



Έντυπο 300.

### Έκθεση Συμμόρφωσης στα σχόλια της ΕΕΑ

Αρ. Φακ.:	07.14.112.011	Αξιολόγηση/Πιστοποίηση
		Πρόγραμμα
Τμήμα		
Πρόγραμμα Σπουδών: Τίτλος Σπουδών (Διάρκεια, ECTS, Κύκλος Σπουδών)	Computer Science (4 academic years, 240 ECTS, Bachelor (BSc)) Πληροφορική(4 ακαδημαϊκά έτη, 240 ECTS, Πτυχίο (BSc))	
Ίδρυμα:	A.C American College	

Πιο κάτω παραθέτονται οι απαντήσεις/διευκρινήσεις ή/και ενέργειες του Ιδρύματος στις εισηγήσεις της ΕΕΑ:

Αρ.	ΕΙΣΗΓΗΣΕΙΣ ΕΕΑ	ΑΠΑΝΤΗΣΕΙΣ/ΔΙΕΥΚΡΙΝΗΣΕΙΣ Η/ΚΑΙ ΕΝΕΡΓΕΙΕΣ ΙΔΡΥΜΑΤΟΣ	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ / ΜΕΡΙΚΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ / ΜΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
1.	Study programme and study programme's design and development (ESG 1.1, 1.2, 1.7, 1.8, 1.9)  EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The College has addressed <b>satisfactorily</b> the point about the publicly available description of the formal composition of the quality assurance committee, of the regularity of its meetings, and accessibility of their respective meetings.	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
2.	Study programme and study programme's design and development (ESG 1.1, 1.2, 1.7, 1.8, 1.9)  EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The College has addressed <b>satisfactorily</b> the point about student representatives being absent from the Quality Assurance Committee, and about student representatives being elected freely by the student body and not selected by faculty.	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ

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3.	Study programme and study programme's design and development (ESG 1.1, 1.2, 1.7, 1.8, 1.9)  EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The College has addressed <b>satisfactorily</b> the point about the involvement of external stakeholders in quality assurance.	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
4.	Study programme and study programme's design and development (ESG 1.1, 1.2, 1.7, 1.8, 1.9)  EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	Information about which specific courses are offered in which specific semester and year, applied to all courses of this program, is still not available to the EEC. The EEC requested this information for all courses, and instead received partial information (only for courses that are linked to each other, but not for all courses). This is a core point for assessing a program. <b>This point has not been satisfied.</b> This is very surprising. Most academic institutes have this information readily available in tabular form, and some even display it on their website.	ΜΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
5.	Study programme and study programme's design and development (ESG 1.1, 1.2, 1.7, 1.8, 1.9)  EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The content of the three elective courses in the English language is not higher than the level of the English language competence that students should have upon admission, according to the English language requirements. <b>This point is not satisfied.</b>	ΜΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
6.	Study programme and study programme's design and development (ESG 1.1, 1.2, 1.7, 1.8, 1.9)  EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	About the point of 13 out of 20 elective courses being unrelated to the topic of the program, the College offers the explanation that it follows the US educational system. However this practice clearly contradicts the programs of the universities that the College drew inspiration from when designing the program, as well as the curricula recommendations of professional organisations in Computer Science, such as ACM and IEEE. The College has taken steps to address this issue, by increasing the amount of major requirements to 132 ECTS and decreasing the amount of general education electives to 54 ECTS (from 66 ECTS previously). <b>This point is therefore partially satisfied.</b>	ΜΕΡΙΚΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ

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7.	Study programme and study programme's design and development (ESG 1.1, 1.2, 1.7, 1.8, 1.9)  EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The point about updating the textbooks of CSC410 and CSC102 has been <b>satisfied</b> .	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
8.	Study programme and study programme's design and development (ESG 1.1, 1.2, 1.7, 1.8, 1.9)  EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The point about adding an industrial internship module has been <b>satisfied</b> .	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
9.	Study programme and study programme's design and development (ESG 1.1, 1.2, 1.7, 1.8, 1.9)  EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	Regarding the point about collecting, monitoring and analysing information on the career path of students, the College states that they will intensify their efforts to do so. No information is provided as to how and when this will be done. Therefore this point is <b>partially satisfied</b> .	ΜΕΡΙΚΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
10.	Study programme and study programme's design and development (ESG 1.1, 1.2, 1.7, 1.8, 1.9)  EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	Regarding the point about collecting, monitoring and analysing information on the student population, information on nationality has been provided, but not on gender. Therefore this point is <b>partially satisfied</b> .	ΜΕΡΙΚΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
11.	Study programme and study programme's design and development (ESG 1.1, 1.2, 1.7, 1.8, 1.9)  EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	Regarding the point about collecting, monitoring and analysing information on student progression, success and drop-out rates, some information has been provided for the last 4 years, despite the program operating for more than 20 years. This point is therefore <b>partially satisfied</b> .	ΜΕΡΙΚΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
12.	Student - centred learning, teaching and assessment (ESG 1.3)  EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The point about the teaching methods being conventional and traditional has been <b>satisfied</b> , as the teaching methods have been reviewed and integrated with more modern approaches.	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ

