

APPENDIX G

Request for Authorization to Establish a Bachelor of Science Degree in Statistics at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington

Introduction

UNC Wilmington notified the UNC Office of the President of its intent to plan a Bachelor of Science degree in Statistics (CIP# 27.0501) in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics on January 18, 2002. The university requests authorization to establish the program in August 2002.

Program Description

The requested BS in Statistics will include coursework in both the applied and theoretical aspects of statistics and a mix of courses in another area of study intended to emphasize the interdisciplinary nature of statistics. The use of computer software to perform statistical computation will be incorporated in most courses to ensure that students are familiar with various statistical computing languages. The program will promote an understanding of data collection theories and applications, appropriate use of many graphical and numerical methods of analysis, ability to communicate results of analyses to a variety of audiences, and ability to use statistical computer programming tools. Courses can also be taken in a variety of fields where statistics may be applied, such as physical, life, and social sciences.

Program Need

The statistics program at UNCW has grown within the Department of Mathematical Sciences in response to increasing student interest in this major, expanded involvement of statistics faculty and students in multidisciplinary programs such as Marine Sciences, and statements from local and state industries (such as the pharmaceutical industry) on the need for more statisticians. It is anticipated by the fourth year the program will have 17 full-time and 3 part-time majors. Job prospects for statistics majors are said to be excellent.

Resources

The current statistics option in the BS in Mathematics degree will be deleted as the proposed BS in Statistics degree is added. Faculty and courses needed for the major are already in place at UNCW. Additional resources in the future will come from enrollment increase funding.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve the request to establish a Bachelor of Science in Statistics at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington effective August 1, 2002.