

**UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**NEW DEGREE PROPOSAL:** Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Computer Science, College of Engineering (CIP 11.0701)

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**OTHER SUS INSTITUTIONS OFFERING SAME PROGRAM: FAU, USF, UCF**

**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

Approval of the BS with a major in Computer Science, College of Engineering.

**DEMONSTRATED NEED FOR PROGRAM**

Many valid, yet different, approaches to studying computer science are suitable for students with different goals. With our current degree programs, we already provide several. However, we currently do not provide a good option for those who want a very strong technical background in Computer Science but are not interested in a strong hardware emphasis. Such students must either choose the CLAS Computer Science degree, which allows students to obtain a liberal arts education but is less technically rigorous than the proposed degree; or choose the Computer Engineering degree and take hardware and engineering core courses that are not of interest to the students or valued by their future employers. The lack of flexibility for students in the Computer Engineering program eliminates the opportunity for any sort of interdisciplinary focus in that program. The proposed Computer Science degree in the College of Engineering fills this gap. The interdisciplinary electives allow this degree program to easily adapt to the increasingly interdisciplinary nature of computing and provide more flexibility for students.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The CISE Department's Student Services Center receives frequent inquiries from students who would like to pursue a Computer Science program through the college of Engineering. The inquiries are typically centered on the student's desire to become a software engineer without being required to complete Electrical Engineering courses. These students want to focus on engineering of new software, not on the hardware aspects taught in the advanced Electrical Engineering courses. Other inquiries stem from prospective students who in researching Computer Science degrees at other institutions found many of those degrees were from Engineering colleges. In addition, although graduates of our existing degree programs are highly regarded by those employers who are familiar with them, feedback from the CISE Industrial Advisory Board tells us that offering a standard BS in Computer Science through the College of Engineering may make it easier for some companies to effectively recruit at UF.

**RELATIONSHIP TO THE UNIVERSITY'S STRATEGIC PLAN**

The overarching goal of the University of Florida Strategic Plan is to "raise the University of Florida into the ranks of the nation's great universities." More specifically, the university plans to strengthen key disciplines in the core colleges. Engineering has been designated as a "core college" and within Engineering, Computer Science has been designated a key area. The new program will strengthen the undergraduate program in this key area.

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**UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA BS with a major in Computer Science, College of  
Engineering**

**SUMMARY INFORMATION**

**Projected FTE and headcount are:**

	<b>Projected Headcount</b>	<b>Student FTE</b>	<b>Faculty Headcount</b>	<b>Faculty FTE</b>
<b>First Year</b>	250	250		
<b>Second Year</b>	350	350		
<b>Third Year</b>	355	355		
<b>Fourth Year</b>	385	385		
<b>Fifth Year</b>	430	430		

**Additional Comments:**

**Supporting Documentation Included:**  
None

**Other Support Documents Available:**  
Full proposal approved by the University Curriculum Committee and the Faculty Senate

**Prepared by:** Bev Sanders  
**Submitted by:** C. R. Abernathy

**Email:** [sanders@cise.ufl.edu](mailto:sanders@cise.ufl.edu) Phone: 392-1528  
**Email:** [caber@mse.ufl.edu](mailto:caber@mse.ufl.edu) Phone: 392-0943

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