

CSS Program Meeting

January 15, 2021

1:00-2:30pm

Zoom meeting

In attendance: Menaka Abraham, Mohamed Ali, Eyhab Al-Masri, Paulo Barreto, Charles Bryan, Tom Capaul, Wei Cheng, Donald Chinn (chair), Kivanc Dincer, Alan Fowler, Ingrid Horakova, Juhua Hu, Athirai Irissappane, Wes Lloyd, Chris Marriott, Raghavi Sakpal, David Schuessler, Monika Sobolewska, Josh Tenenberg, Ankur Teredesai

Non-voting staff and faculty: Bryan Goda, Beth Jeffrey, Raj Katti, Marife Llavore

Student Representative: Tatiana Linardopoulou

Math faculty guest: Peter Horak

1. Approval of the minutes from December 4, 2020

Menaka Abraham motioned to move the minutes, Alan Fowler seconded.

16 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 abstained.

2. Announcements

- Chris M. shared that the ACM program competition has been delayed until March 2021 & he is currently recruiting teams.
- Menaka A. reminded everyone that the next SET Book club meeting will be held in two weeks, Friday, January 29, 2021 at 12:30 pm. All are welcome to attend.
- Monika S. announced that in Feb 17th, there will be a listening session for non-tenure track faculty. She will send everyone a reminder in case you want to bring anything up to Faculty Assembly or Executive Council.

3. Advisors update

Beth announced that spring quarter registration opens on February 12, 2021. As of right now entry codes are required to enter your class, if you have students asking, please send them to the advisors.

4. Student update

Tatiana shared that students' anxiety level may be higher than normal in the days leading up to the upcoming Inauguration Day.

5. Faculty Council update

Athirai shared that Raj submitted the budget plan which was discussed in detail from the previous CSS Meeting and Faculty Council Meetings. We went through the promotion guidelines. We are currently working on including the DEI language – how much of it must be included; what is the proper way of including it. Once it is ready we will present it to the next CSS meeting so that faculty may review it together.

6. Graduate update

Mohamed shared that we received 22 new spring applications. 40 students who were accepted in autumn, deferred to spring quarter. In addition we have 22 new applications that we are reviewing right now among them there are two PhD applications.

There's a few proposals for new courses; one of them is Virtual Reality, most likely this will get done at the next meeting when we are ready to share the materials.

We are considering offering a fully online Master's Degree. We will be working as a group to be trained with ITech Fellows, so that after the pandemic we can continue to offer master courses online and increase enrollment.

From the Graduate Committee there was a subcommittee that was formed (consists of Eyhab, Wes, Ankur, Mohamed) to support the PhD program.

TCSS 5xx Graduate Artificial Intelligence course

Athirai gave a presentation on offering a 5 credit, graduate Artificial Intelligence course in autumn 2021 after APCC approval. Currently we have TCSS 555 Machine Learning and TCSS 556 Advanced Topics in Machine Learning; both courses do not talk about artificial intelligence.

Faculty feedback:

- There seems to be an overlap between the undergrad and grad course.
- The plan is to have the graduate course more advanced topics/more hands on work.
- Menaka expressed that one thing to keep in mind, when we offer electives we need to make sure that not all faculty are teaching the grad course(s) only. The other thing, the UWCM software is supposed to catch overlapping courses so that it is enforced and catches it, we just need to set it up.
- Raghavi brought up offering one course with two course codes assign to it TCSS435/TCSS535 with the intention of implementing extra work for the grad students.
- Chris expressed that adding a course number to 435/535 and cross listing it because this seems to be a 90% overlap with the 435 undergrad course.
- Menaka responded that is called a parallel course, but you would still have to set it up with UWCM. Courses which will be offered as 'parallel' courses (that is, two courses that have identical or very similar content offered at different levels, such as graduate and undergraduate) are not considered joint courses. Separate applications are needed for each course in the 'parallel' set.

Vote to approve to change the TCSS 435 course as a parallel TCSS 535 Artificial Intelligence course.

Chris M. motioned to change 435 conditioned on discussion with Chris M. and Raghavi S. of contents of the graduate topics and Athirai's approval. Seconded by Menaka A. 15 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 abstained.

7. Proposed prerequisite change to TCSS 487 (Cryptography)

TCSS 487 is "double coded" with TMATH 412. Peter Horak from Math, who teaches the course in Math, would like to change the Math prerequisites, and so both courses would need to change their prerequisites simultaneously.

Paulo Barreto expressed that it won't affect our students as TCSS 321 is already a prerequisite but this change will benefit the students that are taking the Math major.

Summarizing, the old prerequisite is one of TCSS 321, TMATH 125, or TMATH 402.

The proposal is to change that to one of TCSS 321, TMATH 300, or TMATH 308.

Paulo B. moved to change the TMATH prerequisite for TCSS 487, Menaka A. seconded. 16 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained.

8. Course proposal discussion and vote: Secure Coding

- Tom discussed the Secure Coding Principles course.
- Menaka: recommended adding 380 as a prerequisite as suggested last time.
- Monika: we can possibly add 371 as a prerequisite, at least they would already have basic understanding.
- Tom will revise the prerequisite to TCSS 371 in addition to 342. He also mentioned that if the course is approved, we are looking at offering it this summer as a Special Topics TCSS 490, because we cannot formally get it in the books until autumn.

Monika S. motioned to move to approve TCSS 483: Secure Coding Principles with the prerequisite of TCSS 371 and 342. Menaka A. seconded. 19 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

9. Discussion of 141/142/143 (intro sequence)

Alan expressed that students are not taking anything before 142, and now that we've added topics to the course, it's become a real burden to walk students from zero all the way through on what is currently on our master syllabi. He brought up two possible solutions of adding a prerequisite to 142 of either 101 or 141, assuming students have prior programming knowledge. Or roll back to our previous curriculum 141/142/143 to match what the community colleges and UW Seattle is doing.

Menaka A: 141 was never intended as a prerequisite to 142. It is to provide more programming courses for non CS majors.

Monika S: My vote is for matching "old" 142 and 143 so that we don't extend the chain of courses.

Donald would like to set up a meeting to discuss this further with the aim to have a fuller discussion at the next CSS meeting.

10. ABET

- Bryan shared the ABET 2022 link: S:\SET\General\ABET\ABET 2022
- He thanked everyone for their work on collecting the data & went over the assessments/outcomes.
- He asked the faculty if they can share/highlight any courses that have: professional responsibilities, functioning as a team member, and communicating effectively. Examples: Ethics 325, code of conduct, etc.
- Donald thanked Bryan for coordinating our ABET data collection.