

PRESIDENT'S REPORT ON ACTIONS OF THE SENATE

Establish a Graduate Minor in Global Studies, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College to establish a graduate minor in Global Studies.

The Global Studies graduate minor provides an opportunity for students to gain a deeper understanding of the process of globalization, the implications for their disciplinary or professional programs, the impacts of globalization on the future development of their careers, and, more generally, on the world in which their careers will unfold. The minor is the key element to reorient students, faculty, unit, and college research and teaching priorities to address global issues and to promote interdisciplinary and inter-professional cooperation.

Establish a Graduate Concentration in Second Language Acquisition and Teacher Education, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College to establish a graduate concentration in Second Language Acquisition and Teacher Education.

Second language acquisition studies is a thriving field of scholarship worldwide, with many academic journals and conferences devoted to its study.

Knowledge of second language acquisition and teacher education makes students highly marketable when they complete their degrees, and students will benefit from the notation appearing on their transcript as a credential for the job market. The proposed concentration will be available to students pursuing Ph.D.s in Spanish; Italian; Portuguese; Anthropology; Communication; East Asian Languages and Cultures; French; German; Linguistics; Psychology; Curriculum and Instruction; Educational Psychology; and Speech and Hearing Science.

Establish an Undergraduate Minor in Slavic Language, Literature, and Culture, 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 Slavic Language, Literature, and Culture.

The Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures has long been known for its strength in Russian language and literature, and has for many years offered a major and minor in Russian Language and Literature. Now, however, about half of the students taking a Slavic language in the department are taking a language other than Russian: Czech, Polish, Serbian/Croatian, or Ukrainian. The department has experienced particular demand for programs of study pertaining to the languages and cultures of students from large heritage communities in the Chicago area. The proposed minor in Slavic Language, Literature and Culture will offer students another option for an undergraduate minor from the department.

Establish a Combined Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Master of Computer Science, College of Engineering and Graduate College, Urbana

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

The combined program will provide a smooth integration of bachelor's and master's studies and will continue to provide the same breadth and depth of coverage for all the required courses of the existing B.S. and M.C.S. programs. This approach will enable the department to identify its excellent students early in their academic careers and will constitute a mechanism for early introduction to the master's program, with the goal of increasing the number of students leaving with a master's degree. In addition, much needed qualified master's graduates will enter the workplace six months to a year sooner, on average, than is the case with students who earn separate degrees. Lastly, the program will likely attract superior high school graduates, who would otherwise look to peer institutions with similar combined B.S.-M.C.S. degrees.

Eliminate the Joint Master of Science in Human and Community Development and Master of Social Work, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, School of Social Work, and Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, the School of Social Work, and the Graduate College to eliminate the joint Master of Science in Human and Community Development and Master of Social Work.

The faculty of Human and Community Development has sharpened the focus of the department's programs resulting in the elimination of tuition waivers to support the first year of the program. Thus, maintaining a joint program with Social Work is no longer deemed to be an attractive option for students. Based on feedback from program alumni, the units have agreed to eliminate the joint program. All students enrolled in the joint program finished the joint degrees in May 2013.

Establish the Concentration in Law and Courts within the Bachelor of Arts in
Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Political Science,
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has approved the establishment of the Concentration in Law and Courts within the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Political Science.

The new concentration will offer students an opportunity to focus on the social scientific study of law and courts. The Department of Political Science has long offered numerous courses in constitutional law, civil rights and liberties, international law, law, and public policy. Many political science majors already complete three or more of the law-related courses in exploration of their professional interests and/or preparation for graduate studies. A formal concentration will expose students to the subject of Law and Courts in a systematic way, with requirements intended to insure a balanced and comprehensive approach to the field. Further, it will create formal recognition of students' area of specialization.

Currently undergraduate students can pursue a major in Political Science, as well as the major with a concentration in Urban Politics. The concentration in Law and Courts, like the major and existing concentration, requires 33 hours. All three programs of study share the same two required core courses and many selectives.

Establish the Minor in Public Policy,
College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs has approved the establishment of the Minor in Public Policy.

The minor is designed to enhance understanding of public problems and how governments attempt to address them. The minor will be open to undergraduate students from any college. Students will complete core coursework introducing them to public policy in the United States and public administration. In addition students will complete coursework in a substantive policy area of their choice (e.g., environmental policy, crime and justice). It is anticipated the minor will be of interest to students considering careers in policy-related fields, including jobs in policy analysis, research, and non-for-profit organizations, and as consultants for business and government entities.

The total hours required for the new minor will be 15 hours.