PRESIDENT’S REPORT ON ACTIONS OF THE SENATES

Eliminate the Non-Thesis Option in the Master of Science in Electrical and Computer Engineering, College of Engineering and the Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Engineering and the Graduate College to eliminate the Non-Thesis Option in the Master of Science in Electrical and Computer Engineering. The Non-Thesis Option has not been in use since fall 2007 as the current Master of Science curriculum is designed for students who wish to complete a research-based degree.

Rename the Graduate Concentration in Advocacy, Leadership, and Social Change in the Master of Social Work, School of Social Work and the Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the School of Social Work and the Graduate College to rename the graduate concentration in Advocacy, Leadership, and Social Change in the Master of Social Work degree. The change in the concentration title from Advocacy, Leadership, and Social Change to Leadership and Social Change better describes the focus of this revised curricular content. These changes are a result of the School of Social Work’s Advocacy, Leadership, and Social Change Concentration Committee’s research on initial job offerings for students in the concentration and informal survey of recent graduates. The market indicates that organizational practice knowledge is in greater demand than knowledge of community organization and policy practice. The retitled concentration better reflects industry demand.
The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences to rename the concentration in Integrated Pest Management as Plant Protection in the Bachelor of Science in Crop Sciences. The change in concentration name to Plant Protection makes the name more descriptive of the concentration content and better resonates with students and industry, as there is increasing interest in the crop sciences industry in students with a background in plant protection.

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences to establish a concentration in Horticultural Food Systems in the Bachelor of Science in Crop Sciences.

In March 2009, the Board of Trustees approved the move of the horticulture program from the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences to the Department of Crop Sciences. Due to loss of faculty and teaching associate positions in the department, a decrease in student interest in bachelor’s programs in horticulture on this campus and nationally, as well as dwindling demand for bachelor’s-level graduates in the ornamental horticulture industry, the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences proposed elimination of the Bachelor of Science in Horticulture. This proposal was approved at the May 7, 2015,
Board of Trustees meeting. The new concentration in Horticultural Food Systems within the major in Crop Sciences incorporates horticulture and better aligns with student interest.

Establish Concentrations in the Bachelor of Science in Psychology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to add concentrations in Behavioral Neuroscience, Clinical/Community Psychology, Cognitive Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Organizational Psychology, and Social/Personality Psychology to the Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences in Psychology.

These new undergraduate concentrations in the Psychology major reflect the distinct intellectual traditions and research areas represented by the different divisions in the Department of Psychology. Each concentration requires a distinct set of advanced courses and will enable the student’s transcript to reflect the particular area of interest. For those students who prefer a broader, less specialized psychology major, a General Psychology concentration will be offered that is the same as the current psychology major.
Establish a Concentration in Journalism and Eliminate the Concentrations in News
Editorial Journalism and in Broadcast Journalism in the Bachelor of Science in
Agricultural Communications in the College of Media and the College of Agricultural,
Consumer and Environmental Sciences, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the Colleges
of Media and Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences to establish a
concentration in Journalism and to eliminate the concentrations in News Editorial
Journalism and Broadcast Journalism in the Bachelor of Science in Agricultural
Communications.

In July 2013, the Board of Trustees approved the merging of two
undergraduate majors in the College of Media, News Editorial Journalism and Broadcast
Journalism, into one major, Journalism. The Agricultural Communications major
currently has three concentrations: Advertising, News Editorial Journalism, and
Broadcast Journalism. To mirror the current undergraduate majors in the College of
Media, the proposal dissolves the last two concentrations and establishes a new
Journalism concentration. This change allows the Agricultural Communications major to
reflect the current trends and practices in the Journalism profession.

Establish a Graduate Concentration in Biomechanics, College of Engineering and the
Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College
of Engineering and the Graduate College to establish a graduate concentration in
Biomechanics to be jointly offered through the Department of Bioengineering and the
Department of Mechanical Science and Engineering.
The Biomechanics Graduate Concentration requires students to complete a minimum of three courses, chosen from existing Illinois graduate courses in engineering, biology, and the sciences, for a total of at least 12-credit hours, providing an interdisciplinary experience required for cutting edge research in biomechanics. The concentration will be open to students in relevant disciplines within the College of Engineering (Bioengineering, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Materials Science and Engineering, and Mechanical Science and Engineering) with the hope of expanding to relevant disciplines outside the College of Engineering in the future. Students are expected to have graduate standing in one of the participating departments, and the concentration will be fully compatible with the traditional degree requirements in these participating departments.

