Reported to the Board of Trustees

January 18, 2024

Board Meeting

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# PRESIDENT’S REPORT ON ACTIONS OF THE SENATE

## Establish the Campus Graduate Certificate in Food Regulations, Nutrition Policy, and Personalized Nutrition, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences and the Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences and the Graduate College to establish the Campus Graduate Certificate in Food Regulations, Nutrition Policy, and Personalized Nutrition (CERT in FRNPPN). This program is designed for non-traditional, adult learners who do not have the time or ability to take on-campus coursework. It will be offered entirely online through a combination of asynchronous and synchronous sessions that allow learners to complete the certificate at their own pace. The certificate will provide fundamental knowledge of current food regulations, nutritional policies, and the emerging field of personalized nutrition. To link the topics together, all courses will include team-based projects and case studies requiring application of knowledge. Professions with high demand for the CERT in FRNPPN include the food industry, health care, state and federal food regulatory and safety, public health, and law. In particular, a large number of registered dietitian-nutritionists (RDN) are expected to be interested in this program for continuing education. The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics has encouraged practicing RDNs to seek out continuing education in personalized nutrition. The CERT in FRNPPN is an opportunity to provide professional education for food scientists, dietitians, and public health nutritionists who will work in highly regulated food industries, government, and clinical practice. Additionally, an unmet need exists for better understanding of the growing area of personalized nutrition, its applications in clinical care, and how current regulations and policies impact personalized nutrition. The university has the opportunity to be a world leader in meeting this unmet need through this proposed program.

## Establish the Campus Graduate Certificate in Wetland Science and Conservation, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences and the Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences and the Graduate College to establish the Campus Graduate Certificate in Wetland Science and Conservation (CERT in WSC). This program is designed for non-traditional, adult learners who do not have the time or ability to take on-campus coursework. It will be offered entirely online through a combination of asynchronous and synchronous sessions that allow learners to complete the certificate at their own pace. The CERT in WSC provides students with an in-depth understanding of wetland ecosystems by examining their biological, chemical, and physical aspects. Students will explore the impact of U.S. regulations on wetlands, assess the consequences of human activities on wetland ecosystem services, and master techniques for wetland delineation and restoration planning. The curriculum also delves into global wetland conservation through exploration of international agreements, non-governmental organizations, and national regulations. Students will gain insight into the diverse stakeholder landscape that influences successful wetland management, enabling them to make informed decisions that balance ecological preservation and human needs. Professions with high demand for the CERT in WSC include environmental scientists and ecologists, natural resource managers, environmental consultants, conservation biologists, land use planners, government officials and regulators, employees of non-governmental organizations, wildlife and water resource managers, civil engineers, and educators and researchers of biology, ecology, agriculture, and environmental science.

## Establish the Minor in Advertising, College of Media, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Media to establish the undergraduate minor in advertising. Designed to provide undergraduate students with knowledge and experiences with advertising and brand communication, the advertising minor offers foundational courses in advertising and allows students to pick and choose courses that are of interest to them in the field. Students who wish to have a better understanding of the role advertising plays in organizations and who wish to sharpen skills in advertising, persuasion, strategy, and marketing communication will benefit from the minor.

## Establish the Campus Graduate Certificate in Inclusive by Design in Recreation, Sport, and Tourism, College of Applied Health Sciences and the Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Applied Health Sciences and the Graduate College to establish the Campus Graduate Certificate in Inclusive by Design in Recreation, Sport, and Tourism. The proposed certificate recognizes an identified need and opportunity for growth at the graduate level. Top industries where specialists in inclusion and recreation were employed include education, public administration, health care, and social assistance. Addressing racial equity, racial injustice, diversity, and inclusion in all recreation, sport, and tourism fields is an important topic and, to be set for success, students need to be able to understand it, address it, learn how to include it, and be active partners with it. The College of Applied Health Sciences and the Department of Recreation, Sport, and Tourism are particularly well-positioned to address this growing need and demand for education in inclusive design, planning, and management of recreation, sport, and tourism facilities, attractions, and experiences. The college and department have a long-standing tradition of research and advocacy for the rights of people with disabilities and other marginalized groups. The college has been engaged with issues of accessibility for the past 80 years. The department’s laboratories whose research issues relate to accessibility and inclusion will be appropriate training grounds to connect professional students with research issues and policy tied to recreation, sport, and tourism from an evidence-based approach.

