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**Subject:** CIS BA and BS Semester Conversion Proposal  
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**Attachments:** [CIS\\_BAandBS4-11.doc](#)

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To: Profs Neelam Soundarajan and David Tomasko  
From: James Fredal, CCI Sciences Subcommittee Chair  
Re: CIS BS and BA Semester Conversion Proposals

The Social, Behavioral, Biological, Mathematical and Physical Sciences Subcommittee of the Committee on Curriculum and Instruction (CCI) met on April 4<sup>th</sup> to review the semester conversion proposal for the CIS BA and BS degree programs. The subcommittee had a few comments and queries about the proposal before we send it on to the full CCI. I've numbered the comments for each program separately below.

#### CIS BS Semester Conversion Proposal

- 1) On the PACER sheet, the program is described as re-envisioned with significant changes while under the Credit Hour Explanation the changes are listed as minimal. One of these should probably be changed so that they match.
- 2) The PACER credit hour explanation lists this as an 82 hour major, the total of the minimum hours inside (50) and outside (25) the unit is 75, but the Semester Advising sheet seems to list 26 (core) +20 (choices) +15 (technical electives) hours for 61 hours as the total minimum. These numbers should match up. The numbers on the PACER form might all be checked. For example, the minimum number of credit hours outside the program seems to be 4 (ECE 2000) but this number is listed as 25 on the PACER form.
- 3) Most major programs have between three and six program learning goals whereas this proposal lists 14 program outcomes. Some of these learning goals seem to duplicate the focus (and sometimes the terminology) of other goals, and some seem more relevant for the GE or to include material outside the focus of the major. We would normally ask about the possibility of paring the goals down to a more manageable number, but we realize that they may reflect ABET requirements. If so, they will need to stay as they are, but otherwise some of these goals might be collapsed into others or eliminated.
- 4) The Semester Advising Sheet is actually a four-year plan. Could a more standard semester advising sheet be included in the proposal?
- 5) On Attachment #1, the Biology GE course is not numbered. Is a number meant to be included here (as for all the other courses in this category), or will this course be chosen by the student? If so, perhaps a note to that effect (or simply the word "elective") could be added. Also, the Biology GE courses will not likely be 5 hours, so the numbers for the chart (and elsewhere) may need to change.
- 6) Also on Attachment #1, the CIS Core Choices list includes "CSE 3901, 3902..." The ellipses suggest additional choices for the Project requirement, but these seem to be the only two courses that satisfy this requirement. Should the ellipses be removed or are there other courses that fulfill this requirement?

#### CIS BA Semester Conversion Proposal

- 1) Here too, the PACER form lists the total degree hours as 72. Is this correct? The total minimums on the PACER chart (33 within the unit and 31 outside the unit) total to 64

hours, while Attachment #1 (the Required Course list) seems to list only 20 hours that must be taken within CSE. The Related Field Core and Program Electives carry no unit designations but total to 39 hours (12 + 27) for a total of 59 hours?

- 2) One factor here might be that Attachment #1, the Program Requirements convey no information about the Related Field Core or the Program Electives (whether these courses or any percentage of credits need to be taken within CSE, for example). Should any further information be provided about these aspects of the program?
- 3) Again, we had a question about the Biological Science course; it will probably not be a 5 credit hour course.
- 4) There were fewer learning goals for this degree than for the BA, but we wanted to see whether any revisions to the BS goals would carry over. Several still seem very general and more appropriate to (and covered by) the GE than by courses in the major.

If you have any questions about the committee's comments, please let me know. We look forward to reviewing a revised proposal and we thank you for your patience.

Jim Fredal

cc: Bernadette Vankeerbergen

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