Establish a Graduate Concentration in Cancer Nanotechnology, College of Engineering and the Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Engineering and the Graduate College to establish a graduate concentration in Cancer Nanotechnology to be offered through the Department of Bioengineering.

This graduate concentration will require completion of three courses for a total of at least 12-credit hours in topics integral to Cancer Nanotechnology. Courses will be chosen from existing University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign graduate courses in engineering, biology, and the sciences, to provide an interdisciplinary experience required for cutting edge research in cancer nanotechnology. The concentration will be open to students in relevant disciplines within the College of Engineering.
(Bioengineering, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Materials Science and Engineering, Mechanical Science and Engineering) with the hope of expanding to relevant disciplines outside the College of Engineering in the near future. Students enrolled in the concentration are expected to have graduate standing in one of the participating departments, and the concentration will be fully compatible with traditional degree requirements in these departments.

Establish a Graduate Concentration in Structure in the Master of Science in Architectural Studies, College of Fine and Applied Arts and the Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Fine and Applied Arts and the Graduate College to establish a graduate concentration in Structure in the Master of Science in Architectural Studies.

Official recognition of Structures as a concentration on students’ transcripts will identify graduates as having developed extensive knowledge in structural design of buildings and offer them more career licensure opportunities as structural designers. Offering a concentration in Structures will attract more quality students to the Master of Science in Architectural Studies program.

Establish the Post-Baccalaureate Campus Certificate in Disability Ethics, College of Applied Health Sciences, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Applied Health Sciences and the Graduate College has approved the establishment of the Campus Certificate in Disability Ethics.
Disability Ethics is a rapidly emerging area of study, research, and clinical practice. It has evolved from the fields of bioethics, rehabilitation, and disability studies, and promotes critical analysis of ethical dilemmas involving persons with long-term conditions categorized as disabilities. Because UIC is an acknowledged world leader in advanced disability studies and health professional training, the certificate will serve both current graduate/professional students and clinicians who wish to develop competency in this emerging field of study. In fact, the College has received frequent inquiries from health and social service agencies asking to be notified as soon as a formal certificate has been approved.

The certificate will prepare students to address disability as a multi-dimensional phenomenon, critically analyze major approaches of bioethics from a disability studies framework, recognize different perspectives in ethical debates involving people with disabilities, and apply ethical theories to life situations facing people with disabilities. The certificate requires 12 hours: three required courses in disability and human development and ethical issues in disability/contemporary problems, and one elective course chosen in consultation with the certificate advisor. The certificate’s credit hours may be applied towards masters and doctoral programs in the Department of Disability and Human Development should certificate students choose to pursue graduate studies.
Establish Concentrations in Business Analytics and Operations and Supply Chain Management in the Master of Business Administration, College of Business Administration, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Business Administration has approved the establishment of two concentrations in the Master of Business Administration (MBA): Business Analytics, and Operations and Supply Chain Management.

The MBA is a 54-credit hour program comprised of seven core courses (26 hours) in financial accounting, corporate finance, marketing, microeconomics, operations management, organizational behavior, and an MBA capstone; and 28 hours of more advanced specialized electives. Elective courses allow students to pursue topics that support their individual career interests and goals. All students complete at least one area of specialization or concentration. Concentrations are formally noted on student transcripts.

Currently, the MBA has ten concentrations which can be completed by taking at least three courses (12 hours) of required and elective courses in the following fields of study: Accounting, Economics, Entrepreneurship, Finance, International Business, Management, Marketing, Management Information Systems, Real Estate, or a Self-Directed option. Business Analytics and Operations and Supply Chain Management will be added, resulting in twelve available concentrations. Full- and part-time students will be eligible to earn both concentrations, and students in the Accelerated MBA
program, completed in one year within cohorts of peers, can pursue the concentration in Business Analytics.

The concentrations were developed in response to increasing demand for managers and professionals with particular skills and expertise, and the ability to apply them in varied industrial and organizational contexts.

