

Computer Science – Dean Response:

Concerns expressed, but many kudos offered by the committee on the program. The department has created a strong and innovative curriculum, has built strong ties with the community and local industry, and has provided an inviting and comfortable atmosphere that students enjoy. This high degree of success is currently being achieved with very limited resources.

Dean notes that the format was more freeform than others such as SST. College needs consolidation in assessment approaches in the future.

Concerns:

- Standard B-c: Faculty loads are being pushed beyond reasonable boundaries for prolonged periods of time. Failure.
- Salaries are low.
- Hardware is out-of-date. Standard F-c: failure.
- Lack of time for good assessment. Committee recommends the department implements administration of the Major Field Test (MFT) in Computer Science for all students at one or two points in their education. This exam allows you to compare the success of students among the different tracks, to compare with other universities, and if given multiple times during a student's education to track their progress.
- Potential issues in pursuing ABET with high faculty loads, too many adjuncts.
- Department should move beyond CIEQ measurement. Standard C-d.

Dean suggests that faculty loads are high. However, this will be remedied somewhat by the recent hiring of two new faculty, both of whom are PhDs in Computer Science or a related field and will assist in that ABET need.

The Dean is concerned with the comments generally and on adjuncts. Currently, there are not that many adjuncts teaching during the day, only at night. The use of adjuncts potentially assures the department of being current on the latest technologies and techniques. This will need to be explored further. If ABET accreditation will not work for the department then that should be realized sooner than later.

Salaries across Weber State are low. We are on average the lowest paid faculty in the state system. One of the committee members hails from UVU which pays its faculty higher. But, they pay their IS&T faculty lower. It is the opposite at WSU. The Dean would like to move the salaries higher with respect to CUPA but recognizes other areas in the college that need attention do to salary compression.

However, the Dean's understanding of ABET is that it is outcomes based and does not specify load, adjunct load, salaries, or any other organizational aspects. The only organizational aspect dictated by ABET is that there should be a PhD in Computer Science (at least one) in the department. The Dean believes that this critique is false.

Hardware could use attention. A considerable amount of funding went into construction this past year instead of hardware replacement.

The use of MFT and moving beyond CIEQ are good recommendations. That shall be pursued in CS and in the college.