AP Computer Science Program
From Case Study to Labs

Lien Diaz
ldiaz@collegeboard.org
SIGCSE
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AP CS A: From Case Study to CS Labs

- AP CS A Development Committee has recommended the development of three (3) computer science labs to replace the current GridWorld Case Study.
  - Magpie Chatbox: Programming constructs
  - Game of Elevens: Program design and analysis
  - Pictures: Data structures and algorithms, program analysis

- Labs emphasize the importance of students learning concepts that will assist to further student understanding of computer science and improve classroom learning experiences.

- Labs are shorter in length than the existing case study and easier to integrate into curriculum throughout the school year.
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Sample: 117 Institutions
Based on your knowledge about the current case study for AP Computer Science A, rate the importance of including a case study:

- **N=117**

- A combined 67% of participants rated the case study SI or NI

- SI: 45%
- NI: 22%
- I: 25%
- VI: 9%
Please indicate which of the following statements best characterizes the importance of a case study in determining credit and/or placement for incoming students who take the AP Computer Science A examination.

- Does Not Rely: 94%
- Relies: 4%
- No Response: 2%

How likely is the existing credit/placement policy to change if case study questions were no longer included on the exam:

- VL: 0%
- Likely: 2%
- Somewhat Likely: 7%
- Not Likely: 91%

N=117

AP Computer Science
College Curriculum Study
Proposed Timeline

- Updated AP CS A Course Description - May 2014
- Topic Outline remain the same in the Course Description
- Impact on AP CS A Exam - May 2015
  - No GridWorld Case Study questions
  - Exam questions will not necessarily call out specific labs, but rather the essential concepts that each lab focuses