CSS Curriculum Meeting
April 12, 2013
10:30am-12noon
CP 206C

Attendance: Donald Chinn (co-chair), John Mayer (co-chair), Matt Alden, Ling Ding, Alan Fowler, Bryan Goda, George Mobus, Josh Tenenberg, Zaide Chavez, Beth Jeffrey, David Ross
Excused absence: Dan Zimmerman

1. The minutes from the March 15, 2013 meeting were approved.

2. Lecturer Hires (update by George)

An absentee vote on expedited offer for Monika Sobelewska is currently in process.

John suggested the remaining CS slot be reserved for a candidate capable of teaching 300 & 400 level courses. George expects phone interviews to be done by April 22 and on-campus interviews in late April and early May.

Tenure Track hires. The committee suggested that Ankur and Rob be invited to meet with the CSS committee after the Institute faculty meeting of April 19 to clarify the "Big Data" hiring area, if this issue is not clarified at that meeting.

There was discussion of developing a 5 year plan for hiring. George recommended that we focus on developing quality inside particular niches.

3. Curriculum updates

TCSS 321 update from Donald: the math & CS people met on April 5 to discuss 321 master syllabus contents and how that knowledge and skill are used in later CSS courses. There will be more discussion on moodle among the interested parties.

Intro sequence. The intro sequence subcommittee (Alan, Matt, John) has agreed to move stack/queues and linked list implementation from 143 to 342. This is to allow more room in 143 for developing OO fundamentals which have shifted from 142 to 143 as a result of adopting Python in 142.

Systems sequence. The systems subcommittee (Matt, John, George) report that the "old" 372 (pre-2005) was not located. (This document was to be the starting point for a redesign of TCSS 371 in the new curriculum.) The new 371 will consist of the current 371 material minus coverage of C but plus simulation of architecture in C. The new 333 (an inner core C course which is a pre-req to 371) needs to be defined. It is not yet clear how 422 will evolve.

4. Admissions

We should reconsider the entrance requirements to the major, for both native students and transfers. Some possible mechanisms:

a. raise the GPA requirement listed in our policy
b. introduce an application for entry into the major (similar to ITS) and have the CSS committee evaluate them for both flow control and quality because we want to better predict course enrollments and teaching needs (number of sections).

5. Assessment.

Bryan asked how we currently use assessment data that we collect. ABET accreditation in 2016 was mentioned as a possible goal. Donald reminded us that we have CSS assessment goals for the current year (for John TCSS 342 & for Orlando TCSS 325). Note that the official grid says that TCSS 360 should be used to assess student learning outcome c) (an ability to design, implement and evaluate a computer-based system, process, component, or program to meet desired needs). Since there are so many courses that could be used to assess that outcome and we currently have a part-time lecturer teaching TCSS 360, it made more sense to choose a course like TCSS 342 to assess outcome c).