

SIGCSE Board Conference Call re CS and Faculty Governance
May 26, 2010

Attending: Doug, Barb, Renee, John, Alison, Ingrid
Meeting called to order 2:06 PM EDT

Discussion of the situation at Albion College

This is a poor time to cancel a CS program: graduation rates are low now, but freshman and sophomore enrollments seem to be rising.

The governing board at Albion apparently bypassed faculty in making this decision.

It's not SIGCSE's role to criticize the operations of a specific institution; we should be concerned with broader principles.

SIGCSE should consider how to argue in support of CS as an academic field:

... We urge the new board to make a priority of dealing with this, specifically by developing statements that outline

1. The importance of computer science in the college curriculum.
2. The importance of computing to everyone.

Motion to adopt the statement...

“SIGCSE strongly endorses the principle that faculty members are professionals who through virtue of their specialized expertise ought to have primary responsibility for matters of curriculum and faculty status. SIGCSE supports particular expressions of that principle which have been developed within the context of individual nations' and regions' higher education systems. One such statement is the Statement on Government of Colleges and Universities (within the United States as found at <http://www.aaup.org/AAUP/pubsres/policydocs/contents/governancestatement.htm>)
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Moved by Ingrid, Seconded by Renee

Vote: 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstain

Action: Barb will wait until tomorrow in case anyone finds further examples of statements of academic governance to cite in our statement, and will then...

Circulate the statement via sigcse-announce and sigcse-members.

Send the statement to Dan to put on the SIGCSE Web page.

Send the statement to Henry to put in the SIGCSE Bulletin.

Put discussion of the statement on the agenda for the ACM Education Council meeting on June 21.

Barb encourages the next board to encourage the organizers of the CSEd-research mailing list to move it to some place where it will be archived.

Adjourned 3:00 PM EDT