

## **Paul G. Allen History and Growth**

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**July 2007**

**Updated May 2011**

**Updated September 2017**

**Updated January 2018**

**Updated January 2019**

**Updated June 2021**

**Updated November 2021**

Here is “a brief history of the Paul G. Allen School,” omitting some minor perturbations for the sake of clarity:

- 1967-68: Established as the Computer Science Group, an interdisciplinary graduate program reporting to the Graduate School. Housed in Roberts Hall.
- 1968-69: Jerre Noe recruited from Stanford Research Institute (now SRI International) as first chair.
- 1974-75: Had reached 9.0 tenure-track FTE faculty: 5 transferred from other UW units, and 4 hired externally. (Throughout, “FTE” refers to faculty on-board, not “authorized strength.”) Departmental status conferred as the Department of Computer Science, an inter-college unit reporting to both the College of Arts & Sciences and the College of Engineering.
- 1975-76: Had reached 11.0 tenure-track FTE. Received 4 additional faculty positions for introducing a Bachelors program in Computer Science that would award 40 degrees per year. Relocated to Sieg Hall.
- 1979-80: Had reached 13.0 tenure-track FTE. Provost moves the department to the College of Arts & Sciences (eliminating the reporting relationship to the College of Engineering).
- 1982-83: Had reached 15 tenure-track FTE. Graduate program ranked #9 nationally for faculty quality and #10 nationally for effectiveness of graduate program by National Academies.
- 1983-84: Had reached 17.0 tenure-track FTE. Received 7 additional faculty positions for growing the Bachelors program in Computer Science to 80 degrees per year.
- 1988-89: Had reached 22.0 tenure-track FTE. Provost moves the department to the College of Engineering as the Department of Computer Science & Engineering. Received 1.83 FTE of partial appointments of EE faculty, plus 6 new faculty positions for introducing a Bachelors program in Computer Engineering that would award 40 degrees per year. (This was an explicit legislative budget line.)
- 1996-97: Had reached 29.83 tenure-track FTE. Received 5 additional faculty positions for introducing a Professional Masters Program that would award 40 degrees per year. (This was an explicit legislative budget line.) Also received a special position for a senior recruitment.
- 1999-00: 29.67 tenure-track FTE. Received 6 additional faculty positions for growing our Bachelors programs by 40 degrees per year (for a total of 160 Bachelors degrees per year). Also received 3 additional faculty positions for research initiatives. (UW

chose to fund the Bachelors expansion out of general institutional enrollment funds rather than a high-demand initiative which was available that year, although startup funds were obtained through an explicit legislative budget line to the HEC Board. The 3 research-related positions were explicit legislative budget lines.)

- 2002-03: Provost converts Professional Masters Program from state-funded to self-sustaining.
- 2003-04: Relocated to the Paul G. Allen Center for Computer Science & Engineering. We had grown to the point where Sieg Hall, which had housed us since 1975, was providing only 30% of the space per FTE of our peers. The Allen Center – UW’s first largely-privately-funded building – was designed to put us at 80% of peer-average space at the size we were in 2001.
- 2007-08: Had reached 40.67 tenure-track FTE. Legislature provides high-demand funding to UW. Originally, the Provost planned to allocate none of this to CSE. After much tussle, with some funds coming from the Dean of Engineering, CSE received 7 new faculty positions to grow the Bachelors program from 160 to 184 degrees per year (50% of what we had requested), add a 5<sup>th</sup>-year Masters program producing 10 degrees per year, and add 20 FTE Ph.D. students producing an additional 4 Masters and 3 Ph.D. degrees per year.
- 2008-09: Had reached 43.17 tenure-track FTE. 1 position received from the Dean of Engineering for the ExCEL (Experimental Computer Engineering Laboratory) collaborative initiative with Electrical Engineering.
- 2009-10: At 42.67 tenure-track FTE. Budget cuts rescind all of the 2007-08 funds, and more. All enrollment increases are rolled back with the exception of the 5<sup>th</sup>-year Bachelors/Masters program, which we continue at a nominal level (although unfunded) in fairness to our students.

