

Bylaws Program in Cognitive Science

(approved by faculty members of program: Oct. 20, 2004)

Cognitive science studies the human mind viewed as a computational process. It lies at the confluence of computer science, educational and cognitive development, linguistics, neuroscience, neurobiology, philosophy, psychology, and certain areas of mathematics. Cognitive science has arguably been the most important development in the study of human thinking in the past twenty years; its influence can be seen across a wide variety of disciplines, from logic to communication disorders. The purpose of the program in Cognitive Science is to encourage collaborative faculty and student efforts in Cognitive Science at the University of Delaware. The program provides an ongoing forum for collaboration among faculty and students from different disciplines and provides support for research and instruction in cognitive science. In addition, the Program provides advice and encouragement for the academic programs in Cognitive Science which are administered by the Department of Linguistics.

1. Membership

Membership in the program as of June 1, 2004 is specified in Appendix I.

Membership is open to all faculty actively engaged in research and teaching in an area of cognitive science. Membership is by application and is subject to the approval of Advisory Committee of the Cognitive Science Program.

2. Meetings

There will be a meeting of the faculty of the Program, called by the Director, at least once each academic year. The agenda for the meeting will be distributed at least three days before the meeting. Additional meetings can be called by the membership in the Program upon submission of a written request of five members.

3. Director

a. Appointment of the Director

The Director will be nominated by the Advisory Committee and appointed by (and at the pleasure of) the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. The Director will be responsible for the administration of the Cognitive Science Program. The Director will report to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and will seek the counsel and recommendations of the Cognitive Science Advisory Committee.

b. Term of Office

The Director will serve for a three year term. Upon nomination by the Advisory Committee, the Director may be reappointed by the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for a second term. The Director may not serve for more than two consecutive terms.

c. Duties of the Director

The duties of the Director are to provide programmatic leadership and administrative oversight for the Program. These duties include but are not limited

to the following:

- i. Formulate annual budget request for the program for approval by the Advisory Committee.
- ii. Presentation and discussion of the budget request at the annual budget meeting with Dean of Arts and Sciences.
- iii. Consultation with the Advisory Committee and the Chairs of academic departments involved in Cognitive Science on the planning and coordination of the annual program activities.
- iv. Coordinate the academic program(s) in Cognitive Science with the Chair of Linguistics.
- v. Appoint the representatives of Cognitive Science on Linguistics Department committees overseeing the academic program(s) in Cognitive Science.
- vi. Call at least one meeting per academic year of the entire membership to discuss future direction of the program and to elect officers (as necessary).

4. Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee will consist of the Director plus six members of the Program elected by the membership of the Program during the Spring Semester. The term of the members of the Advisory Committee will begin on the first day of the fall Semester. Elected members will serve for two year terms except in the case of the 2005 election. For the sake of continuity, staggered terms will be introduced in the 2005 election. Thus, for that election only, three members will be elected for a one year term and three for two year terms. There are no restrictions on the number of terms of service of members of the Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee will assist the Director in the administration of the Program, and will act on behalf of the faculty of the Program in matters of policy. Policy decisions of the Advisory Committee will be reported to the faculty of the Program within one week of adoption. At the request of five members of the faculty of the Program, such decisions will be discussed and voted on at a meeting of the Program faculty or by an e-mail ballot (at the adoption of the Director). Decisions will be made by a simple majority of the members voting.

5. Academic Programs in Cognitive Science

The academic program(s) in Cognitive Science are administered by the Department of Linguistics. Additions to and changes in these programs will require the approval of both the Department of Linguistics and the Director, and, for questions of policy, the Advisory Committee of the Program. Currently approved academic programs in Cognitive Science are listed in Appendix II.