

Faculty Senate – Academic Affairs Council

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 26, 2023 – 2:00 PM Virtual:

<https://iastate.webex.com/iastate/j.php?MTID=mf68d1ae8cd6d25487423dd8e8c75ac0c>

Members attending: David Peters, Yonghong Jia, John Cunnally, Cody Fleming, Doug Smith, Aaron Wood, Tom Brumm, Terri Boylston, Ana Fantini, Jennifer Schieltz (chair)

Absent: Karl Bolser, Ann Marie VanDerZanden

Others attending: Dan Nettleton

1. Call to Order
2. Approve Minutes: Jia motion made to approve the minutes, Brumm seconded, approved.
3. Old Business
None
4. New Business
 - a. Proposal from the Curriculum Committee to create a new online graduate degree program in the Department of Statistics, Masters of Applied Statistics (MAS).

Council discussed the proposal with Statistics Department chair Dan Nettleton. Issues raised included: the possibility that the new program might compete with the residential MS program (Nettleton said that he did not expect this because the MAS is aimed at a different pool of students); the source of funding for the three new hires projected (Nettleton pointed out that these hires are "down the road" and believes the current faculty can handle the new program until enrollment and revenue reach a point that will allow the new hires; unlike the MS students, the MAS students will be paying full tuition, and the revenue will exceed expenses); the source of the \$1200 per credit amount (Nettleton explained that this was a reasonable midpoint between the range of costs that could be charged, from \$900 for in-state students to \$1800 for international students); how the experiential learning part of the program will be evaluated (Nettleton said that many of the MAS students will have statistical projects as part of their job, and will be credited for this via a report they will submit; for other students, an internship will serve the same purpose).

Brumm moved to approve the new program, seconded, approved 9-0-0.

5. Committee Reports
 - a. FS Curriculum Committee – Brumm reported that this committee has been relatively quiet lately because of the catalog freeze. For example, new X courses cannot be offered before Fall 2025, although they can still go through the process of approval anytime before then. Their next meeting is in 2 weeks; they will be reviewing several name changes and new programs.
 - b. Academic Standards – Boylston said this committee is active but she does not expect to have any action items ready for the AAC for a few months. They are still working through dismissal/reinstatement, trying to align the colleges.

- c. Outcomes Assessment – Fantini said that the committee is in the process of talking with Associate Deans about the need to implement Learning Outcomes Assessment for every program, and to make it clear to faculty that "Outcomes Assessment is not punishment."
- d. Student Affairs – no report.
- e. Student Government – no report.

6. Good of the order

Schieltz reported that FS President Bennett-George told her that some of the proposals for the Degrees of the Future initiative involve programs shared by two or more departments and in some cases by two or more Colleges, which is creating governance issues. The committee has been asked to discuss this at a future meeting and perhaps come up with some handbook language to send to the governance committee. Brumm noted that the question of who gets to “claim” the students has been a disincentive for interdisciplinary programs in the past.

7. Adjourned

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 2:00 PM via Webex.

Respectfully submitted,
John Cunnally
Note-Taker