PRESIDENT’S REPORT ON ACTIONS OF THE SENATES

Establish a Graduate Concentration in Finance, College of Business and Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Business and the Graduate College to establish a graduate concentration in Finance.

The Department of Finance proposes to offer a graduate concentration in Finance for students pursuing the Master of Accounting Science. Accountants with expertise in Finance are increasingly valued by many employers. The concentration is designed to allow students in the MAS program to demonstrate substantive competency in the field of Finance.

Establish a Graduate Concentration in Accountancy, College of Business and Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Business and the Graduate College to establish a graduate concentration in Accountancy.

A graduate concentration in Accountancy creates an educational synergy with related non-accountancy graduate programs. This synergy increases the quality of these programs, allowing them to compete better in the marketplace, both attracting better students and penetrating markets in which the programs currently are less competitive.
Establish a Graduate Concentration in Business and Public Policy, College of Business and Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Business and the Graduate College to establish a graduate concentration in Business and Public Policy.

Today’s business leaders must make strategic decisions in an extremely complex world. In addition to navigating the rapidly changing market forces in their industry, companies operate in an environment that is strongly influenced by regulatory and public policy considerations. Public sector leaders must also understand how market forces can help or hinder alternative solutions to society’s most pressing problems. The Business and Public Policy graduate concentration is designed to provide graduate business students a framework for evaluating the impact of public policy on firms and the markets in which they operate.

Establish a Graduate Concentration in Corporate Governance and International Business, College of Business and Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Business and the Graduate College to establish a graduate concentration in Corporate Governance and International Business.

The graduate concentration in Corporate Governance and International Business will focus on developing leaders in various business fields. It will prepare students who are interested in working in multinational companies with subsidiaries in emerging markets and global professional service firms such as accounting or consulting firms who operate in an international arena.
Establish a Graduate Concentration in Information Technology and Control, College of Business and Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Business and the Graduate College to establish a graduate concentration in Information Technology and Control.

Information Technology and Control has been an emerging area of focus for accounting, financial services, and IT consulting companies. The proposed graduate concentration will focus on developing leaders in various business fields who understand how to leverage information technology to create value for customers, external partners, and shareholders by designing better information systems to improve business processes and controls; and how managers can assess the strategic, financial, and economic benefits and risks of investing in advanced information systems. The concentration will provide not only a strong foundation in the area but could be tailored to fit the specific career needs of students.

Establish a Graduate Concentration in Supply Chain Management, College of Business and Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Business and the Graduate College to establish a graduate concentration in Supply Chain Management.

Supply Chain Management is a critical area of focus for manufacturing, distribution, retail, health care, information technology, and consulting companies. The proposed concentration will focus on developing leaders who understand how to assess trade-offs and make the decisions necessary to sustain high quality products and services.
at lower costs while maintaining the flexibility necessary to adapt and to respond to evolving market trends; and how to coordinate and integrate supply chain solutions across various intra-organizational and inter-organizational interfaces in any business or organization. The concentration not only provides a strong foundation in supply chain management principles and practices, it can also be tailored to fit the specific needs of students interested in careers across a wide variety of industries.

Establish a Graduate Concentration in Global Studies in Education, College of Education and Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Education and the Graduate College to establish a graduate concentration in Global Studies in Education.

Global Studies in Education builds upon the tradition of comparative and international education research and teaching in the Department of Education Policy, Organization and Leadership. It is predicated on the need to extend knowledge and develop critical skills to understand the changing economic, political, and cultural contexts in which education takes place. These contexts provide education professionals and administrators with new opportunities to enhance the quality of their teaching, training, and guidance by connecting with a network of global citizens from all around the world.
Rename the Graduate Concentration in eLearning, College of Education and Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Education and the Graduate College to rename the graduate concentration in eLearning.

The proposal seeks to rename the graduate concentration in eLearning as Learning Design and Leadership. The new title reflects the focus on education and training for positions and roles of pedagogical leadership, such as curriculum coordinator, a leader in a discipline, an instructional mentor of new teachers, or a leader of online learning provisions in business and industry.

Establish a Graduate Minor in Art History, College of Fine and Applied Arts and 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 minor in Art History.

The research and teaching of visual studies and the built environment has expanded well beyond the principal domains of the History of Art, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Cinema Studies. Decades after many areas of the humanities have taken the visual turn and engaged with an expanded visual field, there has been an increased need and demand from graduate students for formative course work providing a solid knowledge base of the histories, theories, methods, and literacy of visual cultures, in support of their own research. The proposed graduate minor will complement the existing Cinema Studies and Heritage Studies minors but distinguish
itself through its emphasis on the historical, aesthetic, and disciplinary discourses of images, art objects, and architecture within a lengthier chronological and philological framework.

Establish an Undergraduate Concentration in Civic Leadership in the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences in Political Science, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to establish an undergraduate concentration in Civic Leadership in the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences in Political Science.

