

PROGRAM FEE REQUEST

University: **University of Arizona**

College/School: **College of Science**

Department: **Computer Science**

Program: **Computer Science BS and BA, Lower Division**

Circle one: **Undergraduate**

Circle one: **Lower Division**

New \$150 lower division.....
(Proposed)

Fall 2014.....
(Effective Date)

Existing \$.....
(Proposed)

\$.....
(Current)

.....
(Year Approved)

Program will be offered through: Main Campus Outreach College Both

Proposed fee to be applied as: Per Term Per Session/Module Per Unit

Rationale for Request

Employers and former students have provided feedback that Computer Science majors benefit from internships and need to develop technical interviewing and communication skills to be more effective interviewees and employees. In addition, a broader selection of courses that promote programming skills would help students. The current budget does not have the resources required to develop internship opportunities for CS students. The fee would provide funds to hire a career counselor who will recruit internship-offering companies and help to students improve interviewing and communication skills to be successful in job searches and in careers. New courses in topical areas will be implemented and additional instructors hired.

Compliance with Board Guidelines

The proposed fee would add to the quality of the student experience by providing students more experiential learning opportunities and better career preparation via internships, skill-building workshops, one-on-one career counseling, and increased exposure and opportunity to learn emerging tools. The additional skills attained will make students more attractive to employers and offer them higher potential earnings. The career counseling is specific to needs in a technical field like Computer Science and is not currently offered at the University. There will be a 14% set-aside for scholarships that can be utilized by students with financial need to help pay the program fee.

Student Consultation

Three open sessions were held the week of September 30. In addition, the presentation and FAQs were posted on the Department website for those unable to attend one of the sessions. Students were encouraged to email the Department Head with feedback and questions. Students were actively involved in the sessions and in offering electronic feedback. Overall student reception of the program fee is positive. They are excited about the potential opportunities and feel they will greatly benefit from the new resources. There is concern about the additional cost and the potential inequality in the use of some benefits. The Department acknowledges these concerns and will develop a Student Fee Advisory Board to help ensure the needs of students are being met.

MARKET PRICING

There following peer institutions charge differential tuition or program fees for Computer Science students; the proposed fee for Computer Science majors is the lowest among peers. At the University of Arizona there are two similar disciplines--- MIS and Computer Engineering---and the proposed fee is the same or lower than both of these majors. The total tuition is very near or below the peer median. The

B.S. and B.A. in Computer Science will continue to be affordable education options and the return on investment from the improved resources and opportunities will be great.

Institutions with Undergraduate Computer Science Programs with Program Fees (sorted by Resident Rates)

| Institution | Resident tuition, mandatory fees, & program fee * | Non-resident tuition, mandatory fees, & program fee |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| Pennsylvania State U | 18,364 | 31,189 |
| U Illinois-Urbana Champaign | 16,837 | 31,507 |
| U Colorado Boulder | 15,674 | 35,663 |
| U Minnesota-Twin Cities | 14,426 | 20,801 |
| Michigan State U | 14,254 | 35,559 |
| Virginia Tech | 12,477 | 28,548 |
| Ohio State U | 11,180 | 27,214 |
| University of Arizona | 10,899 | 27,914 |
| U Iowa | 10,579 | 29,827 |
| Texas A&M U | 9,476 | 26,429 |

ACCOUNTABILITY

Financial Aid Set-Aside Amount: 14%

Proposed Annual Revenue

| | | |
|----------------------|----|---------|
| Program Fee | \$ | 300 |
| Number of Students | # | 500 |
| Total Revenue | = | 150,000 |

Proposed Annual Expenditures

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|----|---------|
| Financial Aid Set Aside 14% | \$ | 21,000 |
| Institutional Allocation of Cost 10% | \$ | 15,000 |
| Institutional and Advising Personnel | \$ | 50,000 |
| Support Staff Expense | \$ | 60,000 |
| Operating Expenses | \$ | 4,000 |
| Total Program Costs | = | 150,000 |