Board Meeting
January 21, 2021

ESTABLISH THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CYBERSECURITY MANAGEMENT, COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT, SPRINGFIELD

Action: Establish the Master of Science in Cybersecurity Management, College of Business and Management

Funding: No new funding is required to initiate the program. Any future funding for a new faculty and/or staff member who might be needed within the next five years will be provided through program enrollment growth.

The Interim Chancellor, University of Illinois Springfield, and Vice President, University of Illinois System with the advice of the Springfield Senate recommends approval of a proposal from the College of Business and Management to establish the Master of Science in Cybersecurity Management (MS CSM).

The proposed MS CSM is designed to develop graduate students' leadership, analytical thinking, and management skills in cybersecurity management as required by private, public, and nonprofit organizations.

The proposed MS CSM 30-hour degree program, which will be housed in the Department of Management Information Systems, will teach students theories and principles of cybersecurity management and provide advanced knowledge and training in cybersecurity management. Course topics include Information Security, Digital Forensics, Penetration Testing and Vulnerability Assessment, Compliance and Legal Issues in Cybersecurity, and Business Continuity Planning. A required Cybersecurity

Practicum/Capstone closure project will allow students to practice learned theories and skills in solving real-world security problems and developing security policies and planning for organizations.

The MS CSM will be offered in both on-ground and online formats, providing coursework flexibility that is expected to attract working security professionals and students who seek advanced cybersecurity knowledge and skills. Because cybersecurity-related careers demonstrate a promising job market in Illinois, nationwide and globally, and because those obtaining a master's degree in cybersecurity have significantly higher earnings and job-growth than average, the program is expected to be of interest to both continuing students, as well as current security professionals in the private, public, and non-profit sectors. Graduates of the program will be qualified to serve in positions as information security analysts, network and computer system administrators, database administrators, computer system administrators, and software developers.

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