



Item: AS: A-1

## COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

Tuesday, June 4, 2019

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF FOR –CREDIT SELF-SUPPORTING PROGRAM  
- CIP 11.0101**

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### PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION

Request for approval of the following For-Credit Self-Supporting Program:

- Master of Science in Computer Science (specialized track: Professional) (11.0101)

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The new track in the Master of Science in Computer Science program is proposed as an additional track within the existing degree program. The Department of Computer and Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (CEECS) in the College of Engineering and Computer Science (COECS) proposes the delivery of a Master of Science in Computer Science Professional Track to target, but not limit to, working professionals in South Florida. This track enables working professionals to advance their career with an accelerated graduate program and obtain an advanced degree while continuing their professional career. This ten-month program offers courses for a duration of 4 weeks in the evenings, weekends, and online for a total of 30 credits. The expected completion time is 1 year. Students will participate in the program in cohort.

### IMPLEMENTATION PLAN/DATE

Effective Fall 2019, pending approval by the Florida Atlantic University Board of Trustees.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS


This track will not increase the university's fiscal liability or obligation and this self-supporting program cohort will not supplant an existing E&G funded degree.

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**Supporting Documentation:** New Degree Proposal Form

**Presented by:** Dr. Bret Danilowicz, Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost

**Phone:** 561-297-6350

 <b>FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY</b>	<b>NEW/CHANGE PROGRAM REQUEST</b> <b>Graduate Programs</b>	UGPC Approval _____ UFS Approval _____ Banner Posted _____ Catalog _____
	<b>Department</b> Computer and Electrical Eng. and Computer Science  <b>College</b> Engineering and Computer Science	
<b>Program Name</b> Professional Master of Science with Major in Computer Science	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>New Program</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Change Program</b>	<b>Effective Date</b> <small>(TERM &amp; YEAR)</small> Fall 2019
<b>Please explain the requested change(s) and offer rationale below or on an attachment</b>  CEECS department is proposing a self-supporting program called Professional Master of Science with Major in Computer Science. The Professional MS in Computer Science program is designed specifically for working professionals. They will be able to advance their career with an accelerated graduate program and obtain an advanced degree while continuing their professional career. The admission requirements and curriculum specifications are detailed in the attached document.		
<b>Faculty Contact/Email/Phone</b>  Hanqi Zhuang/zhuang@fau.edu/561-297-3413	<b>Consult and list departments that may be affected by the change(s) and attach documentation</b>  NA	
<b>Approved by</b> Department Chair _____ College Curriculum Chair _____ College Dean _____ UGPC Chair _____ UGC Chair _____ Graduate College Dean _____ UFS President _____ Provost _____	<b>Date</b> 3/4/19 3/11/19 3/11/2019 3/27/2019 3/27/19 3/27/2019	

Email this form and attachments to [UGPC@fau.edu](mailto:UGPC@fau.edu) one week before the UGPC meeting so that materials may be viewed on the UGPC website prior to the meeting.

GRADUATE COLLEGE

MAR 12 2019

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## **Professional Master of Science with Major in Computer Science**

The Professional MS in Computer Science program is designed specifically for working professionals. They will be able to advance their career with an accelerated graduate program and obtain an advanced degree while continuing their professional career. The course offering format includes evenings, weekends, and online material using Canvas. The Professional MS in Computer Science has 30 graduate credits. Each course duration is 4 weeks. The students will be able to complete the program in 1 year. Only the non-thesis option is available.

### **Admission Requirements**

To qualify for unconditional or full acceptance into the Professional MS in Computer Science program, applicants are required to meet all the admission requirements for the MS with major in Computer Science program.

Conditional admission may be available under extraordinary circumstances to applicants who show high promise to successfully complete the program and have received a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution, but who fall short of the GPA and/or the GRE requirement. In these cases, the Professional MS in Computer Science admissions committee will carefully review the application and account for aspects including but not limited to: grade trends, mature work experience, work accomplishment and promotion, type and rigor of undergraduate degree program, references and letters of recommendation.

### **Curriculum**

Same requirements as specified in the degree requirements for non-thesis option for master's degree with major in Computer Science.

### **Program Fees**

The Professional MS in Computer Science is a full-service, all-inclusive program. Professional MS in Computer Science Program fees cover all program costs, including tuition, text books, course materials and graduation activities.

### **Application Process and More Information**

To apply to or receive more information about the Professional MS in Computer Science Program, visit the Computer & Electrical Engineering and Computer Science [website](#) or call 561-297-3855.

