

Approved by the Board of Trustees  
July 13, 2017

Board Meeting  
July 13, 2017

ESTABLISH THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE AND  
MUSIC, COLLEGE OF FINE AND APPLIED ARTS, URBANA

**Action:** Establish the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Music, College of Fine and Applied Arts

**Funding:** No New Funding Required

The Chancellor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and Vice President, University of Illinois with the advice of the Urbana-Champaign Senate recommends approval of a proposal from the College of Fine and Applied Arts to establish the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Music.

The goal of the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Music (B.S. in CS + Music) is to graduate two kinds of students: one who is focused on the sonic arts employing state-of-the-art technology, and the other a computer scientist with strong music/audio understanding who will advance music and audio technology.

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has historically been a forerunner in music and audio technology, with faculty among the first to place sound on film in the 1920s; to establish the first experimental music studio in the Western world in the 1950s; and to compose one of the first substantial pieces of music to be written algorithmically. The proposed B.S. in CS + Music represents a formalized undergraduate

academic program to foster this historical strength and will position the university as a leading influential force shaping audio and music technology into the future.

As music technology becomes increasingly sophisticated, there is a need for the School of Music to partner with engineering to offer music students with interest in technology the strong foundation necessary to help them stay ahead of the competition for graduate school and career opportunities. The proposed B.S. in CS + Music provides that academic foundation, and it will strengthen the connection between the School of Music's many alumni in the digital media industry, which in turn also broadens opportunities for students.

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 Executive Vice President and 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.