



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH
VICE PROVOST FOR ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Memorandum of Understanding

This MOU has been read and approved by:

Department Chair: Mehrdad Aliasgari
Mehrdad Aliasgari

Date: 6/25/2021

Interim Dean, College of Engineering: Tracy Maples
Tracy Maples

Date: 6/25/2021

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Date: 6/28/2021



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMS
GRADUATE STUDIES

Memorandum of Understanding
Computer Engineering BS, Computer Science BS
Department of Computer Engineering and Computer Science
College of Engineering
May 2021 (for December 2020 Review)

This Memorandum of Understanding outlines the consensus reached by the Department of Computer Engineering and Computer Science (CECS), the College of Engineering, and the Division of Academic Affairs, based on the program review (Self-study 2018; external review Fall 2018; UPRC report December 2, 2020). It describes the goals to be achieved, and the actions to be undertaken by all parties to this MOU to achieve these goals, during the next program review cycle. Progress toward goals is to be addressed in an annual report.

The Department of Computer Engineering and Computer Science (CECS) offers two BS degrees: Computer Engineering (BSCE), and Computer Science (BSCS). The BSCE and the BSCS were accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC) and the Computing Accreditation Commission (CAC) of the Accreditation Board for Engineering & Technology (ABET) in Spring 2019, with the next re-accreditation scheduled for Fall 2024 with a self-study due July 1, 2024. This MOU will cover the BSCE and BSCS.

Review of the progress reports, self-study, accreditation report, and UPRC report show a number of strengths and some concerns. First, since its last accreditation, the department has developed a continuous improvement process headed by a department Assessment Committee. Additionally, the department is also working to improve time-to-degree. Still, though, the department's time-to-degree for transfer majors remains high in relation to college and institution rates. Also, while the department has developed a continuous improvement process, it could be more consistent in reporting to the institution results of its assessments.

Specific strengths were identified in the reports:

- The site visitors noted that the program serves an ethnically and economically diverse student population. There are many first-generation students enrolled in the program.
- The Computer Science program has seen a 60% increase in its FTEs over the last six years and a large increase in the numbers of degrees awarded.

Areas of concern and opportunities for development were also noted in the reports:

- While the program has developed a process of assessment since its last accreditation, there are still concerns with reporting results of assessment and closing-the-loop on findings.
- Both the EAC and the CAC reports note concerns with the department's faculty

sufficiency. Even with action plans articulated, both accrediting commissions kept the concern as “unresolved” in light of no budgetary framework provided.

- The average time to degree, particularly for transfer majors, remains high in comparison to the college and institution.

It is therefore agreed that:

1. The program will continue its ongoing program of assessment of institutional, programmatic, and student learning outcomes across the curriculum. It will ensure that its assessment reports include closing-the-loop activities and are submitted annually to the Vice Provost and to the Coordinator of Program Review & Assessment.
2. In consultation with the college, the department will develop an action plan demonstrating faculty sufficiency, particularly in light of increasing major headcount.
3. The program will develop sustainability strategies for its increased FTEs and major headcount to ensure students are able to graduate from the degree programs in a timely manner.
3. The program will analyze transfer-student graduation rates and develop a plan to improve rates in accordance with GI 2025. Specifically, the department will engage in outreach to community colleges to address 100- and 200-level course deficiencies so students do not have course deficiencies upon entry.
4. The program will provide an annual update (due June 1) on progress made towards the actions agreed to in this MOU to the COE Dean, the Vice Provost for Academic Programs, and the Director of Program Review and Assessment. The review cycle will match the 6-year accreditation cycle from 2019-2025. A comprehensive self-study will be due July 1, 2024 for the 2024-2025 Academic Year external review/UPRC report process.