From: Soundarajan, Neelam   
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2015 6:07 PM  
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Subject: RE: Proposed changes in BS-CIS program

October 8, 2015.

Arts and Science Curriculum Committee (ASCC) Campus.

Dear Committee Members,

I am attaching a document describing proposed changes in the BS-CIS program. The main change is the introduction of "technical elective

(TE) options" into the program. This is not a real change in the program requirements in that any set of courses that meets all the requirements of any of the proposed TE options once this change is in place also meets the current requirements of the BS-CIS program.

Moreover, any set of courses that meets the current requirements will also meet the requirements of the revised program. The main reasons for proposing the change are two-fold: first, students interested in a given area will have clear guidance on which courses to take; and, second, the students' transcripts will contain a designation indicating the area they focused on in their technical elective courses which can be of considerable value, for example, to potential employers when considering the student for particular employment opportunities.

A second change is the replacement of ECE 2100 (4 credit hours) by the new ECE 2060 (3 credit hours) since the content of this new course is more appropriate for computer science majors; and adding the extra hour to the technical elective hours.

The last change is to allow students whil take Phil 1338, the new 4 credit hour course titled "Ethics in the Professions: Introduction to Computing Ethics and Effective Presentations", as one of their GE courses to omit CSE 2501, the 1 credit hour course titled "Social, Ethical, and Professional Issues in Computing", since Phil 1338 will meet all of the learning objectives of CSE 2501. Please note that students who take, e.g., the 3 credit hour Phil 1337, Introduction to Computing Ethics, would still have to take CSE 2501 since development of oral and written presentation skills is an important objective of CSE 2501 (and the new Phil 1338). This change is credit-hour neutral.

As detailed in the attached proposal, these changes were carefully discussed in the CSE Undergraduate Studies Committee which I chair, were presented to BS-CIS students at our Annual Forum, and approved by the CSE faculty.

If there are any questions about the proposed changes, please let me know.  I hope the NMS Panel and the ASCC can approve these changes soon.  I would be happy to attend the meeting of the NMS Panel and/or the ASCC to answer any questions that committee members might come up.

Thank you and best wishes,

--Neelam

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