Schools and Colleges of Computing

2016 CRA Conference at Snowbird

John Paxton Director, Gianforte School of Computing Montana State University

Motivation

- The name change better conveys the pervasive nature of computing
- A School could offer broader degrees such as a B.A. or Data Science
- A School might enable us to leverage joint appointments

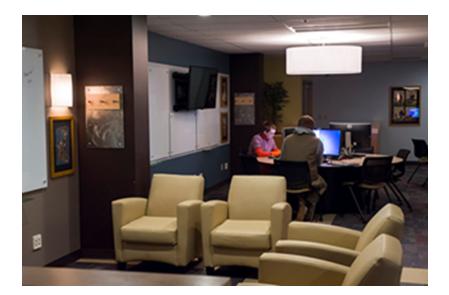
Motivation

- A School might enable affiliate departments to be designated
- A School might be a stepping stone to a College



Timeline

- ▶ 9/11: Share Vision
- ▶ 9/13: Develop Business Plan
- ▶ 3/15: Receive \$1M Donation



Timeline

- ▶ 9/15-2/16: MSU Committees Review Proposal
 - College of Engineering
 - Graduate School Council
 - Dean's Council
 - Faculty Senate
 - President's Executive Council
- 2/16: Temporary Obstacle
 - After discussion, we have decided to withhold the School of Computing proposal from the BOR agenda.

Timeline

- ▶ 3/16: Board of Regents Discussion Item
- ▶ 4/16: \$6M Naming Gift
- 5/16: Board of Regents Information Item
- 8/16: Gianforte School of Computing!

Lessons Learned

- Gain buy-in from key stakeholders
- Take advantage of enrollment growth
- External support played a key role
- Short-term wins are useful
- Surprises happen

