Approved by the Board of Trustees

January 20, 2022

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Board Meeting

January 20, 2022

## ESTABLISH THE MASTER OF PHYSIOLOGY FOR THERAPEUTIC DEVELOPMENT, COLLEGE OF MEDICINE AND THE GRADUATE COLLEGE, CHICAGO

**Action:** Establish the Master of Physiology for Therapeutic Development, College

of Medicine and the Graduate College

**Funding:** No new funding is required as the program will be implemented by existing

faculty and program costs will be met through tuition revenue.

The Chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago, and Vice President,

University of Illinois System with the advice of the Chicago Senate, the College of Medicine, and the Graduate College recommends the establishment of the Master of Physiology for Therapeutic Development.

The proposed Master of Physiology for Therapeutic Development (MaPTD) will be the first of its type in the state of Illinois. The program combines an in-depth study of human physiology with therapeutic translational applications and recent research advances in the biopharmaceutical area. The objective of the new program is to provide students with advanced training for careers in the pharmaceutical, healthcare, and biotech industries, and in biomedical research centers. As such, the program is targeted at students with a bachelor’s degree in a chemical/physical/biological discipline or pre-med program who wish to join the biopharmaceutical industry or related support industries, such as clinical trials and FDA compliance employment.

The program will require 32 credit hours of graduate coursework to be completed in two semesters, consisting of 16 hours of required courses in the Fall and 16 hours in the Spring, in addition to a successful summer internship. The first cohort will have 10 students, with cohorts growing to 25 students by full implementation. The experiential learning and professional development component of the MaPTD program is designed to expose students to the Chicago-area biopharma ecosystem through meetings, seminars, networking opportunities, biopharma internships, and project building opportunities, whether through companies or organizations within the city. During the academic year, students will be mentored in how to attain a summer internship at a local biopharmaceutical company or in an academic/clinical setting, or how to engage in an appropriate project or immersion program. The internships will be full-time, provide an industry/academic mentor, and require weekly reports from the student to the UIC faculty overseeing the internships.

The current budget is sufficient to support the program, as the department faculty is already in place. Additionally, the current staff, facilities, and library resources that are available to students in the College of Medicine are adequate to implement and maintain the new program.

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 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. This action is subject to further review and approval by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.