



# Comprehensive Program Review

University System of Georgia

## CPR Report Submitted!

**Thank you for submitting a Comprehensive Program Review Report.** Below is the information you sent on June 30, 2003. *Please note* this is a temporary web page and cannot be bookmarked. You may wish to print this page for your records. You will also receive confirmation via email.

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- 2                   **Title:** Director, Center for Institutional Effectiveness
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- 5                   **Institution:** Kennesaw State University
- 6    **Review Status:** Non-triggered Review
- 7    **Degree level:** Bachelors
- 8    **Degree acronym:** BS
- 9    **Degree/Major:** BS in Computer Science
- 10                  **CIP Code:** 11010100
- 11                  **College,** College of Science & Mathematics  
**School/Division:**
- 12                  **Department:** Department of Computer Science & Information Systems
- 13                  **CPR Plan** Yes  
**followed:**
- 14 **Future institutional** Expand and enhance  
**plans for program:**
- 15 **Plan for resources** add  
**in this program:**
- 16 **Supplemental file:** CPR FINDINGS to BOR - B.S. Computer Science.doc
- 17                  **File Type:** MS Word
- 18 **CPR Web Addr.:** www.kennesaw.edu

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**CPR FINDINGS AND PLANS  
FOR THE  
B.S. WITH A MAJOR IN COMPUTER SCIENCE  
AT KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY**

**MAJOR FINDINGS ON THE PROGRAM'S QUALITY, PRODUCTIVITY, & VIABILITY**

The program's self-study and the University Program Review Council were in substantial agreement in their evaluations of the quality, productivity, and viability of the highly popular undergraduate program in computer science. The program was judged to be strong in overall quality, very strong in overall productivity and clearly viable. All but one of the 15 quality indicators were judged to be strong or very strong. The department's faculty were rated as very well qualified, professionally and academically, and were among the most diverse at KSU. The allocation of seven Yamacraw faculty positions to KSU has generated substantial increases in faculty strength for the CS program in particular and has expanded applied connections and research with industry. The new Clendenin addition was expected to provide state-of-the-art departmental and instructional facilities for CS and IS. The program's unsuccessful attempt several years ago to secure CSAB accreditation led to the Council's sole rating of satisfactory on the quality indicator of curricular adherence to national standards. The program received strong or very strong ratings for almost all of the productivity indicators (10 of 12). At the time of program review, the number of CS majors had grown rapidly to nearly 600 (from 408 in Fall 1998 to 585 in Fall 2002). The number of degrees completed in CS now stands at an average of 46 per year for FY00, FY01 and FY02. Required course enrollments were very strong as was the faculty's instructional productivity and the program's cost-effectiveness. The Council identified several opportunities for improvement in program productivity that focused largely on increasing the graduation rate and annual degree completions by attending to possible "chokepoints" in program progression. The ratio of graduates to upper division majors in this program is low by KSU standards. The Council also recommended stronger recruitment efforts aimed at attracting more female students into the program.

**PLANS FOR IMPROVING THE PROGRAM'S QUALITY, PRODUCTIVITY, & VIABILITY**

Some of the more notable plans for improvement include: securing national accreditation; sharpening enrollment and classroom management techniques; giving greater emphasis to requisite math and communications skills to enhance student success in the program; increasing involvement in freshman learning communities for prospective majors; lessening prerequisite "chokepoints" for program progression; and expanding the faculty and other resources needed to serve a rapidly growing program. The needs for additional high technology equipment and CS labs are particularly important for maintaining a quality program in CS.

## **NEW RESOURCE ALLOCATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT**

Kennesaw State's funding and expenditures per FTE student have been substantially below average throughout the university's relatively brief history. New funding and facilities have lagged KSU's exceptional rate of growth over the years. Consequently, the student/faculty ratio at KSU is exceptionally high, and the institution would need another 150 full-time faculty to reach the average of the other state and regional universities in the USG. In that context, there is substantial justification for enhancing most degree programs with additional investments in full-time faculty support. However, this review and its recommendations were completed in the context of a statewide and national economic downturn, significant budget cutbacks in the State's, the University System's, and KSU's operating budgets, and little prospect of KSU receiving special catch-up funding from state appropriations in the near term.

The Council concurred with the self-study that the program should be enhanced and expanded to meet the strategic needs of the state for technology specialists. Funding for faculty and program expansion was expected to come from institutionally redirected and self-generated sources. Industry and grant support for program enhancement was also encouraged. Maximum utilization of Yamacraw allocations and support was considered essential.

## **PLANS FOR INCREASING PROGRAM PRODUCTIVITY ABOVE THRESHOLD**

Not applicable. This program was not triggered for special review by the System Office.