

Board Meeting
May 22, 2008

TRANSFER DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS AND SUBSEQUENT DEGREES
AND MINORS, CHICAGO

Action: Approve the Transfer of the Department of Economics, the Doctor of Philosophy in Economics, the Master of Arts in Economics, the Minor in Real Estate, and the Minor in Labor Markets and Workforce Development from the College of Business Administration to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Chicago

Funding: No New Funding Required

The Interim Chancellor at Chicago with the advice of the Chicago Senate, the Graduate College, the College of Business Administration, and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences recommends the transfer of the Department of Economics, the Doctor of Philosophy in Economics, the Master of Arts in Economics, the Minor in Real Estate, and the Minor in Labor Markets and Workforce Development from the College of Business Administration to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

In recent years, the mission of the College of Business Administration has evolved to emphasize a more engaged and experiential approach to business studies. The interests and emphases in Economics have not followed this shift in the college but have remained more traditional. This was noted in the recent report of the external review committee during the department's Illinois Board of Higher Education program review.

The growing gap has raised the question of where the future of the department would best lie in order to flourish, attract high quality faculty and students, and be productive over time.

To follow up on the external review committee's observations, the Provost appointed an internal Task Force to Study the Future of Economics at the Chicago campus to explore the question of the best home for Economics at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Based on information derived from the External Review and provided by the Department of Economics, and after reviewing the experiences of other Big Ten universities with respect to the administrative location of their Departments of Economics, the Committee's recommendation was that the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences was a more appropriate home for the department.

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.