

# Research Council Meeting

April 17, 2024 via Zoom

**Attendees:** Amy Keirstead, Bob Kennedy, Cameron Wake, Jamie Vaughn, John Rosene, Karen Houseknecht, Michele Polacsek, Russ Ferland, Ursula Roese.

**Absentees:** Amy Deveau, Carol Brenner, Charles Tilburg, Derek Molliver, Ian Meng, Julie Peterson, Mohamed ElSalhy, Nick Gere, Shelley Cohen Konrad, Sonya Durney, Susan McHugh, Tom Meuser.

**Guest:** Associate Provost Mike Sheldon, Eliza Grlickova-Duzevik (COM)  
Aileen Huang-Saad – Roux, Director of Life Sciences, Health, & Engineering; Associate Professor of Bioengineering  
Marcus Sherman – Roux, Assistant Teaching Professor  
Moriah Folsom - Roux, LSH Education Program Manager

## **UNE Research Council is hosting Roux**

**APRS Houseknecht:** Welcoming ROUX. Today RC hosts ROUX about a presentation for its computational life sciences training program. The focus of the presentation is to provide possibilities for professional development (faculty and professional staff) in data management and data analytics. In this context and in line with UNE Strategic Plan Priority 3.

**Aileen Huang-Saad:** Aim of Roux LHSE to create educational programs to support human capital development for economic growth in the areas of life sciences, health, and engineering for Maine Researchers.

Our customizable learning program is an avenue for low-stakes upskilling that is tailored to the partner's workforce and contextualized on content relevant to their field of work.

Our customizable course catalog enables partners to decide on a prescriptive and progressive professional development for their interested learners at any level.

We consult with our partners to identify training needs and develop a progressive training series around domain-specific data and case studies relevant to the trainees.

We are hoping to pilot in person — for pedagogical reasons and to explore the value and form of these opportunities - but virtual for future is possible.

Proposed Workshop: “Demystifying Machine Learning for Health & Life Sciences Research”.

A transformative one-day workshop designed to illuminate the intricate world of machine learning (ML) within the realm of health & life sciences research. This course offers a high-level overview of diverse AI algorithms and their applications in health and life sciences research.

**Discussion:**

**Mike Sheldon:** As part of discussion relative to timing for offering such a workshop, May (following commencement) is not a workable for UNE community. A day in Fall could be better for a workshop.

**Russ Ferland:** From the folks I know, I would bet that the Machine Learning, Exploratory data analysis, and Basics of data visualization would be useful (maybe python or R as well). I bet many med students might be interested in these if there could be a way to find times that would work with their very busy schedule.

Also the fundamentals in experimental design in BIOINFORMATICS would be useful as well for some researchers and med students.

**Eliza Grlickova-Duzevik:** Often medical students would like to do meta-analyses. Is there expertise at the Roux for such trainings in this type of analyses or for mentoring students in this analysis? (Or for even training faculty in this). Students often have great ideas but need help with the implementation.

**Aileen Huang-Saad:** I think we could identify that resource — Great comments — this is exactly why we are here - to learn what the community needs/wants

**Next steps:** UNE stakeholders will discuss and prioritize areas for possible collaboration and training and engage Aileen's team for planning next steps.