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13.	Student - centred learning, teaching and assessment (ESG 1.3) EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The point about the competence in Computer Science of the instructors has <b>not been satisfied</b> , as the answer only mentions Table 4 of the original proposal where we see only 5 instructors (out 17) with degrees in Computer Science or similar.	ΜΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
14.	Student - centred learning, teaching and assessment (ESG 1.3) EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The point about visiting guest speakers has <b>not been satisfied</b> (admittedly, it will be in future after the pandemic terminates).	ΜΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
15.	Student - centred learning, teaching and assessment (ESG 1.3) EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The point about students' activities in class has been <b>partially satisfied</b> , as personalized learning experience should create a specific experience based on personal traits.	ΜΕΡΙΚΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
16.	Student - centred learning, teaching and assessment (ESG 1.3) EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The point about the lack of internship has been <b>satisfied</b> .	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
17.	Student - centred learning, teaching and assessment (ESG 1.3) on EEC's recommendations	The recommendation about overcoming traditional teaching has been <b>satisfied</b> .	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
18.	Student - centred learning, teaching and assessment (ESG 1.3) on EEC's recommendations	The recommendation about the scarcity of expert instructors in Computer Science has been <b>partially satisfied</b> , as a new expert instructor has been recruited, but adding at least another would be very useful (aiming at reaching a majority of instructors with degrees in CS).	ΜΕΡΙΚΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ

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19.	Student - centred learning, teaching and assessment (ESG 1.3) on EEC's recommendations	The recommendation about team based activities has been <b>satisfied</b> .	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
20.	Student - centred learning, teaching and assessment (ESG 1.3) on EEC's recommendations	The recommendation about varying the assessment methods has been <b>satisfied</b> .	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
21.	Student - centred learning, teaching and assessment (ESG 1.3) on EEC's recommendations	The recommendation about report writing has been <b>satisfied</b> .	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
22.	Student - centred learning, teaching and assessment (ESG 1.3) on EEC's recommendations	The recommendation about team-based projects has been recorded but <b>not yet satisfied</b> .	ΜΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
23.	Student - centred learning, teaching and assessment (ESG 1.3) on EEC's recommendations	The recommendation about introducing best practices from other well reputed schools has been recorded but <b>not yet satisfied</b> .	ΜΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
24.	Student - centred learning, teaching and assessment (ESG 1.3) on EEC's recommendations	The recommendation about inviting external experts has been recorded but <b>not yet implemented</b> , as it will be at the end of the pandemic.	ΜΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ

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25.	Student - centred learning, teaching and assessment (ESG 1.3)  on EEC's recommendations	The recommendation about introducing an explicit thesis activity <b>has not been satisfied</b> . A typical thesis for a 4-years BSc in Computer Science should be at least 30 ECTS. For instance, at the University of Edinburgh (one of the Schools quoted as a model by the American College answer) the 4th year Honors project takes 40 ECTS. See:  <a href="https://www.ed.ac.uk/informatics/undergraduate/our-degrees/degree-overview">https://www.ed.ac.uk/informatics/undergraduate/our-degrees/degree-overview</a>	ΜΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
26.	Teaching staff (ESG 1.5)  EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The College has an ambitious growth plan after obtaining the accreditation. This is not reflected in staff recruitment planning, that is as student numbers multiply only 2 members of staff will be added 3 years after accreditation. The College's response <b>does not sufficiently</b> address EEC's concern on staffing.	ΜΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
27.	Teaching staff (ESG 1.5)  EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The issue that EEC raised in regard to academic job advertisement has <b>not been satisfactorily addressed</b> . In fact, the revised example of advert as shown in Annex 11 is woefully inadequate. It does not even contain the minimum amount of information on job description, career pathway, and it has no information on Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity.	ΜΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
28.	Teaching staff (ESG 1.5)  EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The revised staff handbook regarding faculty ranks, promotion, and procedure contain some further information. However, criteria are still <b>not sufficiently explained</b> . Generic texts are used to accompany criteria 4-7; there is no actual explanation of what is expected from staff. Appeal information is not provided. Hence, this issue is only partially addressed.	ΜΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ

