Graduate Center of CUNY

Minutes Computer Science Executive Committee Meeting October 2, 2015

Present: Robert Haralick (EO), Sergei Artemov (GC), Peter Brass (City College), Sven Dietrich (John Jay), Matt Johnson (Lehman), Theodore Brown (Queens College), Subash Shankar (Hunter), Zhanyang Zhang (CSI), Xiuyan Ni (Student), Maryam Ghaifari Saadat, (Student), Allan Zelener (Student)

- Agenda was approved
- The minutes of August 24, 2015 meeting were approved.

New Business

- Minutes of Meeting and Alternate – It was suggested that an alternate be listed in the minutes. It was also suggested that the alternate be nominated. Prof. Haralick will bring it up in the elections. A motion was made to approve the minutes. 1. 3 abstained and 4 voted yes.

- Program Budget – the budget has been increased from $2,200 to $4,500.

- A motion was made to change the Agenda, and discuss second item listed, “Master’s in Data Science.” This was because Maryam Ghaifari Saadat was not yet present to discuss “Professionalism” which was first item on agenda. The motion passed.

- Master’s in Data Science – it was discussed that the proposed Master’s in Data Science is parallel to the already approved Masters of Arts in Data Visualization. It can be a feeder for the Computer Science Ph.D. Program. A description and breakdown was given of this program. Executive Officer, Prof. Haralick discussed how the idea of this degree came about as well as what role the courses of Computer Science Ph.D. Program at the GC, would play in it. A Master’s of Science in Data Visualization will be proposed for State approval. The leadership is coming from the President of the Graduate Center. A committee has been formed for this led by Matt Gold. One of the names for the degree that was being considered is Big Data Visualization.

1. It was discussed how other Chairs at other CUNY Colleges rejected this idea as it would be in competition with the Master’s program at the senior colleges.

2. With additional students from Bachelor’s degree taking the CS courses as part of the Master’s in Data Science, the likelihood of our classes making the minimum enrollment of 5 is higher.

3. The question arose, as to how it could be possible that the Master’s Degree Program would be organized in Big Data and Data Visualization without the programmatic involvement of the Computer Science Program.

4. Allan Zelener suggested that courses from other programs such as Linguistics, could be cross-listed with those in the Master’s program.

- After Maryam arrived a motion was made to change Agenda back to Professionalism. The Motion passed.

- Professionalism – Maryam Ghaifari Saadat discussed that in the last Executive Committee Meeting, August 24th, 2015, there was a bit of chaos. Some Executive Committee members wanted to speak, but there was no room for them to speak in the conversation flow. Many people were interrupted. Maryam wanted Robert’s rules to be clarified at the beginning of the year.
1. Professor Peter Brass discussed that Robert’s rules have consequences and that minutes would only reflect votes taken in an election. He stated the more complete minutes we currently use are better.

2. Allen Zelener suggested for everyone to allow others to discuss things in a more harmonious manner, particularly making sure that students would have the opportunity to participate in the discussion.

- Governance – A motion was made to table consideration of the Governance changes until the next meeting. The motion passed:
  1. 9 Votes total
  2. 2 Abstain

The meeting was adjourned.