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## **Advanced Placement Course on Computer Science Principles**

In recent years, the number of US undergraduate freshmen declaring computing as their major has declined significantly, as has the percentage of those from traditionally under-represented groups. This is quite alarming, since it comes at a time where there is a great need for *more* students, from *diverse* backgrounds, to choose computing in order to meet the growing needs of our 21<sup>st</sup> century economy. Most agree that middle schools and high schools are where we need to focus our attention, in order to share a broad and accurate picture of what computing *is*, and what one can *do* with it.

The Association for Computer Machinery (ACM) Education Board and Education Council offer their full endorsement of the National Science Foundation's efforts to work with the College Board to develop, pilot, and roll out a novel *Computer Science: Principles* Advanced Placement curriculum. Because the development methodology for *Computer Science: Principles* applies the National Research Council's framework (as described in *Math and Science in U.S. High Schools*) to identify core content, we are confident the resulting curriculum will emphasize computing's fundamental concepts.

With best wishes to everyone participating in the project,

Yours sincerely,

Andrew McGettrick  
Chair of ACM Education Board and Education Council