

## Graduate CSS Committee Meeting – Minutes

10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

December 3, 2021

Virtually via Zoom

### **Attendance**

**Faculty:** Mohamed Ali, Wei Cheng, Wes Lloyd, Eyhab Al-Masri, Ankur Teredesai, Paulo Baretto, Ka Yee Yeung, Anderson Nascimento, Juhua Hu

**Non-Voting Faculty and Staff:** Rachel Long, Zaher M. Kmail, Curtis Black, Raj Katti, Julia Eaton, Victoria Olive, Heather Dillon, Joyce Dinglasan-Panlilio

**Absent:** Donald Chinn, Martine DeCock

### **Items**

#### **1) Approve minutes of last meeting: Nov 05, 2021**

**Moved: A. Nascimento**

**Seconded: W. Lloyd**

***Eligible to vote: 11***

**9 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained, 2 voting faculty absent**

#### **2) Presentation about a new major in statistics by School of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences**

In today's working world, the skills studying statistics provides are very important and required by many students. This new major and the School of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences are focused on collaboration where it is possible. A few examples of expectations for students in this new major include: being able to design an experiment to collect efficient and unbiased data, being able to analyze data, and make inferences about parameters confidently and efficiently. To decide which core courses to include in the new Statistics major, IAS did research on other programs with campus enrollments similar to UWT. The core courses to be added to this major include:

- TSTAT 340: Probability and Statistics I
- TSTAT 341 Probability and Statistics II

- TSTAT 421: Introduction to Experimental Design
- TSTAT 423: Linear Regression and ANOVA
- TSTAT 441: Multivariate Data Analysis
- TSTAT 302: Computational Statistics and Data Management
- TSTAT 425: Introduction to Nonparametric Statistics
- TSTAT 499: Statistical Consulting Capstone Experience

The list of potential elective courses in the Statistics major include:

- Applied Bayesian Analysis
- Basics of Statistical Learning
- Survival Analysis
- Advanced Data Analysis
- Generalized Linear Models

The GradCSS committee then engaged in discussion with the representatives from IAS, specifically regarding how CSS courses will fit within the Statistics major. One committee member mentioned that they want to make sure that there is room for Statistics students to take some courses/electives with computer science, while another member raised the question of how this major can benefit CSS graduate students. The representative from IAS mentioned that the courses listed have room for adjustment to better match the pace/content of CSS graduate courses, and then requested for the committee to let IAS know which of these proposed courses would best benefit CSS graduate students. The committee agreed that this collaboration is a great opportunity for students, and requested a copy of the slides presented by IAS.

### **3) GRE Waiver case**

The student presented has some industry experience, and would like to start in the program as soon as possible. This student has around 6 years of software development experience and some geospatial research experience, has a master's degree in telecommunication and a bachelor's degree in applied mathematics. The committee chair reminded everyone that waiving the GRE requirement only helps students in the application process, and does not guarantee admission or that the student will submit their application materials. The committee agreed that this student has a significant educational background and technical experience, and agreed to waive the GRE requirement for this student.

**4) Ph.D. policies (a) MS thesis proposal requirement for new transfer Ph.D. students (b) Thesis submission to UW Library (c) need for a second thesis if thesis is coming from a different university**

This topic will be scheduled again for a separate meeting since the subcommittee hasn't met yet to discuss these policies.

**5) Graduate Merit award**

This award is financed by the graduate school and will be divided among nominated students; funds are allocated based on program size. All nominations should be sent to the committee chair by December 13<sup>th</sup>.

**6) GSEE award for Ph.D. students (used to be called GO-MAP)**

The GSEE award is a fellowship that is awarded to a school to help provide financial aid to one qualifying student. The criteria for student applicants focuses on diversity, equity, and inclusion and encourages students from underrepresented backgrounds to apply. This award provides 3 quarters of funding for this student, and if we receive this award, SET would be responsible for matching these funds for 3 quarters. SET has the capability to provide funding for one quarter, and we would hope for some faculty to find grants/other sources of funding for the additional 2 quarters. The deadline for us to apply is quickly approaching, and the committee was reminded that it is okay if we don't move forward with the application year, since we can always apply next year. The deadline for SET to apply for this award is December 10<sup>th</sup>. The committee agree that this could be a great opportunity for students who qualify to apply.

**7) Graduate committee meetings same day as CSS meeting at 10am**

The committee chair reminded everyone that capstone/thesis presentations will be happening soon and encouraged everyone to attend. Thesis presentations will be on Wednesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Capstone presentations will be on Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup>.

