

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
MEMORANDUM

To: Senate

From: J. M. Munro, Chair
Senate Committee on
Academic Planning

Subject: Curriculum Changes -
School of Computing Science
References: SCUS 92-48, SCAP 92-49

Date: December 14, 1992

Action undertaken by the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies and the Senate Committee on Academic Planning gives rise to the following motion:

Motion: "that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors as set forth in S. 93-3 the elimination of the Digital Systems Design Honors Program and changes to the Computing Honors Program".

M. H.
for J. M. Munro

Simon Fraser University

MEMORANDUM

To: Faculty of Applied Science
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

From: Robert D. Cameron
Director of Undergraduate Programs
Computing Science

Subject: CMPT Curriculum Changes

Date: November 27, 1992

Computing Science is proposing to drop its Digital Systems Design Program and make some changes to the requirements for Honors in Computing Science. The motions shown below have been approved by the School.

Elimination of the Digital Systems Design Honors Program

Motion: that the Digital Systems Design Honors Program be eliminated.

Rationale:

This program is suffering from very low enrolments and is too expensive for us to maintain. At present, there are only 5 declared students in the program. There are 5 lower-level students who have declared an interest in the program, but 4 of them have a GPA well below the required 3.00 (from 2.24 to 2.7) and one has just started at SFU in 92-3. Because it requires that we offer several low enrolment courses more frequently than we might otherwise, the program is also quite expensive in terms of instructional resources.

Action:

The deletion of the program will be advertised widely to students. We will of course honor our commitment to currently declared DSDP students, to ensure that they will be able to complete the program.

Changes to the CMPT Honors Program

Motion: that the calendar description for the Upper Division Requirements for Honors in Computing Science be changed as follows.

For a BA or BSc degree with honors in Computing Science, students must fulfill the corresponding requirements for a BA or BSc major in Computing Science, with the following modifications and additions.

Breadth Requirement

One course each in the six areas of Table I is required. These courses must include CMPT 300-3 (Operating Systems I), CMPT 307-3 (Data Structures and Algorithms) and CMPT 354-3 (File and Database Structures).

Depth Requirement

Seven additional courses from Table I must be completed. These courses must include CMPT 405-3 (Design and Analysis of Algorithms) and at least one other course in the Theoretical Computing Science concentration. At least four of the courses must be numbered CMPT 400 or above.

Credit Hour Requirement

Additional Computing Science courses must be completed to bring the total upper division credit hours in CMPT/MACM to at least 50.

In addition, a minimum of 60 semester hours of upper division credit and an overall total of 132 semester hours of credit are required for the degree, together with a graduation grade point average of at least 3.00 as described in the General Information Section.

Rationale:

This would bring the calendar requirements for an honors program in CMPT more in line with the corresponding requirements for a major in CMPT. At present, there are a number of discrepancies between the major and honors programs. The most annoying of these is that a BSc CMPT major degree requires 9 credit hours of Liberal Arts electives, but there is no corresponding requirement for a BSc CMPT honors degree. There is also a holdover from the BSc requirements of many years ago: a requirement for a 15 hour concentration in a science discipline outside of CMPT. It may be that this concentration requirement is discouraging students who would be otherwise eligible from taking the honors route. A third discrepancy is that the recent changes to the breadth and depth requirements for a major did not see corresponding changes to the honors program.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert Cameron". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.