

ITEM 148-1501-R0910

Approval to change the Statistics Option to a Statistics Major; Montana Tech of The University of Montana

THAT

In accordance with Montana University System Policy, Montana Tech requests approval from the Board of Regents of Higher Education to change its Statistics Option to a Statistics Degree.

EXPLANATION

The faculty in the Department of Mathematical Sciences at Montana Tech feels that changing the Statistics Option to a major would;

- be helpful in recruiting students to Montana Tech by having a Statistics program separate from the math program. With the current popularity of the AP Statistics Exam it is likely that some high school students will be looking for programs in statistics when choosing a college;
 - enhance the career opportunities of students earning the current statistics option. Many employers prefer to hire graduates having a degree in statistics over students having degrees in mathematics. The current status of the non-teaching job market for students earning undergraduate degrees in mathematics is primarily for students having statistics/data analysis skills. The job as a statistician is currently one of the top rated jobs (#3) in the science and engineering fields according to CareerCast.com;
 - increase our graduates' chances of being accepted into the top-rated graduate programs in statistics. The overwhelming majority (> 90%) of our graduates attending graduate programs pursue advanced degrees in statistics;
 - be the first official undergraduate Statistics Program at a Montana University System school.
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ATTACHMENTS

Level II Request Form
Curriculum Proposals