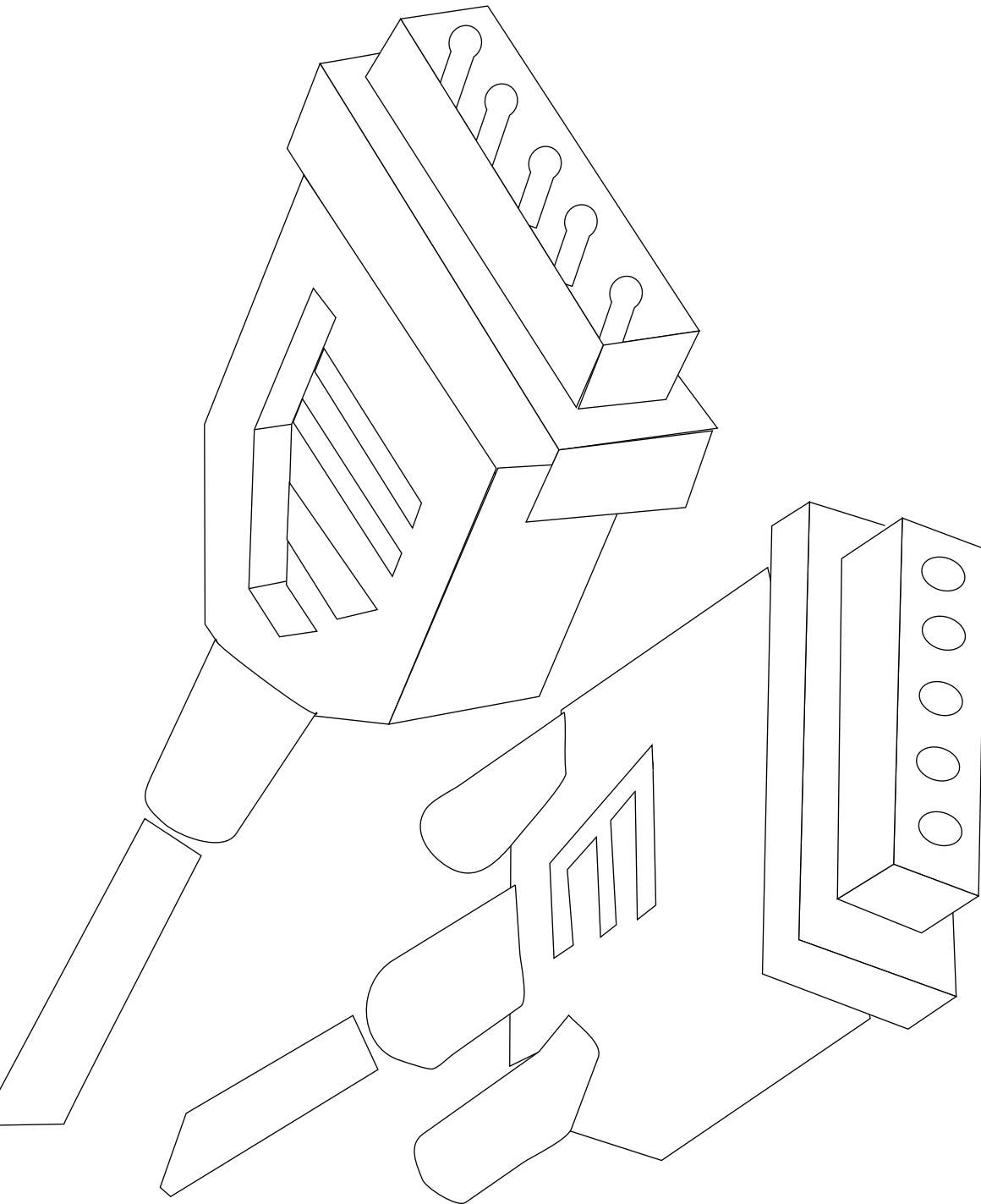


CLUSTER III

Government Business Computer Information Science

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Summary of Identified Issues

- ▶ Discussion of the need to have learning goals and objectives to accompany the CAN Business 6 descriptor.
- ▶ Decision that programming courses in C++, C#, JAVA, and VB.Net should have a prerequisite course dealing with an Introduction to Programming Concepts.
- ▶ Discussion of the use of distance learning in delivering information system classes.
- ▶ Coping with the California budget crisis will be extremely difficult over the near term.

Identified Trends/Future Directions

The CIS discipline group held three regional meetings plus the IMPAC statewide meeting during 2002-03 (the CIS group did not meet during the Central/North regional meeting in February due to a lack of registered attendees). The primary focus throughout the year was on developing CAN descriptors for programming courses in C++, C#, JAVA, and VB.Net. At the IMPAC statewide meeting, it was decided to amend the proposed descriptors by removing the common programming concepts from each and creating a separate course that would then be a prerequisite course for each of the individual programming courses. The discipline group continues to believe that the only courses at this time that warrant further discussion are the programming courses.

Distance learning continues to be of concern to many faculty members. Specifically faculty wrestle with the degree of support given to those who teach such courses and the issue of assuring the person who is enrolled in the class is the person who is taking exams and completing course work.

Four-year institutions seem to be moving the Introduction to Information Systems class to the upper-division curriculum and relying on testing to verify students have the necessary competency in Microsoft tools such as Excel, Word, and Access.

Comments from Statewide Meetings and the General Field

See notes from meetings available on the IMPAC website.

Recommendations for the Discipline

- ▶ Develop CAN Descriptors for courses such as: Introduction to Programming Concepts, C++, C#, JAVA, and VB.Net.
- ▶ Develop learning goals and outcomes for the proposed CAN descriptors as well as the newly approved CAN Business 6 descriptor.
- ▶ Have CC campuses partner with other campuses to offer courses that would ordinarily have low enrollment and be in danger of being cancelled.
- ▶ Encourage more work on planning and delivery issues related to distance learning courses.

Topics for Further Discussion

The CIS Discipline group has identified the courses that would benefit from having new or revised CAN descriptors (see list under Recommendations for the Discipline). It is anticipated that over the upcoming year these descriptors will be finalized and approved by the CAN Board.

Outreach presentations made by members of this group

Organization	Date/Place	Presenter's Name	Number Present
CSISSE Discipline Council	CSU Los Angeles, 11/15/02	Barry Pasternack	30
CSISSE Discipline Council	Sonoma State, 5/2/03	Barry Pasternack	28