Meeting Brief Minutes

Feb 21, 2015 in CE104 at 1 pm
Attendees: Anna Chiang, Ashok Patil, Manish Patel, Ken Taira and Milan Samplewala

Evaluating the text of CS902 and updating student learning outcome.

Meeting was called to order by Anna Chiang at 1 pm in CE104

Anna Chiang—There are about 10 sections of CS902 that we offer with four instructors annually. The existing textbook “Beginning Programming” has become optional, instructors use on-line resources like Python, Liberty Basic, Visual Basic etc. The purpose of this meeting is to decide a required textbook to adopt and to update the Student Learning Outcome.

Ashok Patil—the existing CS902 SLO is that at the end of this course, the successful student will be able to analyze, design, develop and test software programs to solve business and scientific problems.

Ken Taira—The student learning outcome should include the following: to be able to solve problems by analyzing the problem, determining requirements for input, output and processing, creating an algorithm for a computer solution, constructing flow chart and writing pseudocode.

To construct a flow chart, performing a memory trace of the operation of the proposed problem solution, testing and debugging operations, and construction of the final algorithm.

Manish Patel

SLO 1 and 2 can be combined into one. Assessment could be Psuedo-Code exercise.

There needs to be one additional SLO to demonstrate elementary coding skills.

Assessment methods for each of the SLO's have to be determined i.e. Multiple choice exam, essay, flow chart or computer program?

Milan Samplewala

The leaning outcome should be able to analyze, design, code, test, and document using flowcharts and pseudocodes using top-down structured programming techniques.

To demonstrate the ability to solve problems by examining, selecting, using, and
evaluating various algorithmic approaches to developing solutions; To devise a problem
solution to be converted to a program using the following algorithm
development techniques: problem analysis, determination of input, output, and any
required processing.

Anna Chiang-The division has voted to adopt the following text book for CS902 as the
required course material starting summer 2015:

Programming Logic and Design Comprehensive

The division has also updated the following CS902 Student Learning Outcome:

At the end of this course, the successful student will be able to ,

1. Analyze, design, write and test software programs which contain a. Decision Making

2. Write pseudocode and draw flowchart diagrams that represent the flow of program.

Ashok Patil ASSESSMENT - as measured by the following method:

Design a solution for a given problem that includes the usage of selection, repetition,
modules, and arrays.

Rubric Scale- demonstrates understanding of the logical process of developing
algorithms and offers a solution.

Computer Science course sequence discussions:

Anna Chiang:
One of the core indicators of program effectiveness and student success is the
number of degree/certificate awarded. Computer Programming track is not only for
transfer but also considered as CTE program.
We want to retain CS programming students and encourage them to take more
application/web programming courses to fulfill the requirement of
degree/certificate; college degree/certificate should help students market their
job skill too.
We have checked with other LACCD colleges that students must take CS902 and one
more programming class before taking CS939.

Ashok Patil: You notice that we offer nine sections of cs902. The students from
the 9 sections feed into 3 sections of cs939. Students from 3 sections of cs939
feed into 2 sections of cs990 and finally into one section of cs936.
another course will greatly impact the enrollment of all the classes from cs939 to cs990. So before adding any class into the sequence, there are bunch of issues that have to be considered such as:

1) Enrollment for advanced classes.
2) What are the contents of this new courses (Not the language).
3) What topics will it cover that we do not already cover?
4) How many sections/per year of the new course will be offered in year to maintain the current level of enrollment for the advance classes?
5) Are we going to measure the enrollment impact of this class to our advance classes? If so, how long? If we see a big drop after monitoring it for a few years, are we willing to revert to the previous sequence?

So we want to review the course contents of all of the classes. I am open to the idea of continuous revision of course sequence to reflect trends in technology. But, it has to be done only after methodical and thorough analysis.

Ken Taira: In what programming classes do we teach skills in using Github for version control and collaboration? I recall this came up at last year's Advisory Group meeting and seems to be a requirement now for much programming job applicants. Github might also be a good place for students to keep a portfolio of their programming work as employers evidently like to see that.

Ken Taira: Your proposal is well thought out. However, I cannot see an Introduction to Computer Science course with just integer and string data types. I would say it has to be integer, float, and string data types so we can show the problems of mixed mode operations. Likewise, I cannot imagine an Introduction to Computer Science Course without single or multi-dimensional arrays as they are at the heart of computer programming.

Ashok Patil: In the outline that I sent, I leave the multiple data types to be covered either in CS939 or CS938(option1).
Single and multi dimensional arrays would be covered either in CS939(option1) or CS938/CS939 in option2.

CS902 - Conditional statement, Boolean expression, loops, functions and array.
CS939 - data type in C++, classes, arrays, pointers & file handling
CS990 - data types in Java, classes, GUI, arrays, inheritance, exceptions advanced GUI.
CS936 - Recursion, generics, collections, array based list, linked list, stack and queues, binary trees.
Manish Patel—Inserting CS938 Visual Basic before CS939 will give students an exposure to Visual Studio and web application programming. The topics we cover like conditional statement, looping, lists, procedures, functions, arrays, classes, collections and inheritance will better prepare students move on to CS939.

Anna Chiang—To help students market their skills and pursue the certificates of achievement, we want to encourage students in CS major to take web & database programming; we also want to encourage students in web & database track to take CS990 Java programming.

Once we create a big pool of students who are doing CS and application programming (web, database and mobile), those courses can satisfy several certificates of achievement like CS, Web, Database and Mobile.

Students with multi talents should be able to apply for the internship or find a decent job.

The meeting was adjourned at 3 pm.
WEST LOS ANGELES COLLEGE

COMPUTER SCIENCE AND APPLICATION

Next Meeting:
West Los Angeles College provides a transformative educational experience. West fosters a diverse learning community dedicated to student success.