

Board Meeting
May 19, 2016

ESTABLISH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SCIENCES EDUCATION,
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE AT ROCKFORD, CHICAGO

Action: Establish the Department of Health Sciences Education, College of
Medicine at Rockford

Funding: No New Funding Required

The Chancellor, University of Illinois at Chicago, and Vice President,
University of Illinois with the advice of the Chicago Senate and College of Medicine
recommends the establishment of the Department of Health Sciences Education in the
College of Medicine at Rockford.

The College of Medicine at Rockford (COMR) was established in 1972.
Currently, students complete their first-year of medical school at the regional campus in
Urbana and years two, three, and four at Rockford. With the advent of the new Carle
Illinois College of Medicine, the regional campus in Urbana will be phased down. As a
result, beginning in August 2017, COMR students will receive their entire medical
education and training at Rockford. This will strengthen educational programs by
enhancing recruitment and allowing for additional early clinical contact to be built into
the curriculum.

In order to provide first-year medical education at Rockford, faculty in
biochemistry, physiology, anatomy, histology, genetics, and other disciplines will be

hired. Rather than create multiple one or two person departments to address the basic science needs of first-year students, COMR will establish a single department in Health Sciences Education to house the eight to ten faculty engaged in first-year teaching. This organizational structure is educationally effective, as it will promote interdisciplinary interactions; increase engagement of basic scientists across the second, third, and fourth years of medical education; and enhance innovation in medical education and medical education scholarship. It is also administratively and financially efficient.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respect 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.