

Board Meeting  
July 13, 2006

REDESIGNATE MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE ONE-YEAR POST-  
PROFESSIONAL OPTION (M.ARCH., OPTION I) AS MASTER OF SCIENCE IN  
ARCHITECTURE (M.S. IN ARCHITECTURE), CHICAGO

**Action:** Approve the Redesignation of the Master of Architecture One-Year Post-Professional Option (M.Arch., Option I) as the Master of Science in Architecture (M.S. in Architecture), Chicago

**Funding:** No New State Funding Required

The Chancellor at Chicago, with the advice of the Chicago Senate and the Graduate College, recommends the redesignation of the Master of Architecture One-Year Post-Professional Option (M.Arch., Option I) as the Master of Science in Architecture (M.S. in Architecture), School of Architecture. This change appropriately distinguishes the Chicago campus' non-accredited one-year, post-professional graduate degree from its two accredited professional graduate degree tracks; it clarifies this important difference to prospective students, the profession, and the public; and it brings the School's post-professional degree program into conformance with current academic nomenclature.

The M.Arch. will continue to offer the other two options: the Option II track, for students with a non-accredited pre-professional architecture degree; and the Option III track, for students with a non-traditional undergraduate major, such as political science or fine arts. Option I was designed for students who already possess a professional degree. Students who enroll in this curriculum therefore typically have a

five-year professional B.Arch. degree from an NAAB-accredited program; not infrequently, students with professional degrees from institutions outside the United States enroll in the one-year M.Arch.

The current name of the post-professional M.Arch. option has caused significant confusion, particularly among foreign students who seek an accredited professional U.S. degree. Not infrequently, students who complete the one-year program (Option I) seek to represent to the public--to state regulatory agencies and to the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards--that their foreign undergraduate degree in combination with the one-year post professional M.Arch. option equals a U.S. professional degree, which it does not. The name change will rectify this ambiguity.

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, pending further review by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.