

# Mathematics and Statistics

## Graduate and Undergraduate Review

### Year 1 (2021) - FAR Implementation Report

(reviewed 2017-19)

#### Recommendation #1

Solidify the current Master's program and possibly create a new Master's program

#### ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted and in the process of implementation.

#### Implementation Plan (1<sup>st</sup> Priority)

Responsible for approving:	Department
Responsible for resources:	Department
Responsible for implementation:	Department
Timeline:	Dean of Mathematics and Science to report by the end of academic year 2020/21

Actions	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Submit request for 3 faculty positions outlined in the Self-Study.	Department	C		
Action #2 Begin planning a new MSc in Data Science.	Department	T		

#### Comments 2021:

The Department was able to hire 3 new faculty. This will solidify the current MSc program and allow the Department to plan for a new MSc program in Data Science.

#### Recommendation #2

Find a strategy to keep track of students' employment information after their graduation.

#### ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted and in the process of implementation.

#### Implementation Plan (1<sup>st</sup> Priority)

Responsible for approving:	Department
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\*On Target (T), Delayed (D), Complete (C), Complete and Ongoing (O)

Responsible for resources:	Department
Responsible for implementation:	Department
Timeline:	Dean of Mathematics and Science to report by the end of academic year 2020/21

Actions	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Create a plan to track information about graduates of the Department's BSc and MSc programs.	Department	T		

**Comments 2021:**

The Department's Admin Assistant is implementing a plan to track information about graduates of the BSc and MSc programs, in coordination with Alumni Services. This information will be displayed on the Department's webpages.

**Recommendation #3**

Create a collegial environment and adopt a common long term vision for the department.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted for consideration. The Committee expects that the Department is best-positioned to determine strategies to improve collegiality and a common vision.

**Implementation Plan (1<sup>st</sup> Priority)**

Responsible for approving:	Department
Responsible for resources:	Department
Responsible for implementation:	Department
Timeline:	Dean of Mathematics and Science to report by the end of academic year 2020/21

Actions	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
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<p><b>Action #1</b> Discuss and approve improvements to the Department's existing Rules of Procedure so that governance is more transparent, consultative, inclusive and accountable.</p>	Department	T		
<p><b>Action #2</b> Get advice from the Dean's office and HRE on steps to promote and support the University policies for a respectful workplace and collegial behaviour.</p>	Department	T		
<p><b>Action #3</b> Add a department rule stating that all committees, including the Department Assembly, will keep minutes that will be posted to a Sharepoint folder; and that all committees will submit to the Department Assembly a report every term on their activities.</p>	Department	T		
<p><b>Action #4</b> Hold a department meeting to develop a long-term vision.</p>	Department	T		

**Comments 2021:**

The Rules of Procedure Committee has outlined a plan for item #1 and the first set of rule changes have been approved at the end of Fall term. More rule changes will be made in the coming terms until the plan is completed. Some rules deal directly with item #2. The Dean's office and HRE are engaged in steps to review and monitor the working environment within the Department. The Fall departmental meeting went smoothly and was collegial.

For item #3, the Chair and the Admin Assistant have finished organizing a Sharepoint folder for all departmental documents. In Fall term, committees made a verbal report on activities to the Department Assembly. Starting Winter term, committees will be posting a report on activities and archiving minutes of meetings.

Regarding item #4, two new hires are in place in the Department starting at the end of Fall term, and a third new hire will start on July 1. Once these hires are settled, the Department can begin to discuss a long-term vision.

**Recommendation #4**

Create a series of weekly or bi-weekly seminars.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted and in the process of implementation.

**Implementation Plan (1<sup>st</sup> Priority)**

Responsible for approving: Department

On Target (T), Delayed (D), Complete (C), Complete and Ongoing (O)

Responsible for resources:	Department
Responsible for implementation:	Department
Timeline:	Dean of Mathematics and Science to report by the end of academic year 2020/21

Actions	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Create a weekly or bi-weekly seminar series.	Department	D		

**Comments 2021:**

Due to the covid pandemic and the switch to on-line work from March 2020 to the present, in addition to a significant cut to the operating budget, the Department is still in the stage of planning. After Winter term is over, the Department will complete a plan to put in place for Fall term 2021.

**Recommendation #5**

Increase the visibility of department at the provincial and national level.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted and in the process of implementation. The Committee expects that the Department is best-placed to determine strategies to increase the visibility of the Department.

**Implementation Plan (1<sup>st</sup> Priority)**

Responsible for approving:	Department
Responsible for resources:	Department
Responsible for implementation:	Department
Timeline:	Dean of Mathematics and Science to report by the end of academic year 2020/21

Actions	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
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Action #1 Support efforts by faculty members to host major research workshops/conferences at Brock.	Department	T		
Action #2 Continue to nominate faculty and staff for internal awards at Brock.	Department	O		
Action #3 Nominate faculty and staff for National awards as appropriate.	Department	T		

**Comments 2021:**

In Winter 2021, a faculty member received the Dean's Distinguished Research Award and a staff member received the Student Experience, Recruitment and Outreach Award. These FMS awards will help to build a foundation for members to apply for Brock awards and ultimately National awards as appropriate.

**Recommendation #6**

Engage a Canada Research Chair, Tier II, in Data Science

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers the recommendation to be not accepted as it lies outside the jurisdiction of the Committee. However, the Committee recognizes that the Department is open to the possibility and encourages any efforts to advocate through normal channels for such a position.

**Implementation Plan (1<sup>st</sup> Priority)**

Recommendation not accepted.

**Comments 2021:**

In 2020, the Dean requested that all departments prepare and submit a plan for future faculty positions. The Department's plan consisted of proposals for two positions, including one in Data Science. In Fall 2020 and Winter 2021, the Associate Dean for Research convened meetings of Chairs and Directors to discuss a strategy for responding to an anticipated call for CRC proposals by the VP Research. The Department Chair advocated for a CRC position in Data Science.

Brock very recently announced a call for the next round of CRC positions, and the Department will submit a proposal in the area of Data Science (without precluding the possibility of other proposals.)