SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

To: Senate

From: Allan MacKinnon, Chair
Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies

Subject: Curriculum Revisions
Faculty of Applied Sciences
(SCUS Reference 03-12)
(SCUS Reference 03-13)

Date: June 13, 2003

Action undertaken by the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies at its meeting of June 10, 2003 gives rise to the following motion:

> "That Senate approve and recommend for approval to the Board of Governors the requirements of the Second Degree Program in the School of Computing Science as set forth in S. 03 –65   , effective September 2004.

For Information

Acting under delegated authority, at the June 10, 2003 meeting, SCUS approved the following curriculum revisions in the School of Resource and Environmental Management:

   a)   change of prerequisite for REM 445-3
   b)   change of description and prerequisite for REM 471-3"

Any Senator wishing to consult the full report of curriculum revisions should contact Bobbie Grant, Senate Assistant at 291-3168 or email bgrant@sfu.ca

SCUS 03 — 12

CA.SFU.FAS.UCC/Papers:2003-13A

Second Degree Program in Computing Science

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Revision A - June 10, 2003

The following calendar entry is proposed to describe the program leading to a second Bachelor's degree in Computing Science.

Second Degree Program

Holders of a recognized Bachelor's degree in another discipline may follow this program to earn a second degree in Computing Science.

This is a direct admission program. Applicants to SFU should indicate their interest in the program by selecting the B.Sc. major in Computing Science, Faculty of Applied Sciences as first choice. The indirect route of admission to another Faculty or program followed by internal transfer to computing science is not available to second degree students, except in extenuating circumstances.

Applicants will be selected primarily based on upper division (third and fourth year) performance in the prior Bachelor's degree and subsequent professional experience. Space in the program is limited; not all qualified applicants can be accepted.

The program is designed to be completed by the well-prepared student in one year (three semesters) of full-time study. The ideal preparation is a background in mathematics and programming experience comparable to the first two years of the computing science major program and a prior degree in which English was the language of instruction. Students without this background may require additional time to complete lower division prerequisites prior to ~~program entry~~ _commencement of upper division credits_

In accord with SFU regulations, the second degree program consists of the upper division requirements of the full computing science degree. For a general B.Sc. degree with a major in computing science, 45 upper division credits must be completed, including the 39 credits of upper division coursework specified for the major.

Rationale

Holders of Bachelor's degrees in other disciplines represent a potentially important source of highly-qualified applicants for the computing science program in fulfillment of the government-mandated "Double the Opportunity" initiative. The proposed regulations are intended to allow the School of Computing Science to offer an effective and efficient second degree program with direct admission of applicants.

In particular, the goal is to offer a one year (three semester) degree program for degreeholders having the ideal background: strong mathematical preparation through studies in disciplines such as mathematics, physics, engineering and economics, coupled with two or more years of professional experience in programming and related activities. Students admitted on this basis will generally be able to proceed directly to upper division work with full waivers of lower division prerequisites. However, the direct admission process will also serve to identify background deficiencies for other applicants and allow the School to provide early advice on the additional preparation required.