

Grad Proposals for Education Committee Fall 2018

Proposal #1

Priority registration for CMSC grad students

Problem: CMSC grad students having trouble registering for classes due to outside-of-major registrants.

Solution:

- Limit registration for CMSC grad courses to MS and PhD students for the 1st month each semester
- Every course would be permission of instructor to allow exceptions to this rule.
-
- Create a non-majors course request form (similar to the undergrad office) for out-of-major registrants for **any non-crosslisted CS course**. Will process after the 1st month priority seating period passes.
 - Approve out-of-major requests starting Dec. 1st for Spring and June 1st for Fall.
 - Assistant Director of Graduate Studies (Tom Hurst) will manage approval process (forward requests to him or the form). Instructors could give blanket permissions, or specific rules, or decide individually. These instructions would be sent to the Tom to implement. The form can be bypassed for any students the faculty particularly want in the course (i.e. other majors, ugrad CS students, etc.)

Rationale: Ensure CMSC students can enroll in classes and fulfill degree requirements and avoid alienating newly admitted students. At the same time provide flexibility to those students in other departments we think should get in, on a course-by-course basis.

Proposal #2

Make CMSC 798E Graduate Seminar in Computer Science required for 1st year Students

Problem: Grad Students not attending seminars, and not knowing what research the 50+ faculty we have do.

Solution: Require CMSC798E for first semester students

Rationale:

- Perform match-making between prospective advisors and students
- Helps students learn the breath of the field
- Gives guided practice at attending seminars that they can then use throughout their degree program
- Boosts attendance for high-profile speakers we schedule
- The seminars by outside speakers will be in the normal format
- Seminars by local speakers will be two to three per day. The focus will be on having the faculty introduce their research programs, available RAs/projects, with a goal of match-making