

Board Meeting  
April 11, 2006

## TUITION RATES, ACADEMIC YEAR 2007

**Action:** Approval of Tuition Rates for Academic Year 2007

**Funding:** No Funding Required

At their meeting on November 10, 2005, members of the Board of Trustees discussed in detail the University's resource needs for Fiscal Year 2007 and beyond. They acknowledged the critical roles of key stakeholders including the State of Illinois, students and their families, private benefactors, and the University leadership and faculty in providing those resources. The five-year financial plan for the University is shaped by four strategic goals: (1) strengthening academic quality; (2) ensuring access by providing adequate need-based financial aid; (3) addressing the deferred maintenance problem; and (4) meeting inflationary cost increases. To help provide the financial resources to achieve those goals it will be necessary to increase tuition levels in FY 2007 as well as redirect a significant portion of existing funds to high-priority activities. These high-priority expenditures include making strategic investments to reduce class sizes and student/faculty ratios in high-demand academic programs, paying for the recent large cost increases for fuel and electricity, increasing financial aid to ensure access for low-income students, and providing competitive salary increases to retain our most productive faculty and staff.

Following extensive reviews and recommendations from the Academic Affairs Management Team and the Chancellors at each campus, the Vice President for Academic Affairs recommends approval of the following increases in the guaranteed and non-guaranteed tuition levels for undergraduate students of \$293 per semester at the Chicago campus, \$333 per semester at the Urbana-Champaign campus, and \$25 per credit hour at the Springfield campus. These tuition increases apply to students who are enrolled in the general undergraduate degree programs. The tuition rates for new students with guaranteed tuition who enroll after the spring 2006 semester will not increase for four years to comply with the tuition guarantee legislation, Public Act 93-0228. This legislation ensures that an incoming student will pay a fixed tuition rate for four years to provide predictability in tuition costs.

In addition to this there are differential tuition increases for students who are enrolled in several special undergraduate degree programs. These differential increases are summarized in the attached table. At the Springfield campus tuition will also increase by the additional \$8.50 per credit hour that was approved by the Board of Trustees on January 20, 2005.

At the graduate and professional levels, tuition increases are recommended for several specific programs. All tuition recommendations are summarized in the attached table. They are consistent with the report endorsed by the Board, *Ensuring Quality and Affordability: Tuition and Financial Aid at the University of Illinois*. The new tuition rates become effective during the summer semester 2006.

The board action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes, The General Rules*

*Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The President of the University concurs.