Assessment Plan for the MS degrees in

Computer Science and Computer Engineering

17 September 2015

The faculty of the Computer Science and Computer Engineering Department has adopted the following mission statement:

The Computer Engineering and Computer Science programs at the University of Arkansas strive for excellence among all its students and faculty. Faculty challenge students academically both in and out of the classroom, demonstrate standards of high quality scholarship and professional ethics, and mentor students so that they achieve academic and professional success. Students aim to work diligently to meet and exceed the expectations of the faculty, to become active, independent learners, and to engage in the intellectual and academic life of the program. By fulfilling this mission, the Computer Engineering and Computer Science program graduates will positively impact our community, the State of Arkansas, our nation, and the world.

Program Goals

1. Prepare students for significant applications of and contributions to Computer Science and/or Computer Engineering beyond graduation.

2. Produce theses that meet high academic standards and constitute significant applications of and contributions to Computer Science and/or Computer Engineering.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)

1. Students will make satisfactory progress toward the completion of the coursework required for the degree. Upon receiving a grade of C or below the student will be placed on probation. A second grade of C or below will result in dismissal from the program. A student may not graduate with a GPA less than 3.0.

2. Thesis students will write a thesis that meets high academic standards and constitutes a significant contribution to Computer Science and/or Computer Engineering.

3. Coursework students will demonstrate achievement of select course outcomes in a final oral defense.

4. Students will be able to communicate effectively.

Assessment Process

1. Timeline

a) Annual Graduate Student Academic Review is submitted to the Graduate School by June 30 each year.

b) Thesis students must submit a master's thesis and defend it in a comprehensive oral examination.

c) Coursework only students must give a short presentation and then answer questions related to select course outcomes in a comprehensive oral examination.

d) Assessment results and analysis will be presented at the August faculty meeting to stimulate discussion about program (or assessment process) changes

e) Graduating students will complete an exit survey which includes a self assessment and an evaluation of the graduate program.

2. Means of assessment

SLO1 is assessed annually through the Annual Graduate Student Academic Review.

SLO2 and SLO4 are assessed after the master's thesis defense through the completion of the evaluation form by Thesis

Committee members.

SLO3 and SLO4 are assessed after the final comprehensive oral exam through the completion of the evaluation form by Advisory Committee members.

Student evaluation of the CSCE graduate program will be collected through a form completed after the oral defense.