

Board Meeting
March 13, 2007

ESTABLISH CENTER FOR MAGNETIC RESONANCE RESEARCH,
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE, CHICAGO

Action: Approve the Establishment of the Center for Magnetic Resonance Research, College of Medicine, Chicago

Funding: No New Funding Required

The Chancellor at Chicago with the advice of the Chicago Senate, the Graduate College, and the College of Medicine, recommends the establishment of the Center for Magnetic Resonance Research (CMRR). The Center received temporary approval in 2000 from the Illinois Board of Higher Education and now seeks permanent approval.

The Center for Magnetic Resonance Research was initiated as an institution-wide program to focus research efforts toward a center of excellence in imaging. Magnetic resonance research is rapidly expanding, especially in the ultra-high field area. Under a separate allocation of \$10.0 million from the State of Illinois VentureTECH funds, the CMRR built a 9.4 Tesla human scanner and a building to house it in close proximity to the 1.5 and 3.0 Tesla scanners. The building also provides offices, laboratories, and computing facilities to support the scanners.

This technology is the new frontier in MRI research. The Center fosters the involvement of all departments in using these state-of-the-art imaging facilities for their

research. It supports researchers from the Chicago and Urbana campuses, as well as external faculty, by providing them with access to the 3.0 Tesla MRI scanner for studies in areas such as neuroradiology, psychiatry, neurology, neurosurgery, cardiology, engineering, and basic science. The 9.4 Tesla scanner, which is the highest field human scanner in the United States, will soon be available to the research community.

The CMRR also helps train professionals by preparing medical staff with the scientific understanding they need to assist patients in the treatment of various neurological maladies. And the Center serves clinical patients who need pre-surgical evaluations to determine activity areas of the brain.

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 University Senates Conference has indicated that no further Senate jurisdiction is involved.

The President of the University concurs. This action is subject to further review and approval by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.