

Wagner, Janet

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Dear Dr. Taneja,

I have received the CSIS Program Faculty final proposal for a new major in Computer Information Systems, intended as one of two majors to replace the current single CSIS major (with two concentrations). As I have stated in years' worth of annual program and School reviews and other strategic planning documents --- I am strongly in support of such a move in general, and of this plan in particular.

Some items to note:

I am strongly in favor of the CSIS program pursuing ABET accreditation, and this split into two majors is a pre-requisite for seeking that accreditation.

We have heard from our advisory board members, from Admissions, and from Career Services that the two concentrations (and in particular the distinction between them) is not well understood in either the marketplace for incoming students or the marketplace for employing our graduates. Having two separate majors, with more distinctive curricula, should help address that confusion.

As you know, my area of expertise has a fair amount of overlap with Computer Information Systems so my professional expertise leads me to believe that the new curricula developed by your faculty is sound and timely.

The recent strong growth in CSIS majors (and both concentrations) leads me to believe there is plenty of demand for this major, and I believe the more focused major will only support additional growth in the future

The current faculty resources are well matched to the needs of the new curricula, although with the past growth I have been (and will continue to) request additional faculty lines for this program.

The Computer Information Systems Major is relying on some Business Studies courses as part of their cognates, but this overlap is similar to that in the old Information Systems concentration. The business program has the capacity to supply these courses to the new major. In fact, there is a proposal in process for a new Business Analytics concentration in Business Studies and there is potential for some helpful synergy between the new CIS major and the (possible) new BSAN concentration.

Please know that this proposal has my unqualified support.

Janet M Wagner

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