

Board Meeting
March 16, 2016

ESTABLISH THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN DATA ANALYTICS,
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES, SPRINGFIELD

Action: Establish the Master of Science in Data Analytics, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Funding: No New Funding Required

The Chancellor, University of Illinois at Springfield, and Vice President, University of Illinois with the advice of the Springfield Senate has approved a proposal to establish the Master of Science in Data Analytics in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

The Master of Science in Data Analytics, housed in the Mathematical Sciences Department and in partnership with the Computer Science Department, will educate students in the fundamentals of data analysis, including the skills and processes necessary for data-driven decision making, an appreciation of the theoretical background of these techniques, and hands-on learning activities with state-of-the-art software tools.

With an emphasis on statistics, the degree program will be offered on-ground and online and will cover topics such as data mining, statistical models, predictive analytics, and data visualization. Graduates of this interdisciplinary degree program will have the skill set to enter a range of high-demand data science careers in both the private and public sectors.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes, The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The Vice President for Academic Affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further Senate jurisdiction is involved.

The President of the University recommends approval. This action is subject to further review and approval by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.