

Duke University

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE
LEVINE SCIENCE RESEARCH CENTER
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA 27708-0129

TELEPHONE (919) 660-6514
FACSIMILE (919) 660-6519
WWW.CS.DUKE.EDU/~AMINK

18 November 2013

Provost Peter Lange, Ph.D.
Thomas A. Langford University Professor
Duke University
220 Allen Building
Box 90005
Durham, NC 27708-0005

Dear Provost Lange:

At its meeting of 13 November 2013, the Academic Programs Committee considered a proposal from the Department of Statistical Science to create a new MS in Statistical Science. APC had a chance to discuss the proposal with the chair, Merlise Clyde, the DGS, Mike West, and the new director of masters programs in the department, Surya Tokdar.

The MS proposal was both well-considered and well-written. The department has a historically strong Ph.D. program and a blossoming new undergraduate program. Furthermore, the department provides effective statistical training and instruction to students from other graduate and undergraduate programs across the university, an incredibly beneficial contribution to the broader university mission. APC noted that creating a new MS program would afford the department an opportunity to diversify its early graduate course offerings, providing a more effective means for meeting the needs of the range of students it serves, both within the department and from other programs.

As with each of the new programs APC has been considering this academic year, APC recommends an appropriate review of the proposed program be undertaken after three years.

APC voted after its meeting in favor of the proposal (10 yes, 0 no, 5 abstaining, and 1 vote not received).

Respectfully submitted,



Alexander J. Hartemink

Alexander F. Hehmeyer Professor of Computer Science, Statistical Science, and Biology
Chair of the Provost's Academic Programs Committee
Director of the Graduate Program in Computational Biology and Bioinformatics
amink@cs.duke.edu