RENAME THE UIC JOHN MARSHALL LAW SCHOOL, CHICAGO

Action: Rename the UIC John Marshall Law School

Funding: Institutional Funds Operating Budget and Gift Funds

The Chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago, and Vice President, University of Illinois System with the advice of the Chicago Senate and the UIC John Marshall Law School faculty, recommends renaming the UIC John Marshall Law School as the “University of Illinois Chicago School of Law,” to be effective as of July 1, 2021.

On July 19, 2018, the Board approved the delegation of authority to the Vice President/Chief Financial Officer and Comptroller to negotiate and execute an Asset Transfer Agreement (ATA) to acquire The John Marshall Law School (JMLS). The ATA was finalized and signed on December 13, 2018. On August 16, 2019, the asset transfer closed, and JMLS commenced operations as UIC John Marshall Law School. As set forth in the ATA and July 19, 2018, board item, the University agreed to include the phrase “John Marshall Law School” in the official school name and to use good-faith efforts to cause the “John Marshall Campus” designation on UIC materials referring to the law school for a period of not less than five years after closing of the asset transfer (the “Naming and Designation Covenants”).
On March 26, 2021, the law school faculty voted by a significant majority to remove “John Marshall” from the name of the law school and rename the unit as “University of Illinois Chicago School of Law.” The UIC Faculty Senate approved the renaming on April 22, 2021.

The respective boards of directors of the Legacy Law School Corporation and the Foundation Legacy Corporation (the successor legal entities winding up the affairs of the Illinois not-for-profit corporations that owned and operated the law school, and fund-raised for the school, before it became a part of UIC) have approved an amendment to the ATA that modifies the Naming and Designation Covenants to allow for removal of “John Marshall” from the law school’s official name and law school campus designation materials, effective as of July 1, 2021 (approximately three years before the Covenants would expire by their own terms), subject to the University Board’s approval of this item. The University of Illinois Foundation, a party to the ATA (as to certain of its terms), and to whom the law school’s real properties and endowment funds were transferred at closing of the asset transfer, also supports amending the ATA to modify the Naming and Designation Covenants.

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. The action is subject to further review by the Illinois Board of Higher Education but IBHE approval is not required.