

DSC Faculty Minutes

Monday September 9, 2019

2:30 P.M. 401 DSL

Present: Gordon Erlebacher, Max Gunzburger (skype), Chen Huang (skype), Alan Lemmon, Anke Meyer-Baese, Tomek Plewa, Bryan Quaife (skype), Sachin Shanbhag, Xiaoqiang Wang

1. The faculty approved minutes from the April 2019 meeting.
2. Undergraduate enrollment is around 50 students, the best numbers yet. ISC 1057, Janet Peterson's online course, has a student enrollment of 61.
3. The faculty elected Peter Beerli as faculty Senator to replace Dennis Slice. Alan Lemmon is now the alternate Senator.
4. The department is commencing a search for a new faculty position. Regarding salary, the Dean's office contributes one third, the department one third, and research pays one third. The faculty position is for a Tenure Track Assistant Professor with a starting salary around \$96,000. Gordon supports a new hire in Machine Learning. The new person should be able to handle ACS, one of the discrete courses, and develop a Machine Learning course. The commonality behind these courses is Bayesian statistics. The job offer will go out through standard advertisement process at FSU.
5. If faculty have other suggestions for good advertising outlets, please contact Gordon.
6. Gordon will write the job offer and distribute the job announcement to faculty members for input. (He distributed to the Hiring Committee instead).
7. The QER is pending. Dr. Brian Athey is the external reviewer. He is the founding Chair of the Department of Computational Medicine and Bioinformatics at the University of Michigan Medical School. Max and Janet are coming for this QER review. Gordon will inform faculty and students when they need to be available to meet QER reviewers,
8. The GPC wishes to review some of our graduate dissertations. Criteria were established. Tomek stated that dissertations that resulted in citations, references, or papers should be one criterion. Anke suggested dissertations that were diverse and multidisciplinary were another. Gordon will make the final decision out of ten dissertations submitted.
9. Tomek expressed concern that our courses with large enrollment capacity are placing stress on our faculty and room capacity. How will this be handled in the future?
10. Registration for spring 2020 begins October 14, 2019.
11. Tomek mentioned that the FSU Grad School has a new regulation that requires our department to hold annual meetings of advisory committees for doctoral students. Committees will evaluate the results obtained, the progress achieved by the students, and then write a couple of paragraphs for the evaluation. Additionally, Tomek mentioned dissertation defenses and the possibility of allowing faculty, non-committee members, faculty, non-department members, to remain in the room during the deliberations. These non-committee members would not vote; however, these people would witness the high standards of our department and the defense evaluation process.
12. Our graduate handbook and the FSU General Graduate Bulletin should reflect changes to the M.S. degree course based (30 credits), Project-Based (30 credits), and Thesis based (30 credits).
13. The meeting was adjourned.