Academic Year 2007/08 Assessment Report

Master of Science (M.S.)
Department of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science
College of Engineering

The assessment plan of the M.S. program in Computer Science is based upon the following <u>assessment tools</u>:

1. **Alumni Surveys**, filled out by recent graduates of the program,
2. **Graduate Student Exit Survey**, filled out by students during the semester in which they graduate,
3. **Cooperative Education Surveys**, filled out by industry supervisors of coop students,
4. **Grades in the CS 720 Theoretical Foundations of Computer Science Course**, offered each fall semester, and
5. **Successful completion of one of the three options required for a masters degree:** project, thesis, or additional coursework.

The following <u>assessment data</u> was analyzed in the 2007/08 year:

1. 14 Alumni Surveys were received,
2. The Graduate School Exit Survey database of computer science graduates,
3. Employer evaluations of the performances of 3 graduate students in the cooperative education program.
4. Grades of 15 graduate students who took CS 720 in fall 2007, and
5. The graduation of 24 students in the masters program.

From the data collected, the department concluded that the <u>following goals are satisfied</u>:

1. (Student Outcome) The student will gain advanced knowledge of the mathematical foundations of computer science, and
2. (Student Outcome) Graduates will have depth of knowledge in an area of specialty within computer science.
3. (Student Outcome) Graduates will gain
   a. advanced skills in software development,
   b. skills and experience in conducting research, or
   c. breadth of knowledge in computer science.

From the same data, it is apparent that the following goals, however, <u>could not be adequately measured or else were not met</u>:

1. (Program Objective) To provide students with advanced level knowledge and skills required for productive employment in industry and government.
2. (Program Objective) To provide students with the academic skills required for employment in research and for further graduate study in computer science.

In fall 2008, the computer science was moved from the Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and merged with the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. Future changes will be made after the strategic goals of the combined departments are identified.