UNIVERSITY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING & APPLIED SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY

PROPOSAL FOR PROGRAM CHANGE
B.S IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

SUBMITTED BY
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY
FALL SEMESTER 2011

WASHINGTON, DC

Type of Review Requested

This is a proposal for a program review for the purpose of programmatic changes to the B.S. in Computer Science Program.

Description of Proposed Program Change
B.S. in Computer Science

The Department of Computer Science and Information Technology (CSIT) offers two Bachelor of Science degree programs. This document presents a proposed program change to the Computer Science (BSCS) program. The proposed changes are as follows:

1. Deletion of these courses from program requirements for the major:
- University Physics I & II (Lecture + Lab);
- Calculus III (Lecture + Lab);
- Professional Ethics.

2. Addition of a second Senior Project course to program requirements for the major.

3. Reduction in minimum credits required for graduation from 128 to 122.

Rationale/Standards of Relevant Accrediting Agencies

- Courses in Physics are not required by ABET, which is the only accrediting agency for the program. ABET requires basic science courses, and students may choose Physics if they like.
- Calculus III is not required by ABET.
- Students will no longer need to take the course in Professional Ethics because they will be taking Foundation Ethics as part of their General Education Requirements.
- The current trend in technology education is to require six (6) credits in a capstone experience emphasizing teamwork. The additional Senior Project course will align with that trend.
- The current trend in Computer Science programs is to require a lower the number of credits, without jeopardizing the quality and the accreditation of the program. ABET requires 120 credit hours; our proposal would require 122.

Number of Students Immediately Affected

This proposal would have no effect on current students, but any future students majoring in Computer Science would benefit from the changes.

Probable Impact on Unit

The Computer Science Department expects significant improvements in enrollment, retention, and graduation rates. There is no need for additional faculty for these specific changes. Moreover, these changes can be implemented without additional resources.

Faculty and Staff Affected

No changes in the faculty and staff will be needed to implement the proposed change.

Proposed Date of Implementation

The program changes would go into effect in Spring of 2012.