Comprehensive Program Review Report

#### **Categorical Summation**

Check any of the following to categorically describe action(s) the institution will take concerning this program.

Reprogram MEETS Institution's Criteria



Program is critical to the institutional mission and will be retained. X Program is critical to the institutional mission and is growing or a high demand field and thus will be enhanced.

Program PARTIALLY MEETS Institution's Criteria and will be re-evaluated in \_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Program DOES NOT MEET Institution's Criteria** 

- Program will be placed on a monitoring status.
- Program will undergo substantive curricular revisions.
- Program will be deactivated.
- Program will be voluntarily terminated.
- Other (identify/add text):

Provost or VPAA Signature: Dr. Michael Gibbons on behalf of the Provost, Dr. Jon Anderson

Date: 3/11/2020

Michel Ell 3/11/2020

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## Comprehensive Program Review

#### FY 2019 – 2020

Institution: Middle Georgia State University Academic Program: BS Information Technology

College or School:

Program age, tracks, concentrations, etc Accreditation information/status Method(s) of delivery Changes since last review Benchmarks of progress Plans for action Shifting trends and market forces that may impact program demand

#### \* The narrative should be as direct as possible and no longer than three pages.

The School of Computing, Department of Information Technology's Bachelor of Science in IT program is innovative, flexible, and convenient. The Department of IT is dedicated to developing degree programs to meet existing and future professional needs relating to technology. The Department produces

the on-campus and online learners. The online offerings have experienced the highest five-year growth enrollment due to increased recruiting, articulation agreements, and success with additional accreditation from ABET for the BSIT program, National Security Agency and Department of Homeland Security (NSA/DHS) in Cyber Security, and the Defense Cyber Crime Center (DC3) in Cyber Forensics.

The academic program allows students to explore their personal and professional interest within the field of information technology through concentrations in Critical Infrastructure Management, Cybersecurity, Cyber Forensics, Web Applications Development, Software Engineering, Networking Technologies and Administration, Integrated Digital Media and Game Design, Data Analytics, Financial Technology, and Health Informatics.

We anticipated that, within a few years after graduation, our graduates will

- 1. Assume productive roles in IT-related positions, such as analyst, systems administrator, software developer, webmaster, systems analyst, information security officer, investigator, designer, and database administrator; and
- 2. Pursue life-long learning enabling them to adapt and grow as organizational responsibilities change

The Department of Information Technology's BSIT program goals focus on what graduates are expected to attain within a few years of graduation. A periodic review of the goals ensures that they remain consistent with the institutional mission and the needs of our constituents. The reviews include input from the School's advisory board, the use of an area employer survey, and the use of an alumni survey.

The Advisory Board of the School of Information Technology consists of professionals in the Information Technology field in our region. The Advisory Board meets twice yearly with the Dean, Associate Dean, Chair, and faculty members of the School. The advisory board communicates the needs of the IT community in our region, strengths and weaknesses of IT graduates regarding their employment, and the anticipated needs of IT organizations.

An employer survey is conducted every five years. This survey provides the Department with information about the skills required to support organizations. Survey results are shared with the Advisory Board and the faculty members. The results will be used for evaluation of the program and any revisions of the program goals, student learning outcomes, and the BSIT curriculum/courses. The next employer survey will be conducted in Fall 2019.

Every five years, a survey will be administered to the alumni from the Department of IT. This survey will gather information re (i fro)4.2c 0.003 Twl

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### IERB Comprehensive Program Review Rubric and Evaluation

Date Reviewed: 2/28/2020

Program Reviewed: BS Information Technology

**Contextual Notes:** Summarize any demographic or environmental factors described in the introduction that might significantly impact assessment of the program

The BS program is offered in Macon, Cochran, Warner Robins and online. Given the online component of the program, this eliminates any demographic or environmental factors that significantly impact assessment of the program.

Area of Focus	Exemplary Area	Satisfactory Area	Area of Concern	No Evidence	Notes
Enrollment	This <b>program</b> has				
	significantly positive				

### Program Strengths of Note:

- There is a significant increase in graduates over five years.
- There are no demographic or environmental barriers affecting growth in this program.
- The growth in the online enrollment is an additional area of strength.

## Areas of Concern:

• There is some confusion in the CPR as to whether the five-year growth numbers are supposed to reflect overall growth or annualized growth rates.

Other Comments:

• The program seems healthy and growing.