

Minutes, CSS Undergrad Committee, Sept 27, 2011

PNK 212, 1:30-2:35pm. Attending: Donald Chinn, Alan Fowler, Robert Friedman, Jenny Sheng, Daniel Zimmerman, Matthew Alden, John Mayer, Josh Tenenberg (chair pro tem)

- Tenenberg solicited nominations to chair the CSS undergrad committee. Chinn nominated Josh Tenenberg, who accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations. Tenenberg's nomination was approved by the committee. He will serve as chair of the CSS undergrad committee for the balance of the year.
- We agreed to meet 9a-10:25a on each of the Fridays when there is a full faculty meeting for the balance of the term. Our next meeting is October 7. If the agenda warrants, we will start our meeting later.
- Josh will send a solicitation to undergrads requesting a volunteer to serve on the CSS undergrad committee for the academic year. If there is more than one student interested, then Josh will ask the students to decide amongst themselves who will serve as representative.
- We discussed admission requirements for the CSS majors (BA and BS), for both freshman and transfer students. We started by reviewing the [current requirements](#). We discussed but did not decide if entering freshmen can be accepted immediately into the major. Bottom line is that we need some concrete requirements that we can hand off to the admissions office. A couple of points emerged from the discussion:
 - requirements for freshmen coming into the major should not leave "gaps", i.e., freshmen should be able to take all pre-req courses of all courses in the CSS major while in residence at UWT.
 - 142 does not seem like a good introductory course for the major. Too programming-oriented, not enough exposure to the discipline as a whole.
 - A CS0 course seems a better candidate for the first course in the major. The AP CS Principles is a front-runner for this.
 - We may want a math requirement. Not clear whether this needs to be at a higher level than trig.
 - Friedman mentioned that it is our choice whether to set a standardized test score (ACT, SAT) as an entrance requirement, as well as a GPA.
- Next steps:
 - Friedman will discuss with Beth Jeffrey the extent to which the current requirements for admission (linked above) are being followed, and if not, what requirements are being used in practice.
 - Friedman may have the opportunity to discuss with Janet Ash and Tina Ostrander the entrance requirements for the CS major at Green River and Highline, and what they need to do for their students to qualify for our major. If so, he will report back.
 - Prior to the next meeting, every committee member will:
 - Read the current admission requirements for the CSS major, and
 - Look at the links that Tenenberg sends out to get an overview of the AP CSS Principles course
- Fowler suggested adding to the CTC/UWT quarterly meeting agenda a followup discussion of the adoption of the CS Principles course at multiple colleges in the region.
- Another suggestions was that we discuss with CTC colleagues at our next meeting what their entrance requirements are into the major, and how they get their students from their entrance door to our major.