



DEAN'S RESPONSE TO PROGRAM REVIEW
M.S. Computer Science
College of Science

The purpose of the Dean's Response is to highlight the strengths and opportunities within the program, aiding the prioritization of the program's action plan. It allows the dean to offer support to the program, identify common interests across programs within the college and Cal Poly Pomona, and connect relevant resources on- and off-campus. Encapsulating these efforts helps align priorities for continuous improvement, and attempts to meet identified resource needs.

Date(s) of External Review: April 2022

External Reviewers:

- Eun-Young Elaine Kang, Department of Computer Science, Cal State LA
- Christopher Ryu, Department of Computer Science, Cal State Fullerton

Key Strengths of the Program. *Provide a list of the top (5 or less) program strengths. Further details are only necessary if they are absent from the self-study, external review report, internal review report, or department response.*

As noted by the external reviewers, the MS-CS curriculum is well-designed, reflecting modern technologies and providing students with rich research opportunities via thesis and project options. The faculty provide a diverse range of expertise and work with the students closely, providing funding support with grant opportunities when possible. Adequate support is provided by the department and college for teaching and research, including supervisory WTU's for thesis/project credit. The department's working environment is collegial and has dedicated staff members. Due to student demand, the department continues to recruit tenure-track faculty each year, with support from the dean's office for startup funding and additional assigned time to remain competitive.

Priorities for Action. *Provide a prioritized list of the top (5 or less) areas of improvement for the program. Further details are only necessary if they are absent from the self-study, external review report, internal review report, or department response.*

The short- and long-term priorities of the action plan were discussed with the dean's office and are fully supported. The department has a few short-term priorities in the area of curriculum (PEOs, roadmaps, career pathways) and assessment (SLO/PEO mapping), as well as plans to determine the optimal size of the program given its teaching capacity. The short-term priority of adding another administrative staff member was completed in February 2023 to support the growing number of majors and graduate students in the department. In the long term, the department will explore more online components and a possible online self-support program. Another important priority is the establishment of a more sustainable workload model for management of admissions/advising for the program. The college supports 3 WTU assigned time per semester for the current graduate coordinator, similar to other graduate programs of comparable size. The identification of additional workspace is a priority and this remains a considerable challenge in the college.

Dean's Name: Alison Baski

Dean's Signature: Alison Baski 10/20/2023