

Board Meeting  
July 30, 2007

ESTABLISH THE INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND POLICY,  
OFFICE OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR FOR RESEARCH, CHICAGO

**Action:** Establish the Institute for Environmental Science and Policy, Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research, Chicago

**Funding:** No New Funding Required

The Chancellor at Chicago with the advice of the Chicago Senate, the Graduate College, and the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research, recommends the establishment of a new institute, the Institute for Environmental Science and Policy (IESP). The Center received temporary approval from the Illinois Board of Higher Education in 1999 and is now being submitted for permanent approval.

The mission of the IESP is to:

- Advance knowledge on the environment and policy through scholarly research;
- Promote collaborative efforts among environmental scholars to develop new paradigms of inquiry;
- Gather together multidisciplinary teams of university scholars and counterparts in the public and private sectors to devise workable solutions for society's complex environmental challenges, particularly those problems unique to urban systems;
- Prepare the next generation of environmental decision makers through cross-disciplinary research and education,

such that future leaders gain an understanding of the interrelated roles of science, technology, economics, and policy.

This interdisciplinary, integrative approach to environmental scholarship has been pursued through the support of basic and applied research, sponsorship of seminars and formal courses, and internships and interactions with practicing professionals. IESP's cross-campus scope has thus far resulted in the direct engagement of approximately 100 scholars drawn from nine colleges and 20 departments and centers at the Chicago campus.

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.