The proposed certificate will prepare practitioners and service providers in recreation, sport, and tourism with an expanded understanding of the critical issues pertaining to accessibility and inclusive design in recreation, sport, and tourism. It will also provide practitioners with specific design, policy, legal, programmatic, and managerial tools promoting an all-inclusive approach in recreation, sport, and tourism. Finally, the certificate will develop recreation, sport, and tourism practitioners’ critical philosophical, analytical, and practical skills and appreciation of diversity to promote an all-inclusive approach in recreation, sport, and tourism.

## Revise the Bachelor of Studio Arts in Studio Art, College of Fine and Applied Arts, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Fine and Applied Arts to revise the Bachelor of Studio Arts in Studio Art (BASA). This revision includes the addition of what were the requirements of the concentration in general studio art into a stand-alone major with no optional or required concentrations. The specific concentrations from which current students chose - Painting, Fashion, General Studio Art, Printmaking, Sculpture, Photography, and New Media – will be removed. The BASA is intended to be a broadly defined studio experience, allowing individuals to study art-making practices while allowing for open electives. Students who wish to specialize can pursue the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Studio Art (BFASA) with a concentration in Painting, Fashion, General Studio Art, Printmaking, Sculpture, Photography, or New Media. Having the same concentrations in both the BASA and BFASA is a point of confusion for students. Additionally, the School of Art and Design is completing the reaccreditation process with the National Association of Schools of Art and Design, and that process revealed the need for more differentiation between the degrees, particularly since the BASA is not considered a professional degree while the BFASA is.

Currently enrolled students will be able to complete the existing BASA program with a concentration if they wish or switch into the revised, more general major.

## Eliminate the Concentration in Bioengineering in the Master of Science in Bioinformatics, The Grainger College of Engineering and the Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the Grainger College of Engineering and the Graduate College to eliminate the concentration in ioengineering in the Master of Science in Bioinformatics. The bioengineering concentration, administered by the Department of Bioengineering in The Grainger College of Engineering, is only available for this particular degree program, the MS in Bioinformatics. No students in the degree program ever enrolled in the bioengineering concentration. The department has not had faculty to teach in this program due to departures over the years, and there are no plans for hires in this area. Students pursuing the MS in Bioinformatics can still choose from concentrations in Animal Sciences, Computer Science, Crop Sciences, or Information Sciences.

## Eliminate the Concentration in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering in the Master of Science in Bioinformatics, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College to eliminate the concentration in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering in the Master of Science in Bioinformatics (MS in Bioinformatics). The chemical and biomolecular engineering concentration, administered by the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, is only available for this particular degree program, the MS in Bioinformatics. There are currently no students in the degree program pursuing the chemical and biomolecular engineering concentration. The department has not had faculty to teach in this program due to departures over the years, and there are no plans for hires in this area. Students pursuing the MS in Bioinformatics can still choose from concentrations in Animal Sciences, Computer Science, Crop Sciences, or Information Sciences.

## Establish the Minor in Global Middle East Studies, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Chicago

The Chicago Senate, with the recommendation of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, has approved the establishment of the Minor in Global Middle East Studies.

As there is no centralized program for Middle East Studies at UIC, the curriculum for the minor was developed by a multidisciplinary cluster of 11 faculty specialists. The minor will reside in the Department of Anthropology. The minor will utilize a social justice framework and be defined by a transnational, diasporic focus, which will allow the new program to stand apart from other Arab and/or Middle East studies programs in the Chicago area.

The minor will use existing coursework and train students to critically analyze the Middle East and North African (MENA) region and its diasporas through a critical ethnic studies lens that pays attention to diverse axes of power (race, class, gender, nationality, sexuality, empire, colonialism, and ability) and their intersections. Students will complete 15 credit hours (five courses), including two foundational course requirements (each satisfied by a choice of two courses). One requirement highlights the MENA geographic region, and one requirement focuses on the diasporic perspective. For the remaining three courses, students will work with advisors to identify elective courses that provide insight into the cultural politics and histories of the MENA region and its global communities.

## Establish the Minor in Accounting, College of Business Administration, Chicago

The Chicago Senate, with the recommendation of the College of Business Administration, has approved the establishment of the Minor in Accounting.

The minor will complement students’ major fields of study, provide an avenue to pursue a CPA license, develop skills in communicating across departments within a company, and increase career opportunities and job growth upon graduation.

The minor will be open to undergraduate, non-accounting majors within the College of Business Administration (CBA) and to undergraduate students in other UIC colleges. The minor will consist of four courses (12 credit hours) for CBA students and six courses (18 credit hours) for non-CBA students, which includes two prerequisite courses. One required course will cover theory and standards related to asset valuation, revenue recognition, gain and loss recognition, and their impact on income measurement and financial position. In addition, students will select three courses from upper-level accounting courses with coverage on a variety of topics, such as financial accounting, cost accounting, information systems, taxation, auditing, and data analytics.

