

CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA

ACADEMIC SENATE

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

REPORT TO

THE ACADEMIC SENATE

AP-009-223

New State-Support Master of Science in Statistics and Applied Mathematics with a
Statistics Option and an Applied Mathematics Option

Academic Programs Committee

Date: 05/10/2023

**Executive Committee
Received and Forwarded**

Date: 09/06/2023

Academic Senate

**Date: 09/20/2023
First Reading**

BACKGROUND

The College of Science has had a longstanding Master of Science in Mathematics with four emphases in Pure Math, Math Education, Applied Math, or Statistics, with only one core course in common. In response to EO 1071, which requires that programs have 51% of courses in common, the department decided to restructure into two degrees. A revised MS in Mathematics with fewer emphases and a new MS program in Statistics and Applied Mathematics; this proposal is for the MS in Statistics and Applied Mathematics. Not only does this allow specialization in the curriculum between the core classes of each degree, but it will likely result in different admission requirements for each program that better targets students interested in these fields.

RESOURCES CONSULTED

Deans, all colleges
Associate Deans, all colleges
Department Chairs, all colleges
Graduate Program Coordinators, all colleges
Senate Budget Committee

DISCUSSION

The Academic Programs Committee has consulted with the resources listed above and discussed the proposal. The Committee also conducted a campus-wide consultation, and no concerns were raised. According to Dr. Berit Givens and Dr. Jenny Switkes (Chair and Associate Chair of Mathematics), in response to EO 1071 and after departmental consultation, they created a new MS in Statistics and Applied Mathematics. There are no new classes being created, and they do not anticipate a change in enrollment, but a restructuring of the existing curriculum and division of students among the new degree and two options and the existing MS Mathematics program. The current enrollment is usually 30-40 new students per year, and although they may have some increased interest in the new program, they do not predict a significant enrollment increase. They do not foresee budgetary issues but do recognize that they may need to offer the newly identified core courses more frequently and other courses less frequently. The PLO and SLOs developed for this program were written with the intention of matching the goals of the new degree program.

Although there are no new courses, the program is unique from other local CSUs in that it encourages classes in both Statistics and Applied Mathematics, while other programs do not. The department also anticipates and plans for the necessary assessment of the new program to be conducted based on the developed SLOs.

RECOMMENDATION

The Academic Programs Committee sees the value in this new program and recommends approval of the MS in Statistics and Applied Mathematics with a Statistics Option and an Applied Mathematics Option.