

Faculty Meeting Minutes
(Non-executive session)
May 3, 2016

Present: Bernard Deconinck (chair), Mark Kot, Matt Lorig, Anne Greenbaum, Eli Shlizerman, Eric Shea-Brown, Nathan Kutz

Absent: Emo Todorov (sabbatical), KK Tung, Doug Martin, Sasha Aravkin, Chris Bretherton, Randy LeVeque, Ulrich Hetmaniuk, Hong Qian

Others present: Laurie Feldman (staff representative)

Proceedings:

- Meeting called to order by chair at 12:05pm.
- Since fewer than half of the faculty were in attendance, no voting occurred (including in the Executive Session)
- The Advanced Data Science Option has been approved and will be listed on the departmental website soon.
- We discussed credit options for the 481-482-483 sequence. All three courses in the sequence have been 5 credit courses. Very few undergraduate courses on campus are 5 credits. These courses have inherited their 5 credits from their graduate counterparts 581-582-583. The chair mentioned that Ulrich (not present) had stated that students in 483 often chose to register because they wanted a lot of credits, as they were close to graduation, but they were not happy with the workload that should come with it. Our other undergraduate counterparts to graduate courses (401 to 501, etc) are 4 credits, with instructors usually teaching the same lectures, but with extra work (HW problems, projects) for the graduate version. Ulrich favors 3 credits. Nathan stated that the students were worked hard in these courses and 5 credits seems appropriate. Eric concurred. Matt was unsure why a change was necessary. Anne mentioned that the 5 credits were problematic with ACMS electives (typically 6 credits), where the intent would be that students take 2 courses to satisfy that requirement. Since Ulrich was not present, we may revisit this issue at a future meeting.
- Regular session adjourned at 12:30pm.