

March 24, 1967

PERMANENT FILE COPY

Dean Joseph L. McCarthy
Graduate School
Campus

Dear Dean McCarthy:

Please be advised that in response to the recommendation of the administration the Board of Regents at its meeting today authorized the faculty of the Computer Science Committee to offer a graduate program leading to the degrees of Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in the field of computer science for a provisional period of five years to expire on June 15, 1972 unless other action is taken.

Sincerely yours,

Charles E. Odegaard
President

CEO:mkb

cc: Mr. John Gardner

Date March 8, 1967

RECEIVED

TO President Charles E. Odegaard

FROM Dean Joseph L. McCarthy

MAR 8 1967

Executive Offices

The Graduate School

OFFICE OF
THE PRESIDENTSubject Recommendation for new degree program for Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Science
in the field of computer science

Dear President Odegaard:

(1) The faculty of the Computer Science Committee has requested authorization to offer a graduate program leading to the degrees Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in the field of computer science.

(2) Rapid advances in computer technology in recent years have given rise to a demand for trained personnel to operate and help design computers having ever-increasing capabilities. According to a report published in February, 1966, by the National Academy of Sciences, ". . . operation of computers and instruction in their use by self-taught amateurs will be less and less acceptable and the pressure for properly trained personnel for these and other matters connected with computers is growing sharply." To meet this need, graduate programs in computer science have been instituted by a number of universities throughout the country; however, the NAS report continues, "the production of graduates from these programs at the doctoral level is yet so small as to be negligible in comparison with the needs." West of the Rocky Mountains, only Stanford, Washington State University, and the University of California at Berkeley currently offer programs leading to graduate degrees specifically in the field of computer science. If the proposed program were now initiated, the University of Washington would be able to utilize the excellent facilities of the Computer Center to help fulfill a vital national and local need for computer scientists.

(3) The proposal has been given careful review by members of the faculty and by administrative officers. A copy of the review procedure used is attached herewith, and copies of the proposal and various related papers are also transmitted to you at this time.

(4) The ad hoc Computer Science Graduate Degree Committee, appointed by the Dean of the Graduate School to carry out the initial review, recommended approval of the proposal. The names of the members of this Committee are: Professor Ernest M. Henley (Physics), Chairman; Professor Richard S. Pierce (Mathematics); Professor Austin V. Eastman (Electrical Engineering); and Professor Juris Hartmanis (Chairman, Department of Computer Science, Cornell University).

(5) Copies of the proposal were sent on September 26, 1966, to the graduate deans of the four other public institutions in the State of Washington: Washington State University, Central Washington State College, Eastern Washington State College and Western Washington State College. Responses received have been thoughtful and entirely favorable to the initiation of the proposed program.

(6) Subsequent reviews by the Group III, Group VI, and Group VII Operating Committees and by the Graduate School Executive Committee concurred with the recommendation that the program be approved.

President Charles E. Odegaard

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(7) I have approved the proposed program leading to the degrees Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in the field of computer science, and I now recommend that the President and the Board of Regents approve this subject program and degree for a provisional period of five years to expire on 15 June 1972 unless other action is taken.

Yours very sincerely,

E. C. Lingafelter

for

Joseph L. McCarthy
Dean

JLM:am

Attachments