



Re: Revision of the Statistics MS and PhD Programs

October 9, 2023


Dear Colleagues and Panel Members,

On behalf of the Department of Statistics, I am pleased to put forward our proposals to revise the Masters of Science (MS) in Statistics and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Statistics degrees. As described in more detail in the proposals themselves, these revisions respond to changes in the field and feedback from a variety of sources. We believe that the changes will improve the experience and training for many of our students. The proposed revisions for the MS and PhD programs are closely intertwined, since under the current curriculum, the first year courses for these programs are nearly identical.

In addition, the department is a key partner in the Interdisciplinary PhD in Biostatistics. Again, the first year courses in the current curriculum for this program are nearly identical to the statistics MS and PhD programs. Our faculty have been communicating our proposed course changes with the faculty of the Interdisciplinary PhD in Biostatistics. This faculty has shared with us their proposed curriculum that responds to our course changes, and we include this document for context. We also include a letter of concurrence from the chair of the Division of Biostatistics, which is the other major partner in the program.

We hope that you agree that our revisions to the Statistics MS and PhD programs will better serve our students, the Department of Statistics, and the university.

Sincerely,



Eloise E. Kaizar
Professor and Chair
Department of Statistics