

September 16, 2013

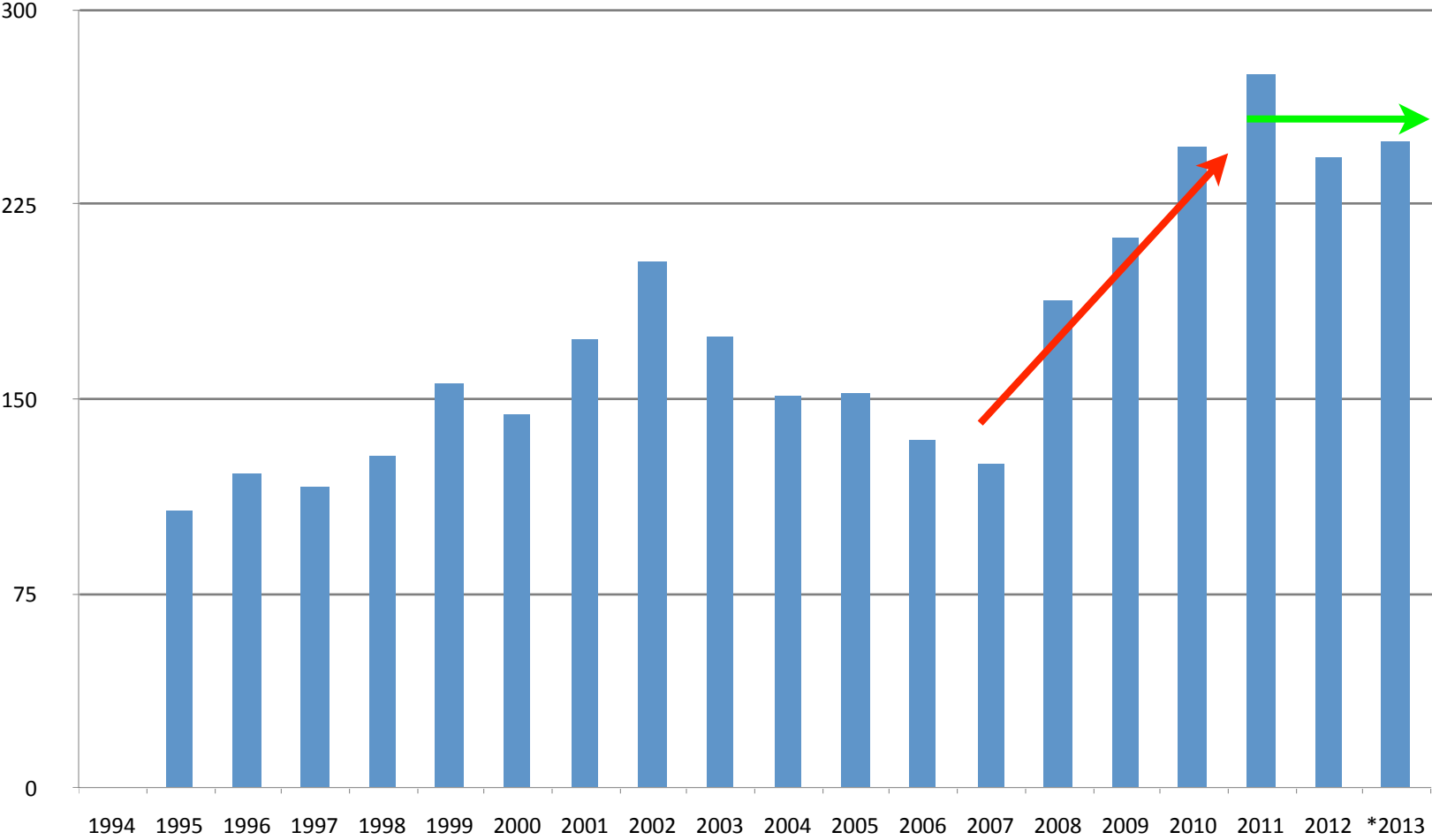
State of the Graduate Program

Department of Computer Science
Purdue University

Overview

- Graduate program size and quality
- 2013 admissions
- Graduate student performance
- Annual review improvements
- Other developments

Size of Graduate Program



Focus: Improve Quality

- **2008-2011: Expansion led to doubling**
 - Needed
 - But quality concern
- **2012-2013: Tighten quality**
 - Admissions
 - Graduate student performance

2013 Admissions

	07	08	09	10	11	12	13
Total Enrolled	120	193	214	249	254	245	249
Applications	724	771	1082	1097	1193	1142	951
Admitted	84	268	314	346	259	160	187
Incoming	23	86	48	73	55	35	65
Accept. Rate	27%	32%	15%	21%	21%	22%	35%

2013 Admissions Process

- **Focus: quality**

- Fewer admits but good yield rate
- GPA is increasing
- All admitted Ph.D. students receive financial support (RA, TA, fellowship)
- Others: admitted to M.S. program

- **Significant effort by Grad Admissions Committee**

- Admitted students interviewed by faculty and grad students
- Vitek et al.

Diversity of Incoming Students

	07	08	09	10	11	12	13
US/PR	17%	29%	24%	11%	9% (5)	37% (13)	26% (17)
Females	17%	15%	11%	25%	15% (8)	23% (8)	12% (8)
URM	8%	3%	6.5%	1.3% (1)	3.6% (2)	2.8% (1)	1.5% (1)
PhD objective	87%	79%	70%	56%	67% (37)	49% (17)	54% (35)

Diversity: Total Enrolled

	07	08	09	10	11	12	13*
US/PR	33 (26%)	54 (17%)	59 (26%)	57 (23%)	44 (17%)	47 (19%)	62 (25%)
Females	19 (15%)	32 (16%)	31 (14%)	39 (16%)	40 (16%)	43 (18%)	39 (16%)
URM	5	7 (4%)	9 (4%)		7 (2.7%)	5 (2%)	7 (3%)

overall: not much change, need for improvement

Graduate Student Performance

- **Need for improved monitoring**

- Student population doubled 2007-2011
- Significant load on Graduate Office staff and Graduate Committee
- Lax petition system, lax annual PhD student review/follow-up
- About 1/3 fell behind
- Severe cases: 9-10 semesters past qualifier deadline
- Not good for student, not good for dept.

Graduate Student Performance

- **Solution I: Enforce petition system**

- Back to pre-2008
- When deadlines pass, rules are violated: file petition with the graduate committee
- Catch problem cases early

Graduate Student Performance

- **Solution 2: Revamp Annual PhD Student Review**

- Semi-automated based on objective performance criteria
 - qualifier deadlines, GPA, prelim deadline, etc.
 - implementation by Nick Hirschberg
- Use student & advisor input to augment evaluation
- Poor & unsatisfactory students: low priority in TA assignment

Graduate Student Performance

- **Solution 3: Follow-up**

- Formal letter from review specifies problem areas
- Meet students with poor, unsatisfactory evaluations
- Check student has met/discussed with advisor
- Student has plan moving ahead
- Hopeless cases: terminated from PhD program & given option to graduate with MS degree

overall: significant movement toward academic progress

Other Developments

- New Teaching Fellowship for senior PhD students
 - Emphasized by CS Head, well received by students
- Strengthening of ethics training
- On-line MS enrollment: increasing trend
- Update of CS graduate web pages
 - Outdated information, revision/update required by faculty
 - Implementation: Renate Mallus
- New courses, etc.

Questions?

- **Comments and feedback**

- park@cs.purdue.edu