Revise the Doctor of Dental Medicine Advanced Standing Program, College of Dentistry, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Dentistry has approved the revision of the Doctor of Dental Medicine Advanced Standing (DMDAS) Program.

The DMDAS Program is comprised of didactic and clinical components that provide the training required by the State of Illinois to license individuals who received their dental degrees abroad. The program has existed under various names since 1999, resulting in the awards of the Doctor of Dental Medicine, and has grown from an initial cohort of 12 students to 52. Admission to the program is limited to U.S. citizens, permanent residents, and asylee who are currently residing in the U.S. and are in the process of becoming permanent residents. Preference is given to Illinois residents.

Currently the program is comprised of 116-credit hours over six terms (24 months): three semesters of coursework and experience focusing on prepatient care and three semesters of clinical patient care. After assessing the program’s structure and content, the college proposes to revise the program to better meet student training needs.
Specifically, students will complete unique introductory courses to prepare them for clinical practice, have additional time built in to treat patients prior to graduation, and be able to participate in the implant training program, community learning experiences, and advanced electives that are available to traditional DMD students. These changes result in a modified DMDAS Program comprised of 143-credit hours over seven terms (28 months): two semesters of coursework and experience focusing on prepatient care and five semesters of clinical patient care.

Establish the Post-Baccalaureate Campus Certificate in Disaster Management, College of Engineering, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Engineering has approved the establishment of the Campus Certificate in Disaster Management.

The objective of the certificate is to prepare individuals with a background in engineering or a closely-related disciple to work within units such as transportation administrations, government agencies, hospitals, police and fire departments, the manufacturing sector, and communications and energy companies in order to respond rapidly and effectively to remedy the consequences of natural or man-made catastrophes. Federal regulations are now requiring industry and large institutions to develop and implement emergency management and continuity planning protocols. The certificate will provide engineering professionals with the skills to respond to these mandates, and is offered as a complement of the existing Campus Certificate in Emergency Management.
and Continuity Planning (EMCP) offered by the School of Public Health and College of Business Administration to public and environmental health professionals.

Both certificates offer foundational knowledge of emergency management and risk assessment and management, with elective coursework in infrastructure and resource protection planning, disaster response and recovery, or other advanced topics. However, courses that comprise the Campus Certificate in Disaster Management are tailored to accommodate the needs of engineering professionals and contain engineering-based projects. Three courses (12 hours) are required to earn the certificate, and all are completed online.

Establish the Joint Doctor of Medicine/Master of Science in Bioengineering, College of Medicine and College of Engineering, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Medicine, College of Engineering, and the Graduate College has approved the establishment of the joint Doctor of Medicine/Master of Science in Bioengineering (MD/MS-BIOE).

The Doctor of Medicine is a four-year degree offered at Chicago and at regional campuses in Urbana, Peoria, and Rockford. The number of required hours varies from site to site, but ranges from 142- to 152-credit hours. The program is a generalist curriculum with the goal of graduating physicians who are well grounded in basic and clinical sciences, oriented and competent as beginning general physicians, capable of entering graduate training in either generalist specialties or subspecialties, and able to function in an ever changing health care environment. The Master of Science in
Bioengineering focuses on the application of engineering design to solve problems that involve living systems, requires 36 hours of coursework, and can be completed with or without a thesis. MS-BIOE students pick from among six areas of focus: bioinformatics, medical imaging, biomechanics, cell and tissue engineering, neural engineering, or biomolecular engineering and nanotechnology.

The Joint MD/MS-BIOE is a five-year program that will prepare medical school graduates with the skills required to combine their clinical knowledge with the knowledge and skills needed to conduct research to prepare them for careers as clinical researchers. Medical students from Chicago and the regional campuses will be eligible to apply for admission, and it is anticipated that approximately five students will be admitted each year. Students will apply for the joint degree during the spring of their first year. Joint degree students will complete three years of the MD, spend the following year (three terms) pursuing the MS-BIOE, and then return to the College of Medicine to complete their final year of medical training.

The requirements for completion of the combined MD/MS-BIOE degree are identical to the completion of the two separate degrees; however, up to 8 hours of shared coursework is used for both degrees.