GRADUATE COLLEGE

APR 02 2019

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FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

Proposal for For-Credit Self-Supporting Program

*This form must be completed and submitted to Continuing Education/Office of the Provost. New degrees, or an existing degree with a different curriculum tied to Self-Supporting delivery, must be approved through the normal faculty governance process.*

**College or Academic Unit:** College of Engineering and Computer Science

**Department/School of Academic Unit:** Computer & Electrical Engineering & Computer Science

**Name of Degree:** Master of Science with Major in Computer Science

**Specialized track (if applicable):** Professional

**CIP Code:** 11.0101

**Proposed Implementation Date:** Fall 2019

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**Describe the operation and delivery format of the program. Include information of the uniqueness of the program, the target audience, and enrollment projections.**

The Department of Computer and Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (CEECS) in the College of Engineering and Computer Science (COECS) at FAU is proposing a Professional Master of Science (MS) in Computer Science.

The course offering format includes evenings, weekends, and online material. The Professional MS in Computer Science has 30 credits, and the curriculum structure is similar to the existing MS in Computer Science degree. Each course duration is 4 weeks. The expected completion time is 1 year. Students will participate in the program in cohort. Students will start the program at the beginning of Fall/Spring/Summer semesters, or at the beginning of an 8-week mini-mester during the Fall/Spring semesters.

The targeted audience includes, but is not limited to, working professionals in South Florida. They will be able to advance their career with an accelerated graduate program and obtain an advanced degree while continuing their professional career. This ten-month program should enroll approximately 15 students per year with an ongoing enrollment of 30 students in year three and thereafter.

Implementation Timeframe	Projected Enrollment		
Year	Head Count	Credit Hours	FTE*
Year 1	15	450	18.75
Year 2	15	450	18.75
Year 3	30	900	37.50
Year 4	30	900	37.50
Year 5	30	900	37.50

\*FTE calculation is based on the standard national definition, which divides graduate credit hours by 24.

GRADUATE COLLEGE

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**State the tuition for the program and explain the process used to determine the proposed Self-Supporting tuition rate. Include information on similar programs being offered elsewhere and their self-supporting tuition rates.**

The tuition for the proposed Professional MS in Computer Science is the same for in-state and out-of-state students. This cost is based on competitive offerings across peer institutions and current SUS and FAU policies. The proposed cost per credit hour is \$800; thus students will complete 30 credit hours for a total tuition of \$24,000.

Current tuition for comparable online Master of Science programs, not in Computer Science, but in related areas, include:

University	Program	Tuition
Florida International University	MS, Computer Engineering (30 credits)	\$25,000
University of Central Florida	MS, Healthcare Systems Eng (30 credits)	\$37,174
University of Florida	MS, Electrical & Computer Eng (30 credits)	\$15,030 - \$21,750
Nova Southeastern University	MS, Computer Science (30 credits)	\$24,600

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**Describe how offering the proposed Self-Supporting program aligns with the mission of FAU (Race to Excellence 2015-2025). Please identify how this program assists the University in achieving its performance metrics. Include information on assessment of need and projected workforce demand.**

The Professional MS in Computer Science program aligns well with the Mission Statement of Florida Atlantic University as “a multi-campus public research university that pursues excellence in its missions of research, scholarship, creative activity, teaching, and active engagement with its communities” as we pursue excellence in teaching and engagement with the technology community.

The proposed program is aligned with the strategic plan of the University to grow research activities and education in engineering and computer science. The Professional MS in Computer Science contributes to the strategic goal of enriching the educational experience by strengthening and expanding graduate programs at FAU, as well as meeting professional and workforce needs. The program will be directly contributing to the increase of the number of MS degrees awarded in areas of strategic emphasis (STEM).

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**Provide a declaratory statement that the policy will not increase the state’s fiscal liability or obligation and that the Self-Supporting program cohort will not supplant an existing E&G funded degree program in the same discipline:**

This self-supporting program will not increase the state’s fiscal liability or obligation. The Self-supporting program cohort will not supplant an existing E&G funded degree program in the same discipline.

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**Identify any proposed restrictions or conditions of the program:**

There are no proposed restrictions or conditions of this program.

**Indicate how the unit will monitor the quality and success of the Self-Supporting program. Provide specific metrics that will be used:**

The Professional MS in Computer Science will use a cohort structure, which will promote timely graduation. In the cohort structure, the same group of students is expected to take the same sequence of courses in the program.

- Time to complete the program. The cohort structure reinforces timely graduation rates. In the cohort arrangement the same group of students takes the same courses throughout the duration of their time in the program. This arrangement is different from an alternative flexible structure, in which students self-select the course(s) they take in any given semester. In the proposed Professional MS in Computer Science, students are expected to complete the program in 1 year.
- Number of students enrolled. The number of students enrolled in each semester will vary. Students can start the program at the beginning of Fall/Spring/ Summer semesters, or at the beginning of an 8-week mini-mester during the Fall/Spring semesters. Enrollment is a function of economic conditions in the state, as well as a prospective student's self-assessment of their time and availability to commit to a program. An appropriate range of students in each semester is important to sustain a high level of student interaction and ensure sufficient contributions from each student.
- Student satisfaction. An overall satisfaction score will be reported for each program. The score will be a composite of items intended to measure student assessment of the program content, pedagogical effectiveness of the professor, and administrative services provided to the student.

