1. Recent changes in major
   - Large increase of number of students in major
   - Double in last 4 years
   - Haven’t had to turn people away yet
   - 400 level classes are sometimes hard to get into
   - Over 1400- bigger than any department except Bio
   - Dealing with it:
     i. More TAs
     ii. Hiring adjuncts – work in labs from local industry, consultants, qualified people (but not full time)
     iii. Faculty and staff doing more work
     iv. Need more classes, more people, more money
     v. Faculty teaching fewer graduate courses
   - Graduate enrollment is pretty stable
   - Major is open: any student who wants to declare can
   - Graduate program isn’t “open”: CS Department controls admissions, not Office of Undergraduate Admissions
   - Not going to change to Limited Enrollment anytime soon- lots of opposition from university and state
     i. Don’t limit access to such a necessary resource of tech education
   - Students doing great
     i. Lots of companies hiring here
     ii. Lots of companies formed on campus
     iii. Lots of activities- social, career events, etc.
   - New initiatives:
     i. Cybersecurity
        1. Requires a set of hard classes
        2. Lots of interest from students before
        3. But unknown interest level now
        4. Required going through Education Committee within department (graduate, undergraduate, faculty representatives)
           a. Votes on education initiatives/policies
           b. Stuff available on department website
        5. Started this fall

2. New courses coming up
   - Cybersecurity special topics class
No new big classes in last year
Next year, looking at having experiments in data science classes
   i. Big data, machine learning, etc.
   ii. Faculty interested in it
Cryptology offered w/ math department
EE faculty also involved with it now
Cross-listing classes is hard with so many students and different admissions processes for diff. departments

3. Future of major
   In process of doing review from an internal and external view
   Department as a whole will be reviewed; not just undergrad part
   Redesigning introductory sequence of classes
   Every few years, needs to be reviewed
   Look at retention rate of students to improve graduation rate
   Preparing better for upper-level classes
   Certain classes have reputation for difficulty
      i. Make classes like 216 more accessible
      ii. How it’s delivered, not information taught
Flip classrooms
   i. Do more hands-on things
   ii. Handheld Systems class uses videos and such now
   iii. Faculty can create media for teaching
   iv. Short modules with exercises to do online or in class
   v. Less talking at students; more doing things w/ students
Reaching out to students in new ways
   i. Not many students affected yet, but that will change
   Some change is good, but don’t know all possible effects yet (can’t)

4. Advising
   We advise all students
   Not assigned advisor whole college career
      i. Have both full-time and part-time advisors: Can only do few students with such large enrollment
      ii. Old Way:
         1. First 2 years have advisors, then next 2 advise with instructors
         2. Theory: instructors have more experience in major, could advise better
      iii. BUT:
         1. Undergrad staff know just as much
         2. So they advise upper level students now
      iv. Not enough staff to make sure someone stays 4 years to advise you
      v. Take notes for future advisors
   Don’t know how well instructors know requirements outside CS
5. Common student issues you know of
   • Getting more students engaged in department activities
   • Many students get lost in the mass of students
     i. Voluntary sometimes
     ii. Feel they don’t have to or want to
   • We have interesting things
     i. Hackathons
     ii. Cybersecurity club
     iii. ACM with extracurricular activities
   • Instructors do pay attention to student’s class evaluations
   • Hard to form community with so many students
     i. Undergrad office is front lines
     ii. Others work with it, too
     iii. Biggest challenge
     iv. Gotten better over last year
   • Lots more events made over past year
   • Faculty Research Series (FAR)
     i. Good responses so far
     ii. Faculty say good turnout and feedback
   • Big problem with space for TAs
     i. AVW doesn’t have any space for it

6. Advice for talking to professor you’re doing badly in a class for
   • Don’t be afraid to talk to professor
   • Students don’t thing they’re serious about it
   • Faculty happy to talk
     i. How to help you do better
     ii. How to steer you to something else if not clicking
     iii. Don’t want them to suffer a whole semester
   • Big challenge
   • Students tend to be more comfortable talking with TAs instead of faculty
   • USE OFFICE HOURS
   • When students do talk to faculty, they tend to do better
   • Research project interest- must talk to faculty
     i. Not all faculty offer projects, but many do
     ii. All sorts of cool stuff- not all programming

7. Study abroad
   • Hasn’t been discussed much
   • Very few CS students study abroad
   • Because of requirements of major
   • Hard to take classes elsewhere to fulfill requirements
   • Not none, but not many
• Take a semester abroad = another semester in college
• Some good CS programs in Europe/Asia
• Could find partners- language barriers not an issue (English is main language of CS)
  i. Math graduate students had to pass 2 out of 3 exams in foreign language
  ii. Not true in CS- everything translated to English

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1. Current state of student life within CS
   • Overall, students are happy
     o Great job outlook
     o Lots of opportunity for learning
   • Classes are still very difficult
     o 131/132 are easier, give students confidence
     o 216 is considered a “weed-out” class, but it shouldn’t be
       ▪ Need to change way it is taught
       ▪ Must give students the bridge between content and application of concepts
     o After 216, students tend to take a break from work
       ▪ Consider hardest to be over
       ▪ Can lead to lower grades in upper level classes

2. Student involvement
   • Lots of involvement in academic events
     o Career Fairs
     o FAR Series
     o Company visits/tech talks
   • Lots of social events are planned each semester
     o However, many have low attendance
     o Possibly need to cut back on frequency
     o Students tend to think “I’ll just go to the next one”
   • Sense of community is a work in progress
     o Core group of 300 or 400 undergraduates that circulate between the various events that the department offers
     o Pretty good number; if whole department showed up each time, wouldn’t be able to handle everyone
     o Department wants everyone to be involved
       ▪ Need to make connections with faculty to be known
       ▪ Learn more/make friends
     o Many separate CS from their friends
       ▪ Consider CS to only be an academic thing, not social
       ▪ However, need friends in CS to help with classes
     o Hard to form community with a fast-growing number of students
- However, improving community feel is one of the goals of the Undergraduate Department