*At this point we are funded for – and producing – roughly 160 Bachelors degrees per year, 80 Masters degrees per year (45 from the Professional Masters Program and 35 from Ph.D. students), and 20 Ph.D. degrees per year. Given the 2009-10 rollback of the 2007-08 enrollment funding, it is fair to say that our most recent enrollment growth had been funded in 1999-00.*

- 2012-13: At 45.17 tenure-track FTE. After 12 years, we are finally funded for additional growth – to approximately 315 degrees per year (nominally 200 Bachelors, 90 Masters, and 25 Doctoral) – in this case through a legislative directive to UW to use internal funds to support additional enrollments in Engineering programs. (This is sometimes referred to as Proviso 1, even though it did not involve new funds. The Legislature became aware that UW had spent a previous allocation, intended for Engineering programs, in other ways, and directed UW to “make Engineering whole.”)
- 2013-14: At 47.17 tenure-track FTE. Growth funded, to approximately 395 degrees per year (nominally 250 Bachelors, 118 Masters, and 27 Doctoral). (This is referred to as Proviso 2, funded effective July 1 2013.)

*In 2014 – following Proviso 2 – we began discussions with Reps. Drew Hansen and Chad Magendanz. At this time we were granting roughly 310 degrees per year (building toward our funded level of 395). Drew and Chad undertook to grow us to double our current degree count (that is, to  $2 \times 310 = 620$ ), by funding the 225 additional degrees that would be required (above the currently funded 395). \$8 million per year was established as the cost of this. The plan was to implement this growth over two biennia, adding \$2 million per year to our budget.*

- 2015-16: Proviso 3. At 52.50 tenure-track FTE. Half of the total planned growth was funded over the two years of the biennium: to 450 degrees per year (nominally 298 Bachelors, 124 Masters, and 28 Doctoral) in 2015-16 and to 505 degrees per year (nominally 345 Bachelors, 130 Masters, and 30 Doctoral) in 2016-17.
- 2016-17: On March 9, 2017 – in our 50th anniversary year – the University of Washington Board of Regents voted to create the Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science & Engineering, elevating the status of CSE within the university and linking us in perpetuity with the internationally renowned investor, philanthropist, and computing pioneer. At the ceremony, Paul read from the letter that Hellmut Golde had sent him in 1971, ordering him and his friend Bill Gates to turn in their keys to the Computer Science Laboratory as a consequence of some minor transgressions.
- 2017-18: Proviso 4. Instead of allocating us the planned \$2 million in the first year of the biennium and \$4 million in the second year (completing the \$8 million per year budget increment to double our degree production), the biennial budget allocated only \$1 million in each year, and used broad language. The Dean of Engineering gave us \$0.5 million annually from Proviso funds, and \$0.5 million in ABB funds, allocating the other \$0.5 million in Proviso funds to other Engineering units. We have no idea what the point of this was, but any rate, there was a clear commitment to not count the ABB funds as “an ABB allocation” since these funds were a replacement for Proviso funds that the Legislature had intended for us. At 58.17 tenure-track FTE. Growth funded, to approximately 534 degrees per year (nominally 370 Bachelors, 133 Masters, and 31 Doctoral).
- 2018-19: Proviso 5. At 64.83 tenure-track FTE. We received an additional \$3 million per year in the supplemental budget, completing our growth to approximately 620 degrees per year (nominally 450 Bachelors, 135 Masters, 35 Doctoral). The Bill & Melinda Gates Center for Computer Science & Engineering opened, doubling our space; like the Allen Center, it was largely privately funded.
- 2019-21: A proviso was funded to grow programs in the College of Engineering, but the College chose to allocate none of it to the Allen School. Made no sense in terms of student demand or employer demand: the Allen School’s capacity relative to student demand is far, far lower than the rest of the College of Engineering, and the workforce gap in computing (the gap between jobs available and degrees granted) is far greater than in the rest of Engineering.
- 2021-22: At 73.50 tenure-track FTE. At Representative Drew Hansen’s request, we provided a play to grow by 400 degrees per year – 100 per biennium for 4 biennia – with a focus on students from traditionally underrepresented groups. We had hoped to be funded to grow by 100 degrees per year during the 2021-23 biennium, but received only half of this via Proviso 6 in the regular session: we received an additional \$2 million per year to grow to 670 degrees per year (nominally 500 Bachelors, 135 Masters, and 35 Doctoral).
- 2022-23: We are seeking Proviso 7, an additional \$2M per year to grow by the full 100 degrees per year to 720 degrees per year (nominally 550 Bachelors, 135 Masters, 35 Doctoral). Masters and Doctoral degrees will grow, but our overriding goal is to address Bachelors demand.