CIS Program Review

Purpose and Function

- Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Career and Technical Education (CTE) focus
- Industry certifications
- Course-specific skills
- Transfer
- Lifelong learning

Alignment with ARC mission

- "... inspires critical thinking learning and achievement..."
- "... earn [...] degrees and certificates, transfer [...], and achieve career [...]"
- Most programs (including some certificates) meet the min. qual. of an IT Technician with the State of CA., min. salary is $3783.00/mo with pension plan.
- After transfer and a B.Sc., computer science has one fo the highest "early career median salary" of $120,000/yr.

Program strengths

- SLO alignment
- Some disciplines have high productivity
- One of few colleges offering courses related to enterprise (mainframe) administration and programming

Opportunities

- Realignment of CISN courses to consolidate beginning courses
- Introduction of new and industry relevant cybersecurity courses and programs
- Restructuring courses to transition to Computer Science AS-T

Program Objectives (student service)

- Career alignment assessment tools
  - Holland code, MBTI, Big-5, etc.
  - Help students evaluate alternative programs
- Success Inventory
  - Skills, attitudes, motivations, resources, etc.
- Student Support
  - Faculty/staff to help students check all the boxes in the success inventory
- Innovate
  - Technology to help students check all the boxes in the success inventory
- Meaningful surveys
  - To look at the program from the perspective of students

Program Objectives (Curricular)

- Continue to keep curricula up-to-date
- Restructure courses to implement the AS-T
- Streamline degrees/certificates to improve productivity and throughput

Program Objectives (technological)

- HyFlex/SyncFlex possibilities
- Generative AI for ~~cheating~~ learning
- Tools to help students check some boxes in the success inventory

Student surveys

- Conducted one for this Program Review
- Findings:
  - Students realize the importance of time management, study support, studying location
  - Free resources are valued
  - Respondents tend to be "doing fine" with their grades, meaning the ones who are struggling do not respond as much
- Caveats:
  - Students do not know what they do not know
  - A general preference of students does not necessarily lead to an improved outcome

Closing

- CIS is a CTE-centric program to prepare students for ICT careers
- To close the DI-gap:
    - Identify the strengths of each student and recommend programs accordingly
    - Identify what each student need to succeed and help provide what is necessary
    - To engage with students and understand from their perspectives
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