

Board Meeting  
July 23, 2015

ESTABLISH A MASTER OF SCIENCE IN INFORMATION MANAGEMENT,  
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE AND THE  
GRADUATE COLLEGE, URBANA

**Action:** Establish a Master of Science in Information Management, Graduate School of Library and Information Science and the Graduate College

**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 Graduate School of Library and Information Science to establish a Master of Science in Information Management.

A new Master of Science in Information Management will provide a separate degree program for those interested in information-intensive professional roles in a very broad range of sectors while building on existing strengths in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science (GSLIS). The Master of Science in Information Management enables GSLIS to contribute to meeting the national need for well-prepared information professionals and to remain competitive with other information science schools. This degree program will be offered on campus and online, drawing on the experience and infrastructure that already supports GSLIS' online Master of Science in Library and Information Science. The Master of Science in Information

Management will be self-supporting and will attract individuals from a variety of disciplines.

GSLIS has high visibility as the number one ranked program in library and information science. Although the Master of Science in Library and Information Science has provided a valuable platform in educating students for a wide range of information professions, this program is no longer well-suited to preparing students for all roles that involve advanced technologies. As a separate degree program, the Master of Science in Information Management allows GSLIS to take full advantage of the School's faculty, curriculum, and reputation to meet national needs. Opportunities for information professionals with this degree exist in government, industry, research centers, academe, and nonprofit agencies.

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.