

AGENDA

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

March 1, 2018

1. APPROVAL OF A NEW DEGREE PROGRAM: BACHELOR OF ARTS/BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN STATISTICS

Approval of a recommendation to the Board of Trustees to approve the degree program in Attachment A is recommended.

The Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education proposes to offer a Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science in Statistics degree. A complete abstract describing the program is in Attachment A. The proposed implementation date is fall 2018.

2. ENROLLMENT UPDATE

Andrew Wright, vice president for Enrollment Management, will give an enrollment update.

3. OVERVIEW OF UNDERGRADUATE RECRUITMENT EFFORTS

Rashad Smith, director of Undergraduate Admissions, will provide an overview of our undergraduate recruitment efforts.

ABSTRACT
Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science in Statistics
To be offered on-campus only
by the University of Southern Indiana, Evansville, Indiana

Consistency with Institution's Mission:

The mission statement for the University of Southern Indiana states, "USI is an engaged learning community advancing education and knowledge, enhancing civic and cultural awareness, and fostering partnerships through comprehensive outreach programs. We prepare individuals to live wisely in a diverse and global community." Advancing knowledge in the 21st century requires the design of techniques to collect, analyze, and interpret quantitative data. Furthermore, in order to live wisely, individuals must become critical consumers of statistics. The proposed Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science in Statistics degree will not only benefit the students enrolled, but has the potential to elevate the entire university community through the availability of additional course offerings in statistics, and the development of partnerships among students and faculty who seek statistical consultation for research projects in other fields.

Relation to Institution's Strategic and/or Academic Plan:

The design of the program aligns with the goals of the Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education. The proposed degree will: 1) support the attraction of academically strong students to the University of Southern Indiana campus; 2) enhance student learning and engagement through specific courses designed to permit students to conduct original research; and 3) support innovation in terms of the programmatic offerings in the College. The addition of a degree program in statistics and its associated curriculum will support the Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education's commitment to prepare individuals with rigorous and diverse experiences both within the program and across the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields. The presence of a bachelor's degree in statistics expands USI's potential to recruit academically strong students, especially among those planning to attend graduate school. These students may complement their degree in mathematics, computer science, or social science with coursework in statistics or earn a second major in statistics.

Curriculum:

Completion of the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science in Statistics will require 120 credit hours. These hours will include 48 hours of course work in the major – 18 hours in mathematics and 30 hours in statistics. Completion of the proposed degree can be accomplished in four years.

Employment Possibilities:

Statistics is one of the fastest-growing career fields in the country and in the state. A 2011 report from the McKinsey Global Institute anticipated that "there will be a shortage of talent necessary for organizations to take advantage of big data. By 2018, the United States alone could face a shortage of 140,000 to 190,000 people with deep analytical skills as well as 1.5 million managers and analysts with the know-how to use the analysis of big data to make effective decisions" (Manyika et al., 2011).

From 2003 to 2013 the number of statistics degrees awarded at the undergraduate level in the United States tripled, and the number of master's degrees more than doubled. In addition, majors and minors in statistics complement other degree programs, especially for individuals who are planning to advance to graduate school to conduct quantitative research.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (2015) estimates statisticians will be the ninth fastest growing occupation in the ten-year period from 2014 to 2024 with an estimated growth rate of 34 percent. Similarly, the Indiana Department of Workforce Development's (n.d.) Occupational Demand Report estimates that there will be a 39 percent increase in the need for statisticians in Indiana across the same time period. This ranks as the fourth largest change in the state, and the third largest change among occupations requiring a college degree.