internet, to find information, as well as PC applications such as a word processor and a spreadsheet package. Students will work in multiple environments (for example, both Windows and UNIX).”

Following a brief discussion, a motion was made and seconded to accept the recommended changes. The vote was unanimous in favor of the changes.

Kim then listed courses whose prerequisites required changes due to the new course curriculum. The suggested changes are as follows:

CMSC 311, change to read 214 or 212  (Change would be made in the Fall’05 schedule)
CMSC 330, change to read 214 or 212  (Change would be made in the Fall’05 schedule)
CMSC 351, change to read 214 or 212  (Change would be made in the Fall’05 schedule)
CMSC 417, change 251 to 351
CMSC 421, change 251 to 351

The following list of courses is cross-listed with MATH:

CMSC 450, change 251 to 351
CMSC 456, change 251 to 351
CMSC 460, remove CMSC 114 and add CMSC 106 or CMSC 131
CMSC 466, remove CMSC 114 and add CMSC 106 or CMSC 131
It was also noted that students taking all of these courses must pass with a “C” or higher grade and the statement will be added to course material. A motion was made and seconded to accept all of the recommended changes. The vote was unanimous in favor of the course recommendations.

In the absence of Bill Gasarch, Samir Khuller presented a revision to the syllabus for CMSC 696, a one credit course. This course will be offered once per year and must be taken by all graduate students within their first two years. It was noted that the scheduling of the class must be carefully done so that the maximum number of students will be able to register for the class without course conflicts. Attached is the proposed syllabus, “How to do Research”. A motion was made and seconded to accept the revisions to the course and the vote was unanimous in favor of its acceptance.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm