30-Jan-2012

To Academic Council, Dixie State College of Utah:

The new degree in Computer Science is a great opportunity for the students at Dixie State College. On a state, national, and global stage, the title of “Computer Science” is more recognizable than “Computer and Information Technology.” Employers and graduate programs are looking for graduates with a degree in “Computer Science.”

We propose that the same opportunity be extended to graduates who already hold a bachelor's degree. There are at least two categories of graduates to consider. The first group consists of students who have completed the degree requirements for Computer and Information Technology with an emphasis in Computer Science under the requirements from 2007-2008 or newer. Those requirements were constructed with the Computer Science degree in mind, and are very similar to the current CS degree requirements. There are about 20 graduates that fall under this category. The second group consists of all others who already hold a bachelor's degree, whether from DSC's CIT program or another institution.

The recent CIT/CS graduates have completed the majority of the requirements of the Computer Science degree. We propose that these graduates be allowed to complete the remainder of the Computer Science degree requirements, even if the number of credits is less than 30. And that they will either be awarded the Computer Science degree in addition to the CIT/CS degree, or they will have their CIT/CS degree changed to CS. Most of these graduates are not looking for a second degree, but a degree with the “Computer Science” title.

Graduates who completed CIT/CS under earlier degree requirements, or completed a different bachelor's degree will have more than 30 credits of additional requirements to complete the Computer Science degree. We propose that these graduates be allowed to complete the remainder of the Computer Science degree requirements. And that they will be awarded the Computer Science degree, in addition to their previous degree.