

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

April 19, 2011

Vice Chancellor Beth Rushing University of Washington, Tacoma Box 358430

Dear Beth:

Based upon the recommendations of the Faculty Council on Academic Policy, the Faculty Assembly has recommended approval of the program name change from a Bachelor of Arts degree in Computing and Software Systems to a Bachelor of Arts degree in Computer Science and Systems. A copy of the proposal is attached.

I am writing to inform you that the Office of Academic Affairs is authorized to specify these requirements beginning spring quarter 2011 and thereafter.

The new requirements should be incorporated in printed statements and in individual department websites as soon as possible. The *General Catalog* website will be updated accordingly by the Registrar's Office.

Sincerely yours,

Phyllis M. Wise Interim President

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Enclosure

cc:

Ms. Zaide Chavez (with enclosure)

Mr. Robert Corbett (with enclosure)

Dr. Deborah H. Wiegand (with enclosure)

Ms. Viriean Edwards. (with enclosure TCSS-20110215)





After college/school/campus review, send a signed original and 8 copies to the Curriculum Office/FCAS, Box 355850. For information about when and how to use this form: http://depts.washington.edu/uwcr/1503instructions.pdf

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| Catalog Copy as currently written. Include only sections/paragraphs that would be changed if your request is approved. Please cross out or otherwise highlight any deletions. | | |
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| Replace all "Computer and Software Systems" with "Computer Science and Systems" in the Catalog | J. | |
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Explanation and Rationale for Name Change from Bachelor of Arts in Computing & Software Systems to Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science & Systems

When the Bachelor of Arts degree in was created in 2005, we kept the same name as the Bachelor of Science in Computing and Software Systems. The Computing and Software Systems (CSS) program, which was created in 2001, was modeled after the program of the same name at UW Bothell. The Bothell catalog states, "The Bachelor of Science in Computing and Software Systems curriculum draws heavily on computer science, but with a greater emphasis on software engineering and relevant business and management concepts than would be found in a more traditional computer science degree." In the beginning the program at UW Tacoma also varied somewhat from traditional computer science programs in that it placed a heavy focus on distributed computing and web applications. That focus has changed over the past five years and the CSS program is much more in line with a traditional computer science program as taught at various schools nationally.

This change was initiated in 2003 when significant changes were made to the curriculum. At that time, more emphasis in the curriculum was placed on discrete mathematics, algorithms, and object-oriented design and development. All of these topics are consistent with the Computing Accreditation Commission (CAC)'s view of computer science.

Since the CSS program was created, there have been problems explaining to prospective students and employers alike what the name "Computing & Software Systems" means. When people are told that it really means "Computer Science," the natural response is, "Then why don't you call it Computer Science?" That is what we are attempting to do by requesting this name change.

On several occasions, the Industrial Advisory for the Institute of Technology at UWT has also questioned why the program name is not something that is not more easily recognized by those in the computing industry and community at large. In their last meeting, they unanimously voted to support a change of name to contain at least the words "Computer Science". In the Program Review that took place in 2008, conducted by the Graduate School in Seattle, the review committee recognized the problem with the current name and recommended that we take steps to change the program name to Computer Science and Systems.

The faculty of the Institute has considered two possible names for the program: "Computer Science" and "Computer Science & Systems." Because the Institute has adopted the systems philosophy as an important cornerstone for its future growth, the name "Computer Science & Systems" was chosen. The "Computer Science" portion of the name identifies the program to all who see it and the "Systems" extension shows the fit with the other programs within the Institute, and allows continued use of the CSS acronym that has become a brand identity locally in the south Puget Sound. This also differentiates the program from the Seattle computer science program.

The name change of the Bachelor of Science has been approved, and it is now the "Computer Science and Systems" program. We are asking that the change be extended to the Bachelor of Arts program. A vote was taken at the faculty meeting on November 19, 2010.

Motion: To change the name of the Undergraduate and Graduate programs from Computer Software and Systems to Computer Science and Systems.

(motion: L. Wear, second: A. Teredesai, abstained: 0, against: 0, approved)