Data Analytics Honors Program Justification

Recent research by the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) forecasts a 50 to 60 percent gap between the supply and demand of people with deep analytical talent. The study projects there will be approximately 140,000 to 190,000 unfilled positions of data analytics experts in the U.S. by 2018 and *a shortage of 1.5 million managers and analysts who have the ability to understand and make decisions using big data.*¹

PwC in their recent paper, "What students need to succeed in a rapidly changing business world," stated...

One challenge in our increasingly connected society is the proliferation of data. Every company, regardless of size, is bursting with information—often more than it knows what to do with.

Underscoring this point, in the past year, 4.4 million jobs were created around big data and data analytics. Our corporate partners and various advisory boards are coming to the college and expressing intense and immediate need for employees with decision-driven analytical skills. This message is echoed continually throughout business press today. The PCOM Data Analytics Honors Program is being developed in response to this marketplace need by preparing our students to apply data analytics skills in their chosen discipline area.

¹ http://www.mckinsey.com/insights/mgi/in the news/big data potential for businesses