

Approved by the Board of Trustees
May 16, 2019

Board Meeting
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ESTABLISH THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE AND
ANIMAL SCIENCES, COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER AND
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES, URBANA

Action: Establish the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Animal Sciences, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

Funding: No New Funding Required

The Chancellor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and Vice President, University of Illinois with the advice of the Urbana-Champaign Senate recommends approval of a proposal from the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences to establish the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Animal Sciences (BS in CS + ANSC).

The proposed BS in CS + ANSC follows the “CS + X” model originally established in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, approved by the Board of Trustees on May 31, 2012, and by the Illinois Board of Higher Education on February 5, 2013. Graduates of the program will be prepared for careers in the animal-related fields that have a technology, data-handling and management, and/or genomics focus as well as for graduate-level study.

The animal industry has a growing need for employees with a foundation in animal sciences combined with a background in computer science and data analysis and

management. There is demand for graduates who have skills in precision animal agriculture, remote sensing, bioinformatics, web programming, and data analysis. The Department of Animal Sciences has several faculty members whose research is in bioinformatics, microbiome analysis, and animal management. Through cooperation with the Department of Computer Science, the proposed CS + ANSC will provide an innovative, complimentary program for students interested in computer science applications in fields relevant to precision agriculture and animal management.

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 Executive Vice President and 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.