ELIMINATE THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN DENTISTRY,
COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY, CHICAGO

Action:     Eliminate the Bachelor of Science in Dentistry, College of Dentistry

Funding:    No New Funding Required

The Chancellor, University of Illinois at Chicago, and Vice President, University of Illinois with the advice of the Chicago Senate and the College of Dentistry, recommends the elimination of the Bachelor of Science in Dentistry.

The Bachelor of Science in Dentistry was created to provide students pursuing the Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) who had entered dental school prior to the completion of an undergraduate degree the opportunity to earn a bachelor’s degree. In addition to the DDS requirements, students needed to demonstrate the successful completion of the University’s requirements for a Bachelor of Science degree. Once created, most DDS students, even those with bachelor’s degrees, requested and were awarded the B.S. in Dentistry. This practice created an administrative burden and for most students provided no value to their professional credentials. In Fall 2011, the DDS was phased down and replaced by the Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD). For the last several years of the DDS program and since the establishment of the DMD, all students matriculating into the professional doctorate have been required to have a bachelor’s
degree or its equivalent. So there is no longer a need to award the Bachelor of Science in Dentistry. Further, the College last awarded the bachelor’s degree in 2009.

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.