

## **ISCAS Accreditation Guidelines**

### **Definition of Accreditation**

The ISCAS Accreditation aims to evaluate and recognize programs and sponsoring institutions active in Computer Aided Surgery (CAS) research and training. Accreditation is developed to improve the quality of research, teaching, and professional practice.

### **Accreditation Committee**

The Accreditation Committee reports directly to the ISCAS Board. Members of the Committee receive no financial compensation for their volunteer services. The Committee members should avoid conflicts of interest in making their recommendations on accrediting a program. The Committee reviews and evaluates programs and institutional requirements based on content, impact, clarity of language, and consistency with ISCAS objectives.

### **Accreditation Application**

The request for academic program accreditation should come from a program that is component of an educational institution offering undergraduate, graduate and/or professional degree programs. The program has to be already accredited by an appropriate academic accreditation body (e.g., in medical science, engineering or computing science). The program must clearly define its objectives, curriculum content, and the basis for evaluating its effectiveness. The curriculum should integrate the fundamental principles of CAS and its underlying scientific concepts. It should also enable the students to use principles and skills obtained in solving CAS related problems. Faculty members associated with the program must provide supervision of student learning experience. The program must include sufficient number of faculties in ISCAS-related subjects to meet its educational objectives. ISCAS must be immediately notified of any change in the program objectives, or in the resources available to the program, including the faculty and physical infrastructure.

ISCAS also accepts applications for training courses as part of continuing education in CAS. These applications are reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Similar to an academic program accreditation, the application for training courses should highlight the objectives of the educational program in CAS, and provide the basis for evaluating its effectiveness.

### **Accreditation Process**

The Accreditation Committee will carefully review each application upon its submission. The Committee will provide a response to the accreditation request within three weeks of the submission date. The Committee reserves the right to request further information or to recommend changes to the program to ensure its compatibility with the accreditation objectives. The Committee may consult with external referees in the review process. All submissions will stay confidential with ISCAS.

### **Privileges of ISCAS Accreditation**

An accredited program or training course may use ISCAS logo for advertisement. The program or course will also be listed on the ISCAS website. An optional progress report may be submitted to the Accreditation Committee, so that success stories could be highlighted and publicized to the ISCAS community.

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