PURDUE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY DEGREE PROPOSAL TEMPLATE

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE FULL PROPOSAL CHECKLIST WILL NEED TO BE COMPLETED FOR THE INDIANA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (see https://in.gov/che/files/checklist_of_criteria_web.pdf) Both this template and the full checklist document are submitted to the Purdue Board of Trustees.
When this form is complete, please save and return to weiderhaft@purdue.edu with tables as separate attachment.

DATE: 5/29/2020
TO: Board of Trustees
FROM: James L. Mohler, Primary Contact, (765) 242-5160; jlmohler@purdue.edu
CC: Tina Payne, Secondary Contact, tlpayne@purdue.edu
SUBJECT: Master of Science in Graduate Studies
CAMPUS OFFERING DEGREE: West Lafayette
ANTICIPATED START DATE: Spring 2021

1.   IS THE DEGREE RESIDENTIAL, HYBRID, OR ONLINE?
IF ONLINE, RATIONALE FOR GOING THROUGH SPECIFIC PURDUE CAMPUS—PWL, PFW, PNW, PG

The degree mode will depend on major; we are seeking all three modes of delivery.

2.   BRIEF OVERVIEW OF DEGREE/WHY IS THE DEGREE NEEDED?

The proposed degree, Master of Science in Graduate Studies, creates a first-of-its-kind degree in the Graduate School that provides a flexible degree structure to support educational innovation. The proposed degree has a default major of Interdisciplinary Studies that allows stackable credentials to be used for partial completion of the degree. Currently it is envisioned that students can combine two certificates with core business baseline skills to meet the requirements of a 36 credit-hour, non-thesis master's. However, students may also opt for a thesis master's requiring 30 credits of coursework and 6 credits of thesis. It is envisioned that most students will complete a non-thesis master's in this default major. (Example for the stackable credential option can be found in Appendix A.)

Currently, only one major is being officially proposed in this degree: Interdisciplinary Studies. However, the desire is for departments at Purdue University to be able to nimbly create new majors under this degree to support their rapidly changing needs. The unifying element of any major proposed under this new degree is that it must be interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary.

3.   BRIEF EVIDENCE OF FEDERAL, STATE, AND REGIONAL LABOR MARKET NEED

To better serve students within the state, nation, and globe, graduate education needs to adapt into decoupled degrees (micro-credentials, stackable credentials, and the like), unique combinations of educational content and experiences (rather than siloed and prescribed curricula), and multi- format content delivery (support of hybrid and online). The proposed master's degree and the eventual majors that may exist within it aspire to provide something new in graduate education: a flexible degree that allows new combinations of content envisioned by faculty, but also flexible creation of a degree that meets the needs of the student, by the stuent. The proposed degree allows for creativity and innovation by both faculty and students. Because majors can be added or removed, units can more nimble and agile.

4. COSTS

A. Tuition and Fees—In-state and out-of-state

Tuition and fees will be standard university rate. As new majors are proposed – online or hybrid – the Graduate School will work with Purdue Online as appropriate to establish rates based upon market analysis.

B. Financial Projection Table

Financial tables for this degree are not currently available. It is projected that no new faculty or infrastructure will be needed. Existing and future majors proposed under this degree will utilize existing courses and faculty.

The certificates and courses that will be used for this option are already approved.
If new programs or courses will be used, they will need to gain approval first.
Financial tables will be developed for each proposed major.

C. Program Review and Expenditure Summary

Majors under this degree will be reviewed every five (5) years as part of the ongoing reviews conducted by the Provost's Office, in partnership with the Graduate School. Revenue and expenditure tables will be developed for each proposed major.

D. Enrollment Projection

Interdisciplinary Studies Major
It is expected that the default Interdisciplinary Studies major will have between 25 and 50 students at steady state over a period of 5-years (See IS-Major.pdf)

Enrollment and degree projections will be developed for each proposed major.

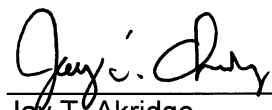## 5. LIST OF SIMILAR DEGREES IN THE PURDUE SYSTEM AND DISTINCTIVE ELEMENTS FOR THIS DEGREE

The proposer of this degree and default major is not aware of any such degree at other research intensive universities. An analysis of similar degrees in the Purdue system and distinctive elements will be provided for each proposed major.

6. COMPETITIVE DEGREES – BRIEF SUMMARY

The proposer of this degree and default major is not aware of any such degree at other research intensive universities. Identification of competitive degrees will be provided for each proposed major.
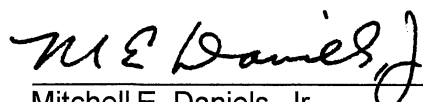
Recommended Approval: *Approved:*

5/30/20		6/2/20	

Jay T. Akridge   Date   Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.   Date
Provost and Executive Vice President   President
  for Academic Affairs and Diversity

M. S. in Graduate Studies with default major in Interdisciplinary Studies Framework

- Two formats
  - Non-thesis – course work only; 36 credits required
  - Thesis – 30 hours coursework, 6 hours thesis
- CIP code: 30.000 - A program that derives from two or more distinct programs and that is integrated around a unifying theme or topic that cannot be subsumed under a single discipline or occupational field[1] .

Graduate Certificate 1	Graduate Certificate 2	Business Baseline Skills
• Example: Applied Statistics	• Example: Biotechnology Quality and Regulatory Compliance	• Communication and Writing • Project Management • Leadership • Electives
Non-degree seeking	Non-degree seeking	Degree seeking – to complete Master's Degree

Business Baseline Skills [2] - Proposed Courses
- Communication and Writing (choose one)
  - ENG 421 Technical Writing
  - COM 60111 Strategic Communication
- Project Management (choose one)
  - MGMT 466 Project Management
  - IT 57100 Project Management in Industry and Technology
- Leadership (choose one)
  - OLS 589 Leadership and Ethics
  - HTM 512 Leadership in Hospitality and Management
- Electives

Graduate Certificate 1
- Applied Statistics Graduate Certificate (College of Science) is already approved for online, but currently only available for students enrolled through Purdue Engineering Online

Graduate Certificate 2
- Biotechnology Quality and Regulatory Compliance Graduate Certificate (Polytechnic) is currently offered only as a hybrid program with three required on-campus weekends per semester,
  involvement in the online interdisciplinary master's degree may encourage faculty to offer it fully online

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[1]   IPEDS – Classification of Instructional Programs

[2]   Burning Glass – The Human Factor