

# ASACR 1

Office of the President  
February 19, 2016

Members, Board of Trustees:

ACADEMIC DEGREE RECOMMENDATION:  
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of a Master of Applied Statistics degree with a major in Applied Statistics, in the Department of Statistics, within the College of Arts and Sciences, effective in the Spring 2016 Semester.

Background: The proposed Master of Applied Statistics is an innovative online graduate degree for professionals that can be completed in a summer and two consecutive semesters or on a part-time basis. The goal of this program is to create professional, practice-oriented statisticians who have both data analytic and computing skills. This program is unique in that it uses data visualization and statistical computing to teach fundamental concepts in statistical inference. Students will be required to complete only two semesters of calculus instead of the coursework normally necessary for a Master of Sciences program in Statistics. This program is designed to train mathematical, social, and natural scientists from a variety of disciplines to be professional statisticians. Specifically, the curriculum focuses on how to manage “big data” and successfully describe, analyze, and make inferences using current and rapidly evolving statistical methodologies.

This terminal degree qualifies students for entry-level positions as statisticians in a number of industries and federal, state, and local government agencies. The online format ensures access for working scientists, traditional and non-traditional students, and professionals who seek new career opportunities by enhancing their statistical experience.

This program has the approval of the appropriate councils and the University Senate and has completed the 45 day review process of the Council on Postsecondary Education. The Provost of the University supports this recommendation.

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Action taken:     Approved     Disapproved     Other \_\_\_\_\_