

Board Meeting
January 21, 2010

ESTABLISH THE SCHOOL OF LITERATURES, CULTURAL STUDIES, AND
LINGUISTICS, COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES, CHICAGO

Action: Approve Establishment of the School of Literatures, Cultural Studies, and Linguistics, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Funding: No New Funding Required

The Chancellor at Chicago with the advice of the Chicago Senate, the Graduate College, and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences recommends the establishment of the School of Literatures, Cultural Studies, and Linguistics.

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences proposes the creation of a School of Literatures, Cultural Studies, and Linguistics (LCSL) comprising the departments and programs of Classics and Mediterranean Studies; Germanic Studies; the Sandi Port Errant Language and Culture Learning Center; Slavic and Baltic Languages and Literatures; Spanish, French, Italian and Portuguese (SFIP); TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages)/Linguistics; Moving Image Arts, and the less commonly taught languages of Chinese, Japanese, and Hindi-Urdu. Although all administrative functions for these units will become centralized, departments will maintain their status as separate units, each with its own executive officer. This School will be comprised of 41 tenure-line faculty members, approximately 40 lecturers, and approximately 80 teaching assistants.

The units within the Chicago campus' proposed School provide original research on literary, cultural, and linguistic theories and practices (for both modern and classical languages), and instruction in those areas as well as in the many languages covered. Faculty members from across several of the units also have research and teaching interests in the moving image arts. In general, the units forming the School are the primary source of research and instruction presenting the non-English-speaking world to the campus and the English language to international students. The formation of the School is a means to promote and facilitate contact among the units involved, and to present their common interests to the higher administration and other parts of campus.

The establishment of the School will enable the strengthening of existing interdisciplinary endeavors and facilitate the creation of new ones. A new school-based course subject for LCSL will make it much easier to create and coordinate cross-disciplinary endeavors.

As part of the creation of the School, all staffing for the departments will become centralized, leading to greater efficiency. Finally, the School will be able to place the offices of faculty, lecturers, and teaching assistants in the same fields in proximity to each other, in order to enhance collaborative possibilities.

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