

PROJECT DOCUMENTATION

PROJECT: Grinnell College
Noyce Science Center Phase II
Grinnell Iowa

COMMISSION NO.: 14233-17
DATE: October 23, 2000

DESCRIPTION: A meeting to review the needs of the Computer Science Department related to Phase II of the Science Center was held at Grinnell College on September 7, 2000.

PARTICIPANTS: Sam Rebelsky Mathematics/Computer Science
Gene Herman Mathematics/Computer Science
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DISTRIBUTION: Vicki Wade
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- 1.0 Sam Rebelsky distributed several documents, including “Planning for Computer Science in Phase II, “Open Laboratory use in Math/CS, “Comments from CS Students”, a sample CS Room Schedule, and a Sample CS Course Schedule.
- 2.0 As these documents supply all of the “nuts & bolts” data required to produce a basic space requirements program for Computer Science (including suggested space allocations), the session concentrated more on the nature of the CS program, what type of students become CS majors. How is the program similar to and different from other programs in the Division.
- 3.0 Some meaningful information from the discussion.
 - 3.1 Computer Science is a strongly math-grounded major with a long string of prerequisites. The field has national curricular guidelines that in turn, directly relate to requirements for the major.
 - 3.2 Compared to other Grinnell students, including other students in the Sciences and Mathematics, CS students include a greater percentage of international students, a larger percentage of students with a direct CS career orientation, and a larger percentage of students who may see a Grinnell CS major as a terminal degree.
 - 3.3 There is a tremendous need for open computer lab space for CS students. Some of this space could double as CS instructional lab space. Lab space is

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needed throughout the day and evening for CS students. Sharing these labs with Math or other non-CS users presents a range of practical, pedagogical and social issues better resolved with dedicated lab spaces.

3.4 A CS analog of the Math Lab space is needed for CS students, for the reasons cited in 3.3 above.

3.5 Mathematics and CS should be in close proximity.

3.6 CS should be well integrated with the rest of the Division. The current building plan works against serendipitous collegiality.

4.0 The CS major has grown very rapidly, and can be expected to grow more. A leveling off at around 24 yearly CS graduates seems to be a reasonable planning target.

The preceding notes constitute Holabird & Root's understanding of the matters addressed. If your understanding differs, please notify Dennis Vovos within five working days of your receipt of this document.

HOLABIRD&ROOT LLP

Dennis Vovos
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DV/ct