MEMORANDUM

TO: Faculty Senate

FROM: Elizabeth S. Chilton, Provost and Executive Vice President

SUBJECT: Discontinue the Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science Degree

DATE: March 16, 2023

The attached proposal to discontinue the Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Computer Science (CS) degree has been reviewed by the Provost's Office, and we support the proposal.

The BA CS no longer serves its original intention. The intention behind the BA CS when it was devised was that students would apply the knowledge they gain from CS in different domains. The original proposal states, "The BA degree is designed for multi-disciplinary students who wish to learn the basics of computer science and apply it to a different field. A minor in another area, such as art, biochemistry, music, psychology, architecture, etc., is encouraged." However, very few students declare a minor in a different domain, and enrollment numbers remain quite low while the cost of maintaining the program is high.

Discontinuation of the BA CS program will not impact other degree programs, departments, or colleges. The program is currently offered at the WSU Pullman and WSU Tri-Cities campuses and will be discontinued in both locations.

We judge the proposal ready for the Senate review process.