## Establish the Minor in Professional Sales and Relationship Management, College of Business Administration, Chicago

The Chicago Senate, with the recommendation of the College of Business Administration, has approved the establishment of the Minor in Professional Sales and Relationship Management.

Personal selling is an important communication tool for most companies, especially for businesses that sell to other companies, or that sell complex products and services (such as financial services, real estate, and insurance) to organizations and consumers. The Minor in Professional Sales and Relationship Management will give non-marketing majors, including students outside the College of Business Administration (CBA), an opportunity to complement their chosen major with skills related to the selling process.

For CBA students, the minor will consist of four courses (12 credit hours), including one required course, and a 3-course selective requirement. Non-CBA students additionally will have to complete the prerequisite introduction to marketing course taken by all CBA students. The minor will primarily use courses that are part of the existing concentration in Sales Leadership offered to students within the Bachelor of Science in Marketing.

## Revise the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Sociology by Establishing Four Optional Concentrations, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Chicago

The Chicago Senate, with the recommendation of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, has approved the revision of the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Sociology by establishing four optional concentrations.

The 35-credit-hour Major in Sociology includes 20 credit hours in required coursework and 15 credit hours of upper-level electives. Students will now have the option to use 9 of those elective credit hours specifically to complete the concentration in Data and Analytics; concentration in Health and Medicine; concentration in Professions, Organizations, and Work; or concentration in Sociology for Social Work. To satisfy the requirements for a concentration, students will complete three courses (9 credit hours) from a list approved for that concentration.

A sociological perspective can promote better understanding of, and help address the challenges presented by, social issues central to each proposed concentration. The Department of Sociology already offers coursework relevant to each concentration, and graduates’ choices in career paths and post-graduate education make clear that UIC sociology students gravitate to these kinds of issues, in particular.

## Revise the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Spanish by Establishing an Optional Concentration in Spanish for the Professions, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Chicago

The Chicago Senate, with the recommendation of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, has approved the revision of the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Spanish by establishing an optional concentration in Spanish for the Professions.

Within the Major in Spanish, students are already required to complete 18 credit hours in Spanish electives. Students will now have the option to use 12 of those credit hours specifically to complete the concentration in Spanish for the Professions. Students who elect the concentration will complete a two-course track in either Spanish for Business and Law I and II or Spanish for Health Personnel I and II, and two courses from a list of selectives (i.e., translation theory; advanced translation; advanced topics in Spanish grammar; advanced oral presentation, writing, and analysis). Concentration courses are also part of the popular Minor in Spanish for the Professions and are offered on a regular rotation. While students in the major already could have chosen this set of courses, the concentration will now provide professionally minded students an opportunity to earn a formal credential reflecting this particular emphasis.

## Eliminate Concentrations and Reorganize the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Germanic Studies, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Chicago

The Chicago Senate, with the recommendation of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, has approved the reorganization of the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Germanic Studies by eliminating its concentration structure.

Currently, the major has two concentrations: Concentration I (Germanic Studies), which offers a major curriculum focusing on German language and Germanic cultural studies, and Concentration II (Germanic Studies with Business Minor), a hybrid program that emphasizes the study of business-related German and incorporates foundational business courses. The elimination of the concentration structure formalizes the current reality that Concentration I is already generally understood as the Germanic Studies major, and Concentration II has been effectively phased out (it was last awarded in Fall 2015 due to low enrollments and insufficient resources).

The major will continue to require 31 credit hours, including 7 credit hours of required courses. The remaining credit hours are earned in Germanic Studies electives. Majors interested in business can pursue the Minor in Business Administration established by the College of Business Administration in 2014 for undergraduates in other UIC colleges.

## Eliminate the Intradepartmenal Concentration in Global Health in the School of Public Health, School of Public Health and Graduate College, Chicago

The Chicago Senate, with the recommendation of the School of Public Health and the Graduate College, has approved the elimination of the intradepartmental concentration in Global Health.

The intradepartmental concentration in Global Health is currently available to students in four programs within the School of Public Health: the Master of Public Health (MPH), Master of Science in Public Health, Master of Science in Biostatistics, and Master of Science in Epidemiology. The elimination of the concentration in Global Health is in response to a determination by the school’s accrediting body, the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH), during the most recent reaccreditation process. CEPH determined the concentration no longer meets their criteria and specifically cited inadequate faculty resources (i.e., not having at least three primary instructional faculty per concentration) and lack of unique concentration competencies for each degree level.

The school is in the process of proposing the establishment of a Global Health Certificate that can meet the needs of MPH and Master of Science students with interest in this area, while ensuring compliance with CEPH requirements.