**LETTER OF NOTIFICATION – 11**

**RECONFIGURATION OF EXISTING DEGREE PROGRAMS**

(Consolidation or Separation of Degrees to Create New Degree)

1. Institution submitting request: University of Arkansas Fayetteville

2. Contact person/title: Dr. Terry Martin, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

(479) [575-2151/tmartin@uark.edu](mailto:575-2151/tmartin@uark.edu)

3. Title(s) of degree programs to be consolidated/reconfigured: Ph.D. in Computer Science

4. Current CIP Code(s)/Current Degree Code(s): 11.0101

5. Proposed title of consolidated/reconfigured program: PhD in Engineering with a

concentration in Computer Science

6. Proposed CIP Code for new program: 14.0101

7. Proposed Effective Date: Fall 2016

8. Reason for proposed program consolidation/reconfiguration:

(Indicate student demand (projected enrollment) for the proposed program and document that

the program meets employer needs)

The Computer Science Ph.D. program is a valuable academic program for the University of Arkansas.

We propose moving the Ph.D. in Computer Science to a Ph.D. in Engineering with a concentration in Computer Science and eliminating the Ph.D. in Computer Science degree. Ph.D. degrees in Engineering are currently awarded to students in all other doctoral programs in the College of Engineering; Biological Engineering, Biomedical Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Computer Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Industrial Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering.

The Computer Science and Computer Engineering department has two Ph.D. programs (Computer Engineering and Computer Science) so moving the computer science degree would make all our programs consistent with other degrees in the College of Engineering. With the two degree programs in CSCE, we share resources (faculty, classrooms. etc.) and have designed the degree requirements to follow the guidelines of the College of Engineering.

9. Provide **current** and **proposed** curriculum outline by semester. Indicate total semester credit hours required for the proposed program. Underline new courses and provide new course descriptions. (If existing courses have been modified to create new courses, provide the course name/description for the current/existing courses and indicate the related new/modified courses.) Identify required general education core courses with an asterisk.

**Requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy Degree:** In addition to the requirements of the Graduate School, the following departmental requirements must be satisfied by candidates for a Doctor of Philosophy degree with a concentration in either computer science or computer engineering.

A student is admitted to candidacy by first passing a Ph.D. Qualifying Examination and then, at a later time, a Candidacy Examination on the student’s dissertation proposal. The student must attempt the Ph.D. Qualifying Examination no later than the beginning of the second year of study for students admitted to the program with a master’s degree and no later than the beginning of the third year for students admitted to the program without a master’s degree.

The Qualifying Examination is scored Pass or Fail on each of the four sections of the examination. If a Fail is assigned on any section of the examination, then the student must repeat that section at the next administration of the examination. A second failure will terminate the student’s course of study in the doctoral program. In preparation for the Ph.D. Qualifying Examination, a student should refer to the CSCE Graduate Student Handbook.

Each student must form a doctoral advisory committee before registering for dissertation hours. This committee must consist of four faculty members who hold qualifying status on the graduate faculty. Three members, including the chair, must hold regular or adjunct appointments in the Department of Computer Science and Computer Engineering. The fourth member should be from outside the department.

For the Candidacy Examination, the student is expected to present a dissertation proposal. Committee members will judge the proposal on its scientific merit, originality, and difficulty. Each Ph.D. student is required to defend a completed dissertation before his or her dissertation committee.

Summary:

1. All students must complete a minimum of 72 semester hours of graduate-level credit beyond the bachelor’s degree, including a minimum of 42 semester hours of course work and a minimum of 30 semester hours of dissertation research credits.
2. A minimum of 30 semester hours of course work must be at the graduate level (5000 or above)
3. Upon recommendation of the student’s advisory committee, a student who has entered the Ph.D. program after a master’s degree may receive credit for up to 30 semester hours. If the 30 hours includes master’s thesis research, the advisory committee may credit up to six hours of thesis research toward the minimum dissertation research requirement.
4. Ph.D. students must complete a minimum of nine semester credit hours of course work in a set of coherent courses in a related subject area approved by the student’s advisory committee.
5. Students must earn a minimum cumulative grade-point average of 3.0 on all graduate courses attempted.
6. Ph.D. students must complete and defend a dissertation on a topic in the student’s major field of study.

Students should also be aware of Graduate School requirements with regard to doctoral degrees.

10. Provide program budget. Indicate amount of funds available for reallocation.

No new funds are requested as existing resources for the PhD Computer Science will be repurposed for the PhD in Engineering (Computer Science).

11. Provide current and proposed organizational chart.

Current organization – College of Engineering, CSCE Department, Computer Science PhD

Proposed organization – College of Engineering, CSCE Department, Engineering PhD

12. Institutional curriculum committee review/approval date: November 11, 2015.

13. Are the existing degrees offered off-campus or via distance delivery? No

14. Will the proposed degree be offered on-campus, off-campus, or via distance delivery? If yes,

indicate mode of distance delivery. No

15. Provide documentation that proposed program has received full approval by licensure/certification entity, if required. (A program offered for teacher/education administrator licensure must be reviewed/approved by the Arkansas Department of Education prior to consideration by the Coordinating Board; therefore, the Education Protocol Form also must be submitted to ADHE along with the Letter of Notification).

There are no licensure requirements for the CSCE program.

16. Provide copy of e-mail notification to other institutions in the area of the proposed program.

17. List institutions offering similar program and identify the institution(s) used as a model to develop the proposed program.

Georgia Tech, Kansas State, University of Missouri – Columbia all offer similar programs through the Engineering College

18. Provide scheduled program review date (within 10 years of program implementation).

2017-2018

19. Provide additional program information if requested by ADHE staff.

President/Chancellor Approval Date:

Board of Trustees Notification Date:

Chief Academic Officer: Date: