

11 November 2019

Dear Graduate Council:

The Professional Master of Science and Technology (PMST) program is asking to change the name of the *Computational Science* degree to *Computational and Data Science*. The proposed name change is unanimously supported by the program's executive committee which includes tenured faculty from departments of Math, Physics, Chemistry, Geography, and Mining Engineering as well as the Dean of the Graduate School. In addition, Associate Professor Jeff Philips and Professor Ross Whitaker from the School of Computing provided input to align the PMST program of study with their graduate certificate program.

Accompanying the Board of Trustees Name Change Proposal are letters of support from the Professor David Kieda, Dean of the Graduate School (which houses the PMST program), Professor Elena Cherkhev who represents the Department of Mathematics on the Executive Committee, and Professor Ross Whitaker, Director of the School of Computing.

As mentioned above, we have taken this opportunity to align the PMST program with current course offerings in the Department of Mathematics and the School of Computing as well as provide students the option to simultaneously earn the graduate certificate in Big Data. (With the School of Computing indicating they will submit a name change of their certificate to Data Science.)

The PMST program currently includes five tracks: Biotechnology, Computational Science, Earth Resource Management, Environmental Science, and Science Instrumentation. The PMST program has graduated 209 students since 2002 including 25 from the Computational Science degree program since 2004. This name change will allow the PMST program to more effectively attract scientist and engineers who are looking to expand their knowledge and develop the skills needed to work in the broad field of data science. I look forward the opportunity to continue our interdisciplinary program with the Department of Mathematics and the School of Computing.

Sincerely yours,



Ray J. Hoobler
Director, Professional Master of Science and Technology
(801) 585-5630
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November 4, 2019

Ray Hoobler, Ph.D.
Director, Professional Master of Science and Technology program
302 Park Building
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Re: Letter of endorsement for the name change of the PMST Computational Science Track
to Computational and Data Science

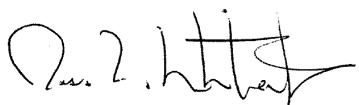
Dear Ray,

I am writing this letter as an endorsement of the proposed program name change of the Master of Science and Technology degree in *Computational Science* to *Computational and Data Science*.

As the M.S.T. degree is interdisciplinary degree and managed through The Graduate School by the Professional Master of Science and Technology program, this endorsement anticipates the alignment your program's course requirements with those in the *Certificate in Big Data* offered through the School of Computing (and to avoid duplicating courses, where possible). Thus, this change will allow students to identify a program of study defined by the field of data science, while relying your existing curriculum in professional advancement and project-based masters degrees and our offerings in the foundations of data science. Likewise, we will coordinate with your proposal and submit a proposal to rename the current Big Data Certificate to *Certificate in Data Science*.

We are looking forward to working with you in this endeavor.

Yours truly,



Ross Whitaker
Professor, Director



June 19, 2019

Dr. Ray Hoobler
Director, PMST Program
University of Utah
Building 44 Room 223
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Re: Letter of endorsement for the name change of the PMST *Computational Science* Track to *Computational and Data Science*.

Dear Ray-

I am writing this letter to document my endorsement of the proposal to rename the *Computational Science Track* in the PMST program to *Computational and Data Science*. The updated *Computational and Data Science* track name provides a better description of the scope of academic work covered by this degree track, which has traditionally included extensive coursework in both computational science and data science. The revised track name will provide both prospective students as well as employers with a better understanding of the range of material covered in this PMST Track.

The existing *Computational Science* Track in the PMST program provides a Master's level STEM training in combination with broader skill in business, finance, management, and entrepreneurship, and a capstone internship project working in industry. The *Computational Science* Track was established nearly 20 years ago, and the unique curriculum of the PMST program does not conflict with any other degree program on campus. Since the proposed name change will not affect the program's curricular requirements, the *Computational and Data Science* Track will continue to provide a unique academic experience that is not available elsewhere at the University.

The PMST degree program is administratively housed in the Graduate School, and so my letter of endorsement guarantees that the Graduate School will assist the PMST in the any necessary logistics required to implement this proposed name change. We look forward to improving the success of this important academic track within the University's PMST portfolio.

Best Regards,

David Kieda
Dean, The Graduate School

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302 Park Building**

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June 17, 2019

Dr. Ray Hoobler
Director, PMST Program
University of Utah
Building 44 Room 223
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Dear Dr. Hoobler:

This letter is to formally endorse the PMST program's proposal to rename the *Computational Science* track to *Computational and Data Science*.

As this name change will not alter the program's curriculum, we will continue to offer a program of study that allows students to obtain a STEM graduate degree that focuses on the development of domain knowledge in mathematics, computational sciences, and their application. The name change provides an updated description of the degree for both students and employers (who often sponsor our students).

I look forward to working with you as a member of the PMST program's executive committee to implement this change.

Sincerely yours,

Elena Cherkaev
Professor, Department of Mathematics
PMST Track Director, Computation Science

Department of Mathematics

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