To: Dr. Ted Mims, Chair and Dr. Lucas Vespa, Computer Science UIS
From: Shoon Lio, Chair of the CLAS Curriculum Committee
Re: Proposed Bachelor of Science in Information Systems Security

The CLAS Curriculum Committee had met to review the proposed new Bachelor of Science degree in Information Systems Security. The proposed new degree would put UIS in a select group of universities responding to the growing demand for information security professionals both in the public and private sectors. The proposed degree would make UIS the only public non-profit university offering a Bachelor of Science Degree in cyber security in Illinois.

The committee recognizes and supports the academic rigor of the proposed new degree as well as the well thought-out assessment plan. The new Bachelor of Science degree will draw from the existing expertise of the faculty in the Department of Computer Science and builds on existing courses in its curriculum. As noted in the proposal, Dr. Ted Mims is a co-principal investigator on the NSF/ATE funded Regional Center for Systems Security and Information Assurance. Janis Rose was honored with a FBI commendation for her work on protecting our national infrastructures for over ten years and her Presidency of InfraGard, Springfield. Dr. Svet Braynov was named University Scholar due to his contributions to the field of Information Systems Security. The department has already demonstrated its leadership in this field by hosting major conferences and workshops on information security as well as acquiring several significant research grants. The proposed degree will offer UIS Students the knowledge, skills and experience to take advantage of the expanding opportunities in this field.

The CLAS Curriculum Committee’s only concern is with the recruitment of highly qualified and well-prepared students for the degree. The program will have to strike a careful balance between the quantity and quality of the students it recruits for the new degree.

The CLAS Curriculum Committee commends the Computer Science Department for its well thought out proposal and voted unanimously to endorse the proposal for the new Bachelor of Science Degree in Information Systems Security.

Cc. Dr. James Ermatinger, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences