

Contact: Rachel Boon

**MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 23, 2022 COMMITTEE MEETING**

**MEETING**

**Academic Affairs Committee Members**

Nancy Boettger (Chair)	Kevin Kregel, University of Iowa
Sherry Bates (Vice Chair)	Jonathan Wickert, Iowa State University
Rachel Boon, Board staff	Jose Herrera, University of Northern Iowa

Guests: Nancy Dunkel, Jim Lindenmayer, Greta Rouse, Abby Crow, David Barker, Patrick Pease, Amanda Thein, Tanya Uden-Holden, Ann Marie VanDerZanden

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Chair Boettger called the meeting to order at 9:00am

**Approval of Academic Affairs Committee minutes from November meeting**

Approved as presented.

**UNI Program Change Requests**

**Program termination: Master of Arts in Spanish**

**New program: Bachelor of Science in Automation Engineering Technology**

**New program: Bachelor of Arts in Business Analytics**

Associate Provost Pease described the need to terminate the MA in Spanish due to enrollment declines and retirements of faculty. All remaining students have graduated.

The committee will recommend approval of the termination request for the MA in Spanish.

The new program in automation engineering technology (AET) is a hands-on program. Industry stakeholders were consulted in the development of the program. Community college articulations will be developed.

The committee will recommend approval of the new program of BS in AET.

The new program in business analytics is requested to meeting student and industry demand. This has been a track in the management program already, so this will expand and elevate that existing track.

The committee will recommend approval of the new program of BA in Business Analytics.

**ISU New Center Requests**

**Translational AI Research and Education Center**

**Center for Wireless, Communities and Innovation**

Provost Wickert presented that faculty leading the Translational AI Research and Education Center has already received major federal grants to support the center.

The second request is for the Center for Wireless, Communities and Innovation which has already received funding to support wireless connectivity and innovation to rural communities and customers.

The committee will recommend approval to the full board.

### **SUI Program Change Requests**

**New program: Doctor of Philosophy in Criminology**

**New program: Master of Science in Data Science**

**New center: Iowa Hawk-Intellectual and Developmental Disability Research Center**

Dean Thein shared that the Doctor of Philosophy in Criminology will be the first in the state. There has been significant growth in these undergraduate degrees at all institutions in the state so the market is strong. These grads find employment in many industries.

The committee will recommend approval to the full board.

The MS in data science will train students for a range of careers in a fast growing industry. Many peer institutions have these programs as well.

Regent Bates asked about accreditation for both new programs. What quality monitoring is in place where there is no specialized accreditation? Dean Thein indicated there are no specialized accreditors for these specifically, but the university has internal program review processes. The Higher Learning Commission accreditation also includes high level quality assurance.

The committee will recommend approval to the full board.

Associate Provost Geist shared that Iowa Hawk-IDDRC will support basic and clinical research on developmental disabilities. There is focus on rural populations and has significant grant funding already.

The committee will recommend approval to the full board.

### **Annual Distance Education Report**

CAO Boon provided highlights from the report.

### **University presentation: Winter Session**

Associate Provosts Uden-Holman, Pease and VanDerZanden shared highlights from the second year of winter session at ISU and UNI, and the expansion that took place at SUI.

Enrollment was strong in winter term 2021-22, but a bit down from the prior year. At SUI, grants were provided to students eligible for Pell grants to help fund winter term enrollment. No fees are charged during winter term, and all tuition is charged at the resident rate for just that term.

All institutions found this helped students catch up on courses that keep them on pace for graduation. Juniors and seniors were the most likely to enroll and half of courses taken were general education courses. At UNI, first generation, minority, Pell eligible and transfer students took advantage of these courses at rates equal to their peers.

As of now, ISU has focused on undergraduate offerings only, but they may expand that in future years. All courses were online to provide flexibility. Future expansions with study abroad or on-campus lab sections are under consideration. Also need to consider faculty burnout if they teach fall and spring terms as well.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00am