

Board Meeting
January 23, 2014

ESTABLISH THE DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MEDICINE, COLLEGE
OF MEDICINE AT PEORIA, CHICAGO

Action: Establish the Department of Emergency Medicine, College of Medicine at Peoria

Funding: No New Funding Required

The Chancellor, University of Illinois at Chicago, and Vice President, University of Illinois with the advice of the Chicago Senate and the College of Medicine recommends the establishment of the Department of Emergency Medicine, College of Medicine at Peoria.

When emergency medicine first emerged as a discipline, it generally resided as a section within departments of surgery. This is the current configuration of Emergency Medicine in the College of Medicine at Peoria (COMP). Over the last decade, most emergency medicine sections have evolved into independent departments; currently 90 percent of emergency medicine residencies in the United States occur in independent departments.

The College of Medicine at Peoria and its affiliate hospital, OSF-Saint Francis Medical Center (OSF-SFMC) have collaborated in the education and training of emergency medicine physicians since 1983. The hospital's Emergency Services is a Level One Trauma Center that sees more than 90,000 patients annually. The residency

has been consistently fully accredited, and trains 12 residents each year. In addition, Emergency Medicine provides education to third and fourth year medical students from COMP and across the country; and faculty and residents provide care to patients in rural hospitals in the surrounding communities.

As a section of the Department of Surgery, Emergency Medicine already functions quite autonomously. It is fiscally self-sustaining with funding that supports 36 residents, residency directors, and support staff. There are 12 core and 23 affiliated faculty. This organizational structure and associated funding will remain in place as the section converts to a department. The COMP Department of Surgery and Emergency Services at OSF-SFMC fully support the establishment of an independent Department of Emergency Medicine.

An independent Emergency Medicine department will operate academically and administratively on the same level as other departments in the College of Medicine, and be recognized internally and externally as an autonomous unit with all the associated responsibilities. The change in status will provide stronger academic support, increase the research potential, assist in student/faculty recruitment, and increase the ability to participate in national and international academic emergency medicine organizations.

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.