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29.	Teaching staff (ESG 1.5) EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The 12 hours teaching delivery per week is for research focused faculty and additional 3 hours will be added for "Less Research" track staff, according to the handbook. The EEC maintains that this load is too high to accommodate research and other activities, considering commonly twice as much time is required to prepare for teaching delivery, marking and dealing with student queries. This effectively leaves hardly any time for research during the two teaching blocks. The issue is more pronounced when taking into account that the members of the Computer Science Department have to cover a wide range of topics due to low staffing	ΜΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
30.	Teaching staff (ESG 1.5) EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	EEC <b>welcomes</b> the increase in staff research budget.	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
31.	Teaching staff (ESG 1.5) EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	On the issue of staff training, EEC is <b>satisfied</b> with the response.	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
32.	Teaching staff (ESG 1.5) EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The College states, in the response, that "research is essential" to the College. However, with this high teaching load and low staffing, EEC remains concerned about the College's commitment to create an environment that encourages research and empower staff to collaborate with other institutions on research.	ΜΕΡΙΚΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ



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33.	Teaching staff (ESG 1.5) (on EEC recommendations)	Starting to increase staffing 2 years after accreditation is <b>not considered sufficient</b> in addressing the issue. Staffing resources should be in place first before the expansion.	ΜΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
34.	Teaching staff (ESG 1.5) (on EEC recommendations)	Research budget increase is welcomed by EEC. However, EEC is concerned about 12 hours per week teaching delivery for research focused staff and 15 hours per week for less research focused staff.	ΜΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
35.	Teaching staff (ESG 1.5) (on EEC recommendations)	On staffing, EEC is still concerned about the business planning.	ΜΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
36.	Teaching staff (ESG 1.5) (on EEC recommendations)	On the issue of promotion, procedure and criteria, the College provided some further information and amended the handbook somewhat. However, the staff handbook still contains limited information on criteria, for instance, as explained above.	ΜΕΡΙΚΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
37.	Student admission, progression, recognition and certification (ESG 1.4) EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The point about whether the College admits only international students by design has been <b>satisfactorily</b> addressed.	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
38.	Student admission, progression, recognition and certification (ESG 1.4) EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The point about how the College handles academic student heterogeneity has been <b>satisfactorily</b> addressed.	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
39.	Student admission, progression, recognition and certification (ESG 1.4) EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The point about the gender ratio of the students has <b>not been satisfactorily</b> addressed.	ΜΗ ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ



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40.	Student admission, progression, recognition and certification (ESG 1.4) EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The point about options after failing an exam and their accessibility has been <b>satisfactorily</b> addressed.	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
41.	Student admission, progression, recognition and certification (ESG 1.4) EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The point about retaking courses to improve one's grades before graduation has been <b>satisfactorily</b> addressed.	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
42.	Student admission, progression, recognition and certification (ESG 1.4) EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The point about admission procedures and the involvement of academics has been <b>satisfactorily</b> addressed.	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
43.	Student admission, progression, recognition and certification (ESG 1.4) EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The point about progression rules has been <b>satisfactorily</b> addressed.	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
44.	Learning resources and student support (ESG 1.6) EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The point about including Linux OS has been <b>satisfactorily</b> addressed.	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
45.	Learning resources and student support (ESG 1.6) EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The point about upgrading the laboratory equipment has been <b>satisfactorily</b> addressed.	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
46.	Learning resources and student support (ESG 1.6) EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The point about has been <b>satisfactorily</b> addressed.	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ

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47.	Learning resources and student support (ESG 1.6) EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The point about guiding students regarding work permit has been <b>satisfactorily</b> addressed.	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
48.	Learning resources and student support (ESG 1.6) EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The point about the self-sufficiency of the program has been <b>satisfactorily</b> addressed.	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
49.	Learning resources and student support (ESG 1.6) EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The point about offering personal storage to students on the server has been <b>satisfactorily</b> addressed.	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
50.	Learning resources and student support (ESG 1.6) EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The point about career services offered to students has been <b>satisfactorily</b> addressed.	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ
51.	Learning resources and student support (ESG 1.6) EEC's final recommendations and comments on the HEI's response	The point about student mobility has been <b>satisfactorily</b> addressed	ΣΥΜΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ

## A. Conclusions and final remarks

The EEC has carefully studied the response of the institute. It is encouraging that several points have been addressed and therefore satisfied. **However, a significant number of points still remain either partially satisfied, or not satisfied at all. These points are laid out in the report, each of them accompanied by the rationale of the EEC as to why they are partially or not satisfied. Overall, the EEC concludes that the institute should continue the efforts that were initiated by addressing the drawbacks and weaknesses that were initially pointed out by the EEC, and address the remaining points that are currently either partially satisfied or not satisfied at all**