The Civic Leadership Program offers undergraduates an informed appreciation of the successes and deficiencies of American democracy, the values and structures on which it is based, and the challenges it will face in the 21st century. Because the potential benefits of democratic governance cannot be realized without an abundant supply of capable and committed civic leaders, the Civic Leadership Program takes on the mission of generating a stream of highly motivated, exceptionally capable, ethically aware, and broadly trained individuals who will be prepared to assume leadership positions in civic affairs in both the private and the public domains. The Political and Civic Leadership concentration is designed to meet the needs of political science majors with interests in American politics, public policy, and civic engagement.

Establish an Undergraduate Minor in Civic Leadership, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to establish an undergraduate minor in Civic Leadership.
The Civic Leadership Program offers undergraduates an informed appreciation of the successes and deficiencies of American democracy, the values and structures on which it is based, and the challenges it will face in the 21st century. Because the potential benefits of democratic governance cannot be realized without an abundant supply of capable and committed civic leaders, the Civic Leadership Program takes on the mission of generating a stream of highly motivated, exceptionally capable, ethically aware, and broadly trained individuals who will be prepared to assume leadership positions in civic affairs in both the private and the public domains. The Political and Civic Leadership Minor is designed for students majoring in fields other than Political Science.

Establish a Combined Bachelor of Science in Journalism and Master of Science in Journalism, College of Media and Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Media and the Graduate College to establish a combined Bachelor of Science in Journalism and Master of Science in Journalism.

The journalism industry is undergoing seismic changes. The market for entry-level journalists remains strong, but students are at a competitive disadvantage if they do not possess professional skills beyond a single medium. The curriculum revisions to the undergraduate program coupled with access to the five-year combined program, will provide students with a greater breadth across multiple platforms which will enhance marketability.
Establish Concentrations in Human Resource Management, Leadership and Managerial Skills, Managerial Logistics, and Strategic Management in the Bachelor of Science in Management, College of Business Administration, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Business Administration has approved the establishment of four concentrations in the Bachelor of Science in Management: Human Resource Management, Leadership and Managerial Skills, Managerial Logistics, and Strategic Management. The concentrations were chosen based on existing faculty strengths and are focused in areas of projected job growth and demand over the next ten years as documented by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The concentrations are designed to enhance the employment prospects for graduates and to focus curriculum planning for students. Further, the College’s Business Career Services and Department of Managerial Studies sought feedback from employers who indicated that concentrations would strengthen a student’s employment prospects by demonstrating a cluster of specialized skills, knowledge, and interest. The concentrations will not change the requirements for the degree. Students are already required to complete three courses (nine hours) of elective credit within their major requirements. With the formation of concentrations, students will have the option of selecting these nine hours from within one of four areas of specialization.

Establish Concentrations in Innovation and Product Management, Marketing Promotions and Communications, Marketing Research, and Sales Leadership in the Bachelor of Science in Marketing, College of Business Administration, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Business Administration has approved the establishment of four concentrations in the Bachelor of Science in Marketing: Innovation and Product Management, Marketing Promotions and Communications, Marketing Research, and Sales Leadership.
Communications, Marketing Research, and Sales Leadership. The concentrations were chosen based on existing faculty strengths and are focused in areas of projected job growth and demand over the next ten years as documented by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The concentrations are designed to enhance the employment prospects for graduates and to focus curriculum planning for students. Further, the College’s Business Career Services and Department of Managerial Studies sought feedback from employers who indicated that concentrations would strengthen a student’s employment prospects by demonstrating a cluster of specialized skills, knowledge, and interest. The concentrations will not change the requirements for the degree. Students are already required to complete three courses (9 hours) of elective credit within their major requirements. With the formation of concentrations, students will have the option of selecting these nine hours from within one of four areas of specialization.

Establish the Post-Baccalaureate Campus Certificate in Applied Startup Knowledge, College of Business Administration, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Business Administration has approved the establishment of a campus certificate in Applied Startup Knowledge. The certificate is a standalone program that provides an introduction to the basic competencies of startup development, including the articulation, validation, creation, and resourcing of new business startups. No prerequisite courses in business or other fields are required. The certificate requires three courses (9 hours) and will be completed entirely through face-to-face instruction. The certificate is designed for individuals with baccalaureate degrees who plan to launch their own businesses;
however, the certificate will also strengthen graduates’ chances of securing jobs at existing startups or at institutions that assist startups. Applicants can be either degree-seeking graduate students in any UIC college or non-degree students who wish to only pursue the certificate. While students in UIC’s Master of Business Administration program may choose to pursue the certificate, it is anticipated that the majority of students will be enrolled in non-MBA degrees or be external constituents. For example, the U.S. Veterans Administration and the U.S. Small Business Association both advocate for the creation of non-traditional entrepreneurship certificate programs for military veterans that would provide basic skills and assist in veterans’ reintegration into the workforce. Because the campus certificate is comprised of credit-bearing courses, many veterans would be able to utilize GI Bill benefits to support their studies. In this regard, the College of Business Administration is working with the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs for their endorsement of the certificate.

