



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.

- 1 **Name:** Edwin A. Rugg
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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 with a major in Information Systems
- 10 **CIP Code:** 11040100
- 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. Information Systems.doc

- 17 **File Type:** MS Word
- 18 **CPR Web Addr.:** www.kennesaw.edu/ie

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**CPR FINDINGS AND PLANS
FOR THE
B.S. WITH A MAJOR IN INFORMATION SYSTEMS
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 information systems. The program was judged to be very strong in overall quality, very strong in overall productivity and clearly viable. All of the 15 quality indicators were judged to be strong or very strong. Curricular adherence with new national standards was expected to result in this program being one of the first to undergo national accreditation in IS. The new Clendenin addition was expected to provide state-of-the-art departmental and instructional facilities for CS and IS. Progressive new specialty areas such as information security and e-business appeared to be especially responsive to emerging needs in the field. The department's faculty were rated as very well qualified, professionally and academically, and were among the most diverse at KSU. Similarly, the program received strong or very strong ratings for all 12 of the productivity indicators. At the time of program review, the number of IS majors had grown rapidly to over 600. The number of degrees completed in IS now stands at an average of 94 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 noted that the program had very strong potential for model and exemplary status and was responding in an exemplary manner to strategic state needs for technology specialists.

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.

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.

PLANS FOR INCREASING PROGRAM PRODUCTIVITY ABOVE THRESHOLD

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