**FSU Department of Computer Science Undergraduate Curriculum Committee**

**Meeting Minutes**

Friday, February 2, 2024

**Opening:**

The 3rd Meeting of the Computer Science Undergraduate Curriculum Committee was called to order at 2:30 PM EST by Sharanya Jayaraman, UCC Chair. The meeting was held in LOV 307 and over Zoom.

**Attendees:**

Sharanya Jayaraman, UCC Chair

David Whalley, UCC Member

Robert Myers, UCC Member

Zhenhai Duan, UCC Member

Christopher Mills, UCC Member

Gang-Ryung Uh, UCC Member

Sue Jung, CS Undergraduate Advisor

Francis Schotanus, Student Representative

Randolph Langley, Teaching Faculty III

Daniel Schwartz, Professor

David Gaitros, Teaching Faculty III

Karen Works, Teaching Faculty I

**Approval of Agenda**

The meeting Agenda was approved as distributed.

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of the previous CS UCC Meeting were approved unanimously.

**Business From the Previous Meeting**

No items were pending from the previous meeting.

**New Business**

***Discussion on a new course on NoSQL Databases***

Karen Works introduced a proposal for a new course on Non-Traditional Databases. The course aims to provide an introduction to the range of NoSQL databases, including Key-Value stores, Graph Databases, and Document Stores. The course was initially proposed in Meeting 1 of AY 23-24 but was sent back for a discussion with the database faculty at the Tallahassee Campus. It was reintroduced at this meeting after consultation and approval from Daniel Schwartz and Peixiang Zhao.

David Gatiros and Daniel Schwartz confirmed that this course is not intended to replace COP 4710 (Introduction to Databases), but to serve as an elective that addresses newer concepts. David Whalley confirmed that faculty in both campuses are available and willing to teach the new course.

The proposal was put to a vote and was approved unanimously. The course will now be submitted to the Curriculum Request Application.

***New Textbook for COP 4710***

Daniel Schwartz proposed adding Fundamentals of Database Systems, 7th Edition by Ramez Elmasri and Shamkant B. Navathe as one of the approved textbooks for COP 4710 Introduction to Databases. The textbook was discussed and approved by the cognizant faculty in both Tallahassee and Panama City and was considered more aligned to the course objectives than the current textbooks. The proposal was put to a vote and unanimously approved by the UCC to be added to the two existing textbooks on the list.

***Discussion on required UNIX topics in COP 3363***

David Whalley introduced a proposal to streamline the various UNX commands taught in COP 3363 across different instructors. The rationale behind this proposal was based on observations from instructors of downstream courses that students were deficient in UNIX proficiency. Bob Myers presented a list of standard commands that were covered in COP 3363 by current instructors. The committee members also discussed ways to specify this list as an internal document. It was decided to allow time for the cognizant faculty to discuss this issue and bring a proposal to the UCC.

***Discussion on requiring COP 3363 for majors and COP 3014 for non-majors***

Sharanya Jayaraman proposed a clarifying language for COP 3363 and COP 3014. Currently, CS majors may take COP 3363 or COP 3014 and COP 3353. Non-majors who are required to show programming proficiency are directed towards COP 3014 but sometimes choose to take COP 3363. This results in a mixed-audience situation where the class intended for non-majors must be taught as if it were designed for majors, with the same level of detail and minutiae. There are also non-majors in the class designed for majors, who feel out of their depth. This results in student disengagement and poor results. Chris Mills suggested this could be handled through directions to the advising staff, as the CRA syllabus already states the intended audience for each class. Sue Jung stated that students enroll in some courses, sometimes contrary to their advice, due to time constraints, mapping constraints, etc. The UCC decided to take this proposal to the cognizant faculty and then to the CS faculty at large for further discussion.

**Additions to the Agenda**

Sharanya Jayaraman called for any new business to be added to the agenda. None were proposed.

**Agenda for the Next Meeting**

The next UCC Meeting was tentatively scheduled for Friday, March 22, 2024. The agenda for this meeting is to clarify the required UNIX topics for COP 3363 and any other proposals introduced in the meantime.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 PM by Sharanya Jayaraman.

Minutes Prepared by Sharanya Jayaraman