IUPUI GAC Reviewer Form

Documents Reviewed: Support letter from Barry Katz, Support letter from Dong Han, Support letter from Paul Halverson, Support letter memo from Jan Aycock, Support letter from Ben Boukai, Program proposal with appendices, sample syllabi from SJTU, sample transcript from SJTU, Agreement between IU and SJTU.

Summary of Proposal: The proposal describes a collaborative dual Master of Science Biostatistics degree program in either the statistics or applied statistics track between Indiana University (IU) and Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU).

1. Are the goals clear and achievable?

The goals of this program are to increase the global presence of IU graduate education with an international partnership between IU and SJTU. It is anticipated that high achieving students from SJTU will enroll in this program and come to IU during the second year. These students will pay international student tuition rates and generate more money for IU. This program could also lead to other collaboration between the universities.

2. Is the program academically sound?

It appears that great care has been taken to insure that students who complete the first year of the program at SJTU will have completed similar coursework as students in the program at IU. A method for translating grades from SJTU to IU has also been agreed upon. There are support letters detailing these agreements.

3. Are faculty resources available to offer this program without undercutting other key missions of the unit?

If the students from SJTU come with the expected statistics and English proficiencies as agreed upon, this program should not undercut other missions of the unit. This should be carefully monitored.

4. Is there overlap, either real or potential, with any other unit that could harm the program or be exploited to help the program?

It appears that campus units are in agreement with the proposal including the Department of Statistics, Fairbanks School of Public Health, and the Department of Mathematics, School of Science

5. My recommendation, comments/concerns regarding this proposal
I recommend that the proposal should be approved.

Questions that likely would not affect the integrity of the proposal, but would be good to know:

This appears to be a proposal that would mostly recruit students to IU from SJTU. But, it is also designed that students from IU could enroll in this program. How many students originating at IU would be expected to enroll in this proposal and go to SJTU? What percentage of students of those anticipated to enroll does this represent? Would this lead to lost tuition at IU?

Other universities also have agreements with SJTU for other math courses including Northwestern and University of Wisconsin-Madison. Do agreements from these universities compete with the agreement with IU? Are they for Biostatistics Master’s programs?