

Board Meeting
January 17, 2008

REVISED

APPROVE CHANGE OF STATUS OF PROGRAMS WITHIN THE COLLEGE OF
URBAN PLANNING AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS, CHICAGO

Action: Approve Change of Status of Programs within the College of Urban
Planning and Public Affairs, Chicago

Funding: No New Funding Required

The Interim Chancellor at Chicago with the advice of the Chicago Senate, the Graduate College, and the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs, recommends approval to change the status of the Urban Planning and Policy Program to the Department of Urban Planning and Policy and to change the status of the Public Administration Program to the Department of Public Administration.

The Public Administration (PA) Program and Urban Planning and Policy (UPP) Program have functioned as de facto academic departments since the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs was initially created in 1995. At that time, a program structure for these two academic units was necessary in order for a new, small PA program and a larger, long-established School of Urban Planning and Policy to have administrative parity within the new College. PA and UPP now seek formal departmental status, consistent with their prominent size and status within their professional disciplines and the requirements for national accreditation.

Self-governance is an accreditation criterion of the accrediting bodies for the Master of Urban Planning and Policy (the Planning Accreditation Board) and the Master of Public Administration (the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration). This administrative change **has full faculty endorsement and** would strengthen both programs with respect to the reaccreditation process. The Urban Planning and Policy Program is the largest graduate school of planning in the United States. The Public Administration Program has been ranked first among public universities and third overall in a nationwide study of public administration and policy programs. The change to a departmental structure will solidify the status of both units among their professional peer institutions.

Contingent upon Board of Trustees approval and pursuant to Article IV, Section 4, of the University of Illinois Statutes, faculty from both the Urban Planning and Policy program and the Public Administration program voted respectively to change the mode of governance from directorships to headships.

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 Vice President for Academic Affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further Senate jurisdiction is involved.

The President of the University recommends approval. This action is subject to further review and approval by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