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**Discuss the impact of the program on existing FAU programs. Explain how the unit will ensure that sufficient courses are available to meet student demand and facilitate completion of each program submitted for consideration. Will any similar E&G courses be eliminated or scaled back if this program is implemented.**

The Professional MS in Computer Science program will be managed in a cohort format, which will ensure that sufficient courses are available to meet student demand and facilitate completion of each program in a timely manner. The current MS in Computer Science program is non-cohort and it will not be impacted by the Professional MS in Computer Science. The two programs will run side-by-side.

**Provide the economic impact that this Self-Supporting program will have on the university and the student, anticipated revenue collection, how the revenue will be spent, whether any private vendors will be used and which budget entity the funds will be budgeted. Please attach a detailed budget for the program, including operation and costs for faculty, staff, contracts, admission, registration, marketing, recruitment, and scheduling. The budget needs to acknowledge the revenue from tuition and local fees collected by FAU and deductions for overhead fees such as Auxiliary Overhead (currently 11.19%) and Provost Fee (currently at 3%).**

A detailed budget for the Professional MS in Computer Science is provided. Tuition revenues from this self-supporting program will be sufficient to cover operation and costs for faculty, staff, marketing, and student services (admission, registration, and scheduling); and expect to spend 80% of the yearly cash balance, adding additional overhead revenues to the University. We are requesting that the gross revenue fee of 5.5% be waived during the first 3 years.

Once fully operational, we anticipate the program will generate \$720,000 annually from 2 cohorts of 15 students each. Tuition revenue will be used to cover instructional costs, program administration, student services, recruitment, maintenance and repair of facilities and equipment, and to support College and University initiatives. We expect net revenues of approximately \$348,000 after the three-year start period.

Private approved university vendors will be used for food catering, and to purchase textbooks and materials to support the program. The funds will be budgeted through an auxiliary account within the College of Engineering and Computer Science.

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**Provide any additional information if necessary. Indicate how the unit will assist the students with employment or career advancement:**

It is anticipated that the students in the Professional MS in Computer Science will be primarily working professionals in South Florida. We expect minimal to no need for career advancement assistance. Nevertheless, these students will have access to the career services in the College of Engineering and Computer Science.

**College of Engineering and Computer Science - Professional MS in Computer Science**

<b>Year 1</b>	<b>15 Students</b>
Total Course Revenues	\$ 360,000
Total Local Fees (athletics, financial aid, activity & service, health, capital imp., technology)	\$ (29,750)
<b>COECS Course Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 330,251</b>
Total Direct Expenses	\$ (130,500)
Total Indirect Expenses (Administrative and Marketing)	\$ (75,000)
Total Auxiliary Overhead Fee and Provost Fee from Program	\$ (29,160)
<b>Program Result - Year 1</b>	<b>\$ 95,591</b>

<b>Year 2</b>	<b>15 Students</b>
Total Course Revenues	\$ 360,000
Total Local Fees (athletics, financial aid, activity & service, health, capital imp., technology)	\$ (29,750)
<b>COECS Course Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 330,251</b>
Total Direct Expenses	\$ (130,500)
Total Indirect Expenses (Administrative and Marketing)	\$ (75,000)
Total Auxiliary Overhead Fee and Provost Fee from Program	\$ (29,160)
<b>Program Result - Year 2</b>	<b>\$ 95,591</b>

<b>Year 3</b>	<b>30 Students</b>
Total Course Revenues	\$ 720,000
Total Local Fees (athletics, financial aid, activity & service, health, capital imp., technology)	\$ (59,499)
<b>COECS Course Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 660,501</b>
Total Direct Expenses	\$ (164,250)
Total Indirect Expenses (Administrative and Marketing)	\$ (75,000)
Total Auxiliary Overhead Fee and Provost Fee from Program	\$ (33,950)
<b>Program Result - Year 3</b>	<b>\$ 387,301</b>

<b>COECS Program Result - First 3 Years</b>	<b>\$ 578,482</b>
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<b>FAU 3 Year Revenue from Rev Fees/Local Fees/Aux. Overhead/Provost Fee</b>	<b>\$ 211,268</b>
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<b>Yearly Program Result Year 4 and thereafter</b>	<b>\$ 347,701</b>
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We expect the College of Engineering and Computer Science to spend 80% of the yearly cash balance adding additional overhead revenues to the University.

**Stipulations:**

Local fees per credit: athletics (\$17.27), financial aid (\$15.18), activity & service (\$12.32), health (\$9.42), capital improvement (\$6.76), technology (\$5.16)

Provost fee at 3%

Auxiliary expenditure fee at 11.19%

Faculty salary at \$9,000 per class plus FICA

Food/Drink expense at \$40 per day on weekends per student

Books and materials estimated at \$145.00 per student per class

Gross revenue fee at 0% for first 3 years; 5.5% thereafter