

Alignment with Institutional Mission, Strategic Plan, and Existing Program Array

The current joint program, being focused on research and advanced education, clearly serves the broad UW–Milwaukee mission for discovery, research, and education, and supports the generation of new knowledge for the development and betterment of society. The new, split-off CS program will serve the same purpose.

Impact on Madison’s CS PhD Program: We do not expect that this program will have any effect on the CS PhD program in Madison. Our student pool is largely drawn from two groups. One is information technology professionals working in industry in Milwaukee. They choose UWM because it is convenient, and for them, Madison is too far to commute. The creation of a stand-alone CS PhD program will not affect these students. The other main group is foreign students, but our program and the program at Madison have different admission criteria (which is the current situation, and which will not change in the proposed program). As such, it is clear that the proposed program will neither produce unnecessary duplication within the UW System, nor impact the program at Madison.

Anticipated Resources

The department has 9 tenure track faculty and two Teaching faculty and shares administrative and advising staff in CEAS. The department has at least one open position for another teaching faculty, anticipated to be filled by January 2023. These existing resources are expected to be sufficient to deliver the program, as no other changes to the structure or administration of program are proposed other than the elevation to a full major.