

CPR Report Submitted!

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- 5 **Institution:** Columbus State University
- 6 **Review Status:** Triggered Review
- 7 **Degree level:** Career Associate - AAS
- 8 **Degree acronym:** AASCS
- 9 **Degree/Major:** AASCS in Applied Computer Science
- 10 **CIP Code:** 11010101
- 11 **College,**
 School/Division: College of Science
- 12 **Department:** TSYS Department of Computer Science
- 13 **CPR Plan**
 followed: Yes
- 14 **Future institutional**
 plans for program: Discontinue
- 15 **Supplemental file:** CS AASCS Exec-Sum.doc
- 16 **File Type:** MS Word
- 17 **CPR Web site:** aa.colstate.edu/assess/cprtbl.htm

Columbus State University
TSYS Department of Computer Science
Associate of Applied Science in Computer Science
Comprehensive Program Review
Executive Summary
November 2005

The **TSYS Department of Computer Science** offers a Master in Applied Computer Science degree program with concentrations in Software Development or Information Assurance; a Bachelor of Science degree program with concentrations in Computer Systems or Applied Computer Science; an Associate of Applied Science degree in Computer Science; a Minor in Computer Science; and a Certificate in Data Processing. The **AAS in Computer Science** is intended for the student who wishes to attend the university for only two years. This degree provides the student experiences in both the new technologies and in large system computing.

In conjunction with the Mission Statement of Columbus State University, the Department of Computer Science will serve the educational needs of students of the university in the area of computing and the specific educational needs of the businesses and industries in our community. Computing will continue to play a larger part in the educational experience of each student at Columbus State University, and the Department of Computer Science is committed to playing a leadership role in this process. The department will also maintain programs for its majors that are current, viable, and applicable to the computing technologies and the technologies of the present and future. And because we serve the community in which we live, we will maintain contact with the computing entities of our region, and strive to provide the educational opportunities needed to keep those entities viable for the future.

The Department of Computer Science is committed to:

- educating students to think critically and creatively in a technological environment
- fostering the highest ideals of ethics, especially pertaining to electronic interaction
- providing the strongest and most current instruction in the areas of computing and technology
- serving to meet the educational needs of the community and region in the areas of computing and technology through collaboration, vision, and foresight
- striving to help Columbus State University meet its commitment to foster its centers of excellence, especially in the areas of science, mathematics, and technology education and regional economic and community development.

Conclusions about the Program's Quality and Productivity

An analysis and interpretation of the Self-Study completed by the faculty of the TSYS Department of Computer Science for the 2005 – 2006 Columbus State University Comprehensive Program Review has led to the following conclusions.

The TSYS Department of Computer Science provides a high quality program to its students.

- ❖ Quality indicators categorized at the levels of *Very Strong or Above Average* include:
 - quality of teaching, quality of the curriculum,
 - quality of faculty,
 - quality of facilities,
 - quality of research and scholarship, and
 - quality of service.
- ❖ Quality indicators categorized at the level of *Satisfactory* include:
 - student selectivity, academic achievement, and satisfaction.
- ❖ No quality indicators were categorized at the level of *Below Average or Very Weak*.

Productivity in the Associate of Applied Science in Computer Science has not been satisfactory.

- ❖ Productivity indicators categorized at the levels of *Very Strong or Above Average* include:
 - efficiency & clarity of the program's course requirements.
- ❖ Productivity indicators categorized at the levels of *Satisfactory* include:
 - frequency and sequencing of course offerings required for program completion,
 - diversity of program's majors and graduates,
 - cost effectiveness of instructional delivery in the program's department
 - position of program's annual degree productivity among comparable USG Programs, and
 - program's contribution to achieving CSU's Mission.
- ❖ Productivity indicators categorized at the level of *Below Average or Very Weak* include:
 - enrollment of students in the program,
 - annual degree production,
 - program completion efficiency and graduation rate,
 - enrollment in the program's required courses, and
 - program's responsiveness to state needs and employer demand for program graduates.

List of Recommendations for Improving Program Quality

Although the quality of the Associate of Applied Science in Computer Science is above average and quite strong in almost all areas, the productivity has suffered due to external factors.

List of Recommendations for Improving Program Productivity

Demand for the Associate of Applied Science in Computer Science is quite limited. Most jobs now require at least a Bachelor's degree. As a result, it is very difficult to improve program productivity.

Conclusion About the Program's Viability at CSU

The faculty of the TSYS Department of Computer Science has concluded that the Associate of Applied Science in Computer Science is not viable.

Summary Recommendation and Supporting Rationale

The Associate of Applied Science in Computer Science should be discontinued. Resources should be applied to the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science programs. Since the coursework for the AASCS is a subset of the coursework for the B.S., the few students in the program should have no difficulty in completing the program. New students should not be admitted to the program after Summer 2006.