

# CSAB ACCREDITATION AND THE SMALL COLLEGE

## PANEL DISCUSSION

### *Chair:*

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### *Panelists:*

*Frances K. Bailie*  
*Associate Professor of Computer and Information Sciences*  
*Iona College*  
*New Rochelle, NY*

*Susan M. Merritt*  
*Dean*  
*School of Computer Science and Information Systems*  
*Pace University*  
*Pleasantville, NY*

*Elaine Paris-Grossman*  
*Chairperson*  
*Department of Mathematics and Computer Science*  
*Mercy College*  
*Dobbs Ferry, NY*

*Onkar Sharma*  
*Professor of Computer Science*  
*Marist College*  
*Poughkeepsie, NY*

*Kathryn Weld*  
*Chairperson*  
*Department of Mathematics and Computer Science*  
*Manhattan College*  
*Bronx, NY*

## SUMMARY

Small colleges face unique challenges in meeting the requirements for CSAB accreditation. The panel will discuss the accreditation criteria, identify problem areas for small colleges, and explore potential solutions.

## PANELISTS' STATEMENTS

Frances K. Bailie

Within the last several years, the Department of Computer and Information Sciences at Iona College has investigated the possibility of applying for accreditation with the CSAB. Consultants have evaluated the department's position on two occasions. The presentation will discuss the findings and recommendations of the consultants as well as the department members' assessment of its ability to become accredited. It will also cover the importance and cost, financial and otherwise, of accreditation to the department and to the college if a decision were to be made to pursue accreditation in the future.

Susan M. Merritt

Dr. Susan M. Merritt is Dean, School of Computer Science and Information Systems, Pace University, in New York City and Westchester County. Dr. Merritt has been a CSAB/SCAC Team Chair during 1986 to 1989 and again from 1995 to the present. The B.S. program in computer science at Pace on both the New York and the Pleasantville campuses is accredited. Dr. Merritt will discuss a technical perspective on the accreditation criteria, that is, how to read, understand, and meet the criteria.

Elaine Paris-Grossman

The Department of Mathematics and Computer Science at Mercy College has not made any determined effort to pursue accreditation. The presentation will focus on problems the department may encounter if the members decide to pursue accreditation.

Onkar Sharma

Dr. Sharma is an evaluator for CSAB. He will review the criteria for evaluation briefly. The focus of his presentation will be a discussion of the reasons why Marist College has not yet applied and what problems the college is facing in meeting the criteria.

Kathryn Weld

Dr. Weld will discuss issues that Manhattan College has considered regarding CSAB accreditation and the further complications regarding ABET accreditation for computer engineering.