


**Date:** 26 August 2016

**To:** Kate Miller, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs  
Anne Alexander, Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs

**From:** Michael V. Pishko   
Dean, College of Engineering & Applied Science

**RE:** Computer Science Program Review

As per instructions from Academic Affairs, the Computer Science Ph.D. program has been reviewed. Pursuant to UW guidelines for program review, I recommend the program mentioned above be retained as mission critical. The technology industry, whose workforce needs are met by disciplines such as computer engineering, computer science, and electrical engineering, has been identified by the Governor as a critical growth area in Wyoming's economic diversification efforts. As such, the program should be retained and enhanced to support the state's economy. Economic development and diversification are also key elements of the Tier 1 Engineering Initiative as created by the Wyoming State Legislature and Governor's office.

It should also be noted the department has lost key faculty recently and is in desperate need of additional faculty for teaching and research. The Ph.D. program will grow as a natural consequence of additional research active faculty joining the department.

cc: James Caldwell, Steve Barrett, Megan Barber, File