

Board Meeting  
May 22, 2008

APPROVE LIBRARY AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT,  
FISCAL YEAR 2009, CHICAGO

**Action:** Approve Library and Information Technology Assessment for Fiscal Year 2009, Chicago

**Funding:** No New Funding Required

Today's pedagogy and student learning styles rely more heavily on technology and specialized learning spaces that foster collaboration between peers, mentors, and professors. The Chicago campus's faculty are actively engaged in reworking the way in which they provide instruction by incorporating technology and collaborative learning experiences into the curriculum. In order to ensure that Chicago campus students can benefit from state-of-the-art pedagogy, we must provide students with access to up-to-date technology, support students' information literacy needs, and provide improved spaces designed to foster collaborative learning. Conventional revenues supporting the library and information technology infrastructure have not kept pace with rapid changes in technology and increased demand for infusing technology into teaching and learning at the Chicago campus.

The Library's strategic plan calls for enriching students' experiences in the library and improving their virtual access to library services and resources. Revenues

would provide longer hours of operation, more computer laboratory spaces, and newer equipment and furnishings. The Library would be a destination to meet colleagues for discussions and group work, use up-to-date technology, have ready access to knowledge experts, and engage in quiet, contemplative study. With revenue from a Library and Information Technology Assessment, the Library can move more quickly to create this vision and address those specific areas identified by students in surveys and conversations as high priorities.

The demand for technically advanced “smart classrooms” that accommodate multimedia instruction has increased beyond the ability of the campus to meet the needs of faculty and students. The ability of the campus to provide appropriate hardware, local software, Web and server applications, and individual support has come under significant strain. Funding is not available to adapt quickly and flexibly to new technology and new needs. A Library and Information Technology Assessment would provide the dedicated resources needed to introduce new technologies as they develop in order to prepare students to be competitive in an increasingly technologically sophisticated world.

In order to generate the resources to improve the learning environment at the Chicago campus a Library and Information Technology Assessment of \$200 per semester would be charged to new undergraduate, graduate, and professional students enrolling at the Chicago campus for the first time in Academic Year 2008-09 and beyond. For all full-time undergraduate and graduate/professional students for which the assessment applies, the Fiscal Year 2009 rate will be \$200 per semester. For students at

less than full-time enrollment the assessment will be pro-rated according to current tuition range calculations. The net revenues generated by this assessment will be allocated to projects and services proposed by a committee which will include at least 50 percent student representatives and will make recommendations to the Provost.

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 Interim Chancellor, the Vice President/Chief Financial Officer, and the Vice President for Academic Affairs recommend approval.

The President of the University concurs.