

**Education Meeting
Department of Computer Science
Friday, October 28, 2011**

The meeting was convened at 2:10pm by Larry Davis, Department Chair.

The meeting began with Agenda topic #2, "Discussion of an M.S. Dual Degree between the CS Department in College Park and Amrita University, India and was presented by Ashok Agrawala. Ashok summarized the key points of the proposal (see attached document for details). The University of Maryland has an MOU in place with Amrita University which opens the door for specific educational proposals to be considered by campus.

As an example, the department would control the courses to be taught, student quality, and admissions. Amrita would provide TAs, instructors and labs. In addition, professors interested in giving an intensive on-site course would be compensated with an honorarium and travel costs would be covered. Ashok mentioned that he has been teaching courses for the past 4-5 years using technology which permits him to be here and teaching students in India and he feels that distance teaching works. The Engineering school has a similar arrangement with another university and it has generated interest in the University of Maryland as well as additional program income.

The original proposal budget was based on 100 students paying \$15K each. Although Ashok feels that the number of students may be a bit optimistic, it does appear that there is interest and the program could grow. The proposal requires further details to be resolved within the department and then would require formal campus review/approval. **There seemed to be a consensus among committee members that Ashok would take this proposal to the next step and bring further details back to the committee.**

The second topic (first agenda item- J. Katz arrived)) was presented by Jonathan Katz, "Assignment of a Permanent Course Number for Graduate Cryptography Course". A more detailed history of the course can be viewed in the attached document. There was limited discussion and **a motion was made and unanimously passed to create a permanent course number for a graduate cryptography course.**

Jim Purtilo presented a "**Proposal for New Instructional Program between CMNS and the College of Education**". Jim presented some background on the subject including STEM demands within the economy, the lack of training among secondary school teachers who teach and advise students regarding further education in STEM disciplines, and the fact that computer science is not considered a "science" within the Maryland school system.

The core component of this proposal is the introduction of a new undergraduate track within the Computer Science Department. This proposal is specifically crafted to meet the objectives of Secondary Education and would be a joint program with the College of Education. The Education College will administer the Double major in Secondary Education for those CS Ed majors who further satisfy the proposed requirements for certification in the field. The proposal is comparable to that found in other disciplines in CMNS (such as

Physics and Mathematics) that presently have education tracks. The CS department would be providing the “science” associated with this activity.

An objective of the proposal would be to broaden the background of high school teachers and it is hoped that this training would be acceptable for their certification requirements.

Because a “tech/education course is required in the state of Maryland for high school graduation, but what defines “tech/education” is varied and does not constitute what the department would consider computer science, it is also hoped that this program would emphasize educational/academic course work vs. the current IT training approach to the subject matter.

A question was raised, “what is the demand for this type of program”. The answer was, no market survey has been conducted and no one really knows the answer. The hope is that this program will create the demand if it’s not currently there.

A concern was voiced that additional resources would be needed from the Dean/campus to implement the program. Larry Davis said that he wanted the committee to voice its interest in the program and he will make that interest and associated resource requirements clear to administration.

The committee voted unanimously in favor of the proposal with the understanding that additional resources must be provided in order for the department to support the program.

The fourth topic was “Establishment of Academic Benchmarks for CS Undergraduate Major”. This topic had been earlier presented approximately one year ago and the attached documents have been modified based on past discussions. The current proposal has a 45/75 course split. The prior split was a 30/60 course split. There was limited discussion.

The vote in favor of accepting the proposal was unanimous.

The last topic was a discussion of the “Proposal for a Concentration in Cybersecurity for ECE Majors” which was presented by Jeff Hollingsworth. Jeff indicated that the proposal, as it stands, could cause some growth in the number of ECE students enrolling in CS courses. It represents a track within Computing Engineering Education. There was mention that CS should request a cap be placed on the number of ECE students that can enroll in CS courses. Jeff pointed out that, as an example, it would be possible to ‘outsource’ CMSC 411 and have it taught by an ECE professor. The committee was reminded that approximately one year ago CS suggested that ECE develop a proposal. Even though this could increase teaching loads/class size, it was emphasized that we should try to work together to resolve the issues vs. saying that the CS department does not support the ECE proposal.

It was agreed that in principle, the committee supported the proposal but felt that it needs further review (such as what courses should be included). There was unanimous agreement that the proposal be sent back to ECE requesting that enrollment levels and

better course definition be included in the proposal. Mike Hicks offered to work on this as part of his new role as Interim Director of Cybersecurity.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50pm.