

Request to Establish a New Academic Organizational Unit

Please complete all fields. Boxes may be expanded to accommodate longer responses. Clarifying field descriptions can be found below.

University: University of Arizona

<p>Name of Organizational Unit:</p> <p>School for Business Analytics</p>
<p>Academic Department:</p> <p>Eller College of Management</p>
<p>Geographic Site:</p> <p>Tucson - Main</p>
<p>Proposed Inception Term:</p> <p>Fall 2024</p>
<p>Brief Description:</p> <p>A short outline of the activities that the organizational unit will perform. Please include, as applicable, a list of the degree and certificate programs that the unit will offer with estimates of the number of students served; an outline of research activities; public service and other significant activities.</p> <p>Our college offers MSBA (Master of Science in Business Analytics) and a new undergraduate major in Business Analytics in the BSBA degree program starting in Fall 2023. Both programs will be the responsibility of this newly proposed school. The trend in business analytics programs across the country is to incorporate more experiential learning data analytics projects into the curriculum, and the school would be able to coordinate with the Partnerships Office to obtain relevant projects for our students at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.</p> <p>This unit will be able to develop partnerships with schools and departments across the campus, both internal and external to the Eller College of Management. Specifically, there are opportunities for academic synergies that are useful from both educational and research standpoints. Furthermore, given the nature of our Eller College, we need to build relationships to place students in businesses. So, the new School for Business Analytics will focus on building partnerships that aid us with our college's educational and research missions. We project the BSBS Business Analytics degree will award approximately 78 degrees in Year 1. Year 2, we foresee 81 degrees awarded and in the third year, we project 129. Enrollment in our MSBA program has remained at 15-16 students every year for the last three years.</p>
<p>Reason for Establishing the Organizational Unit:</p> <p>We aim to create the new School for Business Analytics in Eller College of Management to consolidate the Eller School of Management's business analytics activities related to educational programs and fostering research. A separate school will also allow us to hire tenure track faculty with expertise in business analytics who may not fit into the traditional departments at the Eller College. Overall, a distinct organizational structure will provide the focus needed to grow the new programs and aid coordination across the college to develop state-of-the-art curricula and a healthy program.</p>

Resources

We have multiple ways to fund the school for business analytics.

- a. Majority of the funds for the operation of the school will be generated from undergraduate and graduate business analytics programs.
- b. The generous gift from Bert and Czarina Lopez sets up a \$10M endowment from which some faculty chairs will be awarded. It will also help fund research activities and cover administrative operating costs. Currently, the donor is scheduled to contribute \$2M each year for the total five years, including the next three years. Those funds will be moved into an endowment. Distributions from the endowment contributions will be used toward running the school. We had requested recurring SBA funds for efforts towards business analytics. At the end of FY23, we were given \$1.64M of recurring SBA funds.
- c. Additionally, the faculty members may seek external funding through grants for research.