TRANSFER THE AGRICULTURAL COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM AND THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE WITH A MAJOR IN AGRICULTURAL COMMUNICATIONS, COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES AND THE COLLEGE OF MEDIA, URBANA

Action: Transfer the Agricultural Communications Program and the Bachelor of Science with a Major in Agricultural Communications, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences and the College of Media

Funding: No New Funding Required

The Interim Chancellor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and Interim Vice President, University of Illinois with the advice of the Urbana-Champaign Senate recommends approval of a proposal from the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) and the College of Media to transfer the Agricultural Communications Program and the Bachelor of Science with a major in Agricultural Communications from the College of Media to the College of ACES.

In July, 2008, the Agricultural Communications (AGCM) Program and its major were reconfigured to become jointly sponsored through a partnership between the Colleges of ACES and Media. At that time, the administrative home for AGCM was determined to be the College of Media. The current proposal seeks to continue the joint sponsorship but to move the administrative home and the bachelor’s degree to the College of ACES. ACES has long-standing experience in administering programs that
are interdisciplinary in nature and that serve students and faculty from different colleges. Given this experience and the capacity for coordinating cross-college academic programs, the Colleges of Media and ACES have agreed that students in the AGCM program would be well served by changing the administrative home to ACES.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Colleges of ACES and Media outlines specifics around faculty lines, program governance, personnel, faculty participation in college governance, budget, measures of success, and faculty review, promotion, and tenure. Per this MOU, logistical changes are outlined that impact program administration, but there are no changes proposed to the number of full-time employees allocated to the program, physical location of the program, or the major’s curriculum.

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.