

## **Graduate Council Minutes**

May 28, 2025

**Present:** Brown, Holz, Lincoln, Nadeau, Nelson, Pickard, Randol, Rissi, Talepasand, Van Heest, Vasey, Wern, Tankersley, Morris, Hanson, Holmes, Treece

**Absent:** Benner, Chorpenning, Fuller, Hackett, Bylenga, Woods

**Guests:** Daniel Taylor Rodriguez, Mathematics and Statistics  
Bruno Jedynak, Mathematics and Statistics

### **Agenda**

#### **Minutes from May 7 meeting**

##### **Panel 3**

##### **College of Liberal Arts and Sciences**

- MTH 570 Complex Analysis and Boundary Value Problems I, 3 credits - change course description
- MTH 571 Complex Analysis and Boundary Value Problems II, 3 credits - change course description
- MS in Statistics - change program major to Statistics + Data Science, major curriculum revision
- CRTGR in Applied Statistics - change to existing program: change program major to Applied Statistics & Data Science, reduce total credits from 24 to 23, revise core and elective requirements
- MTH 563 Computational Methods for Data Science, 3 credits - new course
- MTH 566 Optimization for Data Science, 3 credits - new course
- STAT 531 Ethics and Practice of Data Science, 3 credits - new course
- STAT 587 Data Science I, 3 credits - new course
- STAT 588 Data Science II, 3 credits - new course

The meeting was called to order at 12:02 p.m.

#### **Minutes from May 7 meeting**

*It was moved (Holz) and seconded (Talepasand) to approve the May 7 minutes as submitted. The motion was approved unanimously.*

- MTH 570 Complex Analysis and Boundary Value Problems I, 3 credits - change course description
- MTH 571 Complex Analysis and Boundary Value Problems II, 3 credits - change course description

*It was moved (Holz) and seconded (Brown) to approve these two proposals. The motion was approved unanimously.*

- MS in Statistics - change program major to Statistics + Data Science, major curriculum revision  
*For discussion*
- CRTGR in Applied Statistics - change to existing program: change program major to Applied Statistics & Data Science, reduce total credits from 24 to 23, revise core and elective requirements  
*For discussion*
- MTH 563 Computational Methods for Data Science, 3 credits - new course
- MTH 566 Optimization for Data Science, 3 credits - new course
- STAT 531 Ethics and Practice of Data Science, 3 credits - new course
- STAT 587 Data Science I, 3 credits - new course
- STAT 588 Data Science II, 3 credits - new course

Wern provided a refresher for this packet of proposals. In addition to changing the name of the MS and graduate certificate to include Data Science, there was also a proposal to create a new DS course prefix that would reside in Mathematics and Statistics. These proposed changes prompted concern about overlap between programs spanning multiple units and school/colleges. Randol clarified that due to these concerns, Math pulled the request for a new DS prefix, at least for the time being. Tankersley added that there are plans to hold larger conversations next academic year about data science, which is becoming more and more of an integral part of many disciplines, and how various units across campus can collaborate in this area.

Taylor Rodriguez and Jedynak joined the meeting to provide information and answer questions. They said that the program changes, including the name changes, were inspired by a desire to modernize the programs and make them more relevant. They already have an undergraduate program in Data Science and are building on these efforts. They mentioned that the graduate certificate specifically is tailored to complement students working in other disciplines. Once concerns about overlap were raised, they contacted other units on campus (Business, Economics, Computer Science) who have all expressed support for these changes, noting there is a small amount of overlap but that these proposed changes would be beneficial to their students.

Taylor Rodriguez and Jedynak were excused.

*It was moved (Talesasand) and seconded (Holz) to approve these seven proposals. After discussion, the motion was approved unanimously.*

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.