

PRESIDENT'S REPORT ON ACTIONS OF THE SENATES

Establish the Joint Bachelor of Science and Master of Journalism in Journalism, College of Media and the Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Media and the Graduate College to offer a joint Bachelor of Science and Master of Journalism in Journalism. Establishment of the Master of Journalism in Journalism is sought in an accompanying action item. Joining the existing Bachelor of Science in Journalism (B.S.J.) with the Master of Journalism in Journalism (M.J.) will combine the increased breadth of a modern undergraduate degree with the depth that many such degrees sacrifice in response to technological change. Simultaneously, it will create a competitive advantage by allowing students to enroll in an integrated, accelerated program that can earn them two professionally-focused degrees in just two semesters more than required for the traditional B.S.J. It will also afford the opportunity to seek, should students so choose, at least one additional summer internship, giving them additional professional experience that will well-prepare them to meet industry demand.

Establish the Graduate Concentration in Railway Engineering, College of Engineering and the Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Engineering and the Graduate College to establish the graduate concentration in Railway Engineering within the major in Engineering in the Master of Engineering (M.Eng.) degree. The Railway Engineering Concentration is professionally oriented and aimed at providing M.Eng. students with solid foundational knowledge in various interdisciplinary aspects of railway vehicle and track infrastructure engineering. With railway transportation experiencing a

worldwide renaissance, and with the technical challenges associated with meeting this growing demand in an efficient and sustainable manner, engineers with education in the field of railways are needed. Establishment of the proposed concentration will help meet this industry need by preparing students with education that covers all aspects of railway engineering.

Eliminate the Concentrations in Media Studies and in Cinema Studies within the Bachelor of Science in Media and Cinema Studies, College of Media, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Media to eliminate the Media Studies and the Cinema Studies concentrations within the Bachelor of Science in Media and Cinema Studies (B.S. in MACS). As part of a revision of the B.S. in MACS curriculum, the coursework will be streamlined to better reflect contemporary media practices in which distinctions among media platforms are dissolving. As a result, the major will integrate the currently disparate Media Studies and Cinema Studies concentrations, which no longer reflect current industry practices nor the department's configuration. The new major will simplify and clarify degree requirements, as students will no longer be required to choose a concentration. Hence, elimination of these two concentrations is sought at this time.

Eliminate the Concentrations in Ceramics, Electronic Materials, Metals, Biomaterials, and Polymers within the Bachelor of Science in Materials Science and Engineering, College of Engineering, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Engineering to eliminate the concentrations in Ceramics, Electronic Materials, Metals, Biomaterials, and Polymers within the Bachelor of Science in Materials Science and Engineering (B.S. in MatSE). As part of a revision of the B.S. in MatSE curriculum, the concentration structure is being removed from the department. It will be replaced with a more flexible curriculum in which students select technical courses to develop a depth of knowledge in an area

of focus, rather than a formal concentration, in materials science. This revised structure provides students with the same level of rigor of courses with more flexibility in course topics.

Establish the Joint Bachelor of Science in Computer Science/Master of Science in Computer Science, College of Engineering and the Graduate College, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Engineering and the Graduate College has approved the establishment of the joint Bachelor of Science in Computer Science/Master of Science in Computer Science.

The joint degree recognizes that many of the Department of Computer Sciences' strongest students go on to attend graduate school, either immediately or within a few years of completing their undergraduate degree. A joint degree will allow the department to retain some of their best students, reduce the time needed to earn both degrees, and reduce the financial cost to the student.

The joint degree is designed for undergraduates with outstanding academic performance who wish to develop greater depth and/or breadth in the discipline. The completion of each degree separately requires six years and a total of 164 hours: 128 hours for the B.S. and 36 for the M.S. The joint degree can be completed in five years, and students earn a total of 156 hours. The requirements for completion of the joint degree are identical to the requirements for the completion of the two separate degrees; however, 8 hours of shared coursework applies to both degrees. Students apply for the joint degree during their junior year, after having completed at least 27 hours of computer science courses. An overall grade point average of 3.60/4.00 or higher is required for applicants.

Establish the Minor in Arabic, 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 Arabic.

In addition to enhancing students' career opportunities, the Minor will provide students with the advanced language skills necessary to interact more effectively with Arabic speakers and offer a foundation for understanding the rich literature, history, traditions, and culture of the Arab world. The Minor is open to undergraduate students from any college. To earn the Minor, students must demonstrate basic proficiency in Arabic through coursework or a placement test. Students then complete 19 credit hours, including three required advanced language and literature courses, one course related to the history or politics of the Arab world, one course in the culture of the Arab world, and one elective chosen in consultation with the program advisor.