Establish the Post-Baccalaureate Campus Certificate in Technology Entrepreneurship, College of Business Administration, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Business Administration has approved the establishment of a campus certificate in Technology Entrepreneurship. The certificate is designed to build skills and competency in assessing technologies for commercial potential, developing business models and revenue models for new business ventures, developing and pitching business plans, and acquiring resources to launch a technology-based new business venture. The certificate is available to UIC graduate students in any college. It requires the completion of five courses (10
hours) and will be completed entirely through face-to-face instruction. The certificate’s credit hours earned can be applied towards the Master of Business Administration if students are admitted to this degree. However, the certificate’s hours cannot be applied to the MBA’s Concentration in Entrepreneurship.

Revise the Master of Science in Bioengineering, College of Engineering, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Engineering and Graduate College has approved the addition of a coursework-only option as a means of completing the Master of Science in Bioengineering. Currently the degree requires all students to complete a thesis, with at least 8 of the degree’s required 36 hours devoted to thesis research. The revision will allow students to complete the degree by completing all 36 hours via coursework only. In recent years, coursework-only options have been created within comparable programs at peer institutions. While the completion of a thesis is beneficial for students who intend to pursue the Doctor of Philosophy or other advanced professional programs, a large percentage of the degree’s recipients immediately enter the workforce. A coursework-only option will provide industry-bound students with 8 hours of additional coursework and instruction, and create the opportunity to acquire additional skills and greater exposure to advanced topics. It should be noted that students completing the degree through coursework alone will still have numerous opportunities to gain significant project and presentation experience.
Revise the Master of Science in Bioinformatics, College of Engineering, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Engineering and Graduate College has approved the addition of a coursework-only option as a means of completing the Master of Science in Bioinformatics. Currently the degree requires all students to complete a thesis, with at least 8 of the degree’s required 36 hours devoted to thesis research. The revision will allow students to complete the degree by completing all 36 hours via coursework only. In recent years, coursework-only options have been created in comparable programs at peer institutions. While the completion of a thesis is beneficial for students who intend to pursue the Doctor of Philosophy or other advanced professional programs, a large percentage of the degree’s recipients immediately enter the workforce. A coursework-only option will provide industry-bound students with 8 hours of additional coursework and instruction, and create the opportunity to acquire additional skills and greater exposure to advanced topics. It should be noted that students completing the degree through coursework alone will still have numerous opportunities to gain significant project and presentation experience.

Revise the Master of Science in Forensic Science, College of Pharmacy, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Engineering and Graduate College has approved the elimination of the project (i.e., non-thesis) option as a means to complete the Master of Science in Forensic Science. Currently, the degree requires a minimum of 38 hours and either the completion of a thesis or project. The revision will require all students to complete a thesis, but will have no effect on the total hours, coursework, or other requirements for the degree. The
revision was requested because the degree’s accrediting body, the Forensic Education Programs Academic Commission (FEPAC) has announced their intention to require that graduate programs seeking to achieve and retain accreditation be involved in expanding research opportunities for students. It is anticipated that FEPAC will enforce this requirement within the next two to three years. As FEPAC’s requirement can be accomplished and regulated by requiring a thesis to earn the degree, the college has opted to make this revision now.

Revise the Legal Studies Curriculum, Bachelor of Arts Degree in Legal Studies, College of Public Affairs and Administration, Springfield

The Springfield Senate with the recommendation of the College of Public Affairs and Administration has approved the revision of the curriculum of the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Legal Studies.

The proposed revisions include eliminating the Legal Assistant and General Legal Studies concentrations to create a single general curriculum for students. In addition the revision will reduce the total number of required hours from 37 to 34 hours within a 120-hour undergraduate degree.

Eliminate the General Legal Studies Concentration within the Bachelor of Arts in Legal Studies, College of Public Affairs and Administration, Springfield

The Springfield Senate with the recommendation of the College of Public Affairs and Administration has approved the elimination of the General Legal Studies Concentration within the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Legal Studies.
Currently students seeking a Bachelor’s degree in Legal Studies are required to complete the Legal Assistant concentration or the General Legal Studies concentration. Eliminating the concentration requirement will simplify the degree requirements and improve student achievement of learning objectives within a liberal-arts based study of law while also allowing students to tailor a course of study appropriate to their academic interests and future goals. This revision brings the Legal Studies Bachelor’s degree more in line with comparable degrees across the country. All but one course required for the concentrations will remain available to students to take as elective coursework.

Eliminate the Legal Assistant Concentration within the Bachelor of Arts in Legal Studies, College of Public Affairs and Administration, Springfield

The Springfield Senate with the recommendation of the College of Public Affairs and Administration has approved the elimination of the Legal Assistant Concentration and the General Legal Studies Concentration within the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Legal Studies.

Currently students seeking a Bachelor’s degree in Legal Studies are required to complete the Legal Assistant concentration or the General Legal Studies concentration. Eliminating the concentration requirement will simplify the degree requirements and improve student achievement of learning objectives within a liberal-arts based study of law while also allowing students to tailor a course of study appropriate to their academic interests and future goals. This revision brings the Legal Studies Bachelor’s degree more in line with comparable degrees across the country. All but one
course required for the concentrations will remain available to students to take as elective coursework.