PROPOSED CHANGES TO COMPUTER SCIENCE

In November the ABET/CAC conducted an accreditation evaluation for the Computer Science programs in LSA and in Engineering. While the official report has not been issued, the evaluators raised six "concerns" for both CS programs, plus a "deficiency" for the LSA program. In order to assure future accreditation, Engineering requested our immediate consideration of changes that pertain to both CS-ENGR and CS-LSA as detailed in **Items 1-4** on the attached proposal. The LSA Curriculum Committee *approved* these changes which primarily consist of rearranging credits as summarized on page 5.

Item 5 will be discussed further at the joint meeting of the Engineering and LSA Curriculum Committees scheduled for February 3. The proposed change would satisfy ABET's 12-credit science requirement (including a sequence of two lab courses): *Within the 10 credits of Flexible Technical Electives, require 5 credits of natural science (NS) in addition to the 7 credits of NS already required by the college.* Committee members were concerned primarily with how this change would affect LSA students concentrating in computer science. Not complying with ABET's requirement would result in a non-accredited degree. It is unclear, however, how important this is to LSA students and their success in the job market. Would they gain more than they would lose in terms of flexibility by having to complete additional NS credits?