TO: Tamara Machmut-Jhashi
            Secretary to the University Senate

FROM: Austin Murphy
            Chair, Senate Budget Review Committee (SBRC)

RE.:   Computer Science Proposal

DATE: 4/5/07

The SBRC is in overall agreement with the proposal for a PhD in
Computer Science. However, a few minor problems have been noticed.

        Perhaps most importantly, the student survey on pages 47-48 only
lists the responses for 2 of the 8 multiple choice questions. Most
importantly, responses to questions #5 and #6 need to be listed. The
listed answers to #1 and #8 might be listed separately for those who
answer "yes" or "maybe" to #2 (as opinions on the program from those
students not interested in a PhD might not be extremely relevant).

        The letters at the very end of the proposal were very encouraging
and indicate the program likely will be very successful in educating
students for careers in the field, implying at least eventual success
in recruiting students. The additional synergy with MIS is also a plus.
However, the promotion of the program seems kind of light (at least
with respect to recruiting students from outside Oakland University),
as does the budget for promotion (=$0?). If initially, the program
doesn't attract many additional students, assumedly the hiring of the
extra faculty member could be postponed.

        In addition, it is unclear whether the estimated external funding
is gross or net of expenses. Only the contribution to OU's overhead
should be included in the incremental budget. While the program is
estimated to generate positive incremental cash flows even without this
incremental revenue, the item needs to be clarified or corrected.