

Board Meeting
July 19, 2018

ESTABLISH A SCHOOL OF LAW, CHICAGO

Action: Establish a School of Law

Funding: No New Funding Required

The Chancellor, University of Illinois at Chicago, and Vice President, University of Illinois with the advice of the UIC Faculty Senate, recommends the establishment of a school of law at the University of Illinois at Chicago through the acquisition of The John Marshall Law School (JMLS).

JMLS, established in 1899, is an accredited independent law school located in downtown Chicago, Illinois, in close proximity to federal and state courthouses, and the city's legal community. A natural alignment exists between UIC's public mission and JMLS's commitment to provide access and opportunity to students from underserved communities, and to help fill the justice gap for citizens in the Chicago area. JMLS supports nine legal clinics, which annually provide millions of dollars, in *pro bono* services. The UIC John Marshall Law School would be the first and only public law school in Chicago and would create significant opportunities to enhance UIC's existing strengths in teaching, research, and public service, with legal training. The presence of an established law school at UIC will further allow the development of interdisciplinary curricula and an ability to offer joint degrees. By educating more students from

multidisciplinary perspectives, UIC John Marshall Law School will provide students with the tools to better understand and address contemporary legal issues in context.

The UIC John Marshall Law School will be integrated into the academic reporting structure at UIC, and the Dean of the law school will report to the UIC Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. Approximately 50 full-time JMLS faculty will become UIC faculty. Additionally, JMLS has an extensive roster of adjunct faculty, including many prominent attorneys and several sitting state and federal judges. The UIC John Marshall Law School will continue to offer the Juris Doctor, Master of Laws, and Master of Jurisprudence degrees. Separate requests to establish these degrees, and the curricula on which they are based, as University of Illinois degrees will be reviewed during Academic Year 2018-2019 by the UIC Faculty Senate, University Senates Conference, and the Board of Trustees.

The UIC John Marshall Law School will continue to operate in three buildings and other office space owned by JMLS in downtown Chicago. Enrollment at JMLS for fall 2018 is anticipated to be approximately one thousand students in three-degree programs. It is anticipated that after JMLS is integrated into UIC, the law school will continue to generate sufficient revenue through student tuition to support its operations and educational mission, and no internal reallocation of financial resources from other UIC or University of Illinois System sources, and no new state appropriations, will be required to fund the UIC John Marshall Law School. Additionally, at or near the time of closing of the acquisition, JMLS and its foundation will transfer restricted funds

and endowments, as permitted by law, to the University of Illinois Foundation (UIF), to be used according to their respective terms, for the benefit of the UIC John Marshall Law School, its faculty, and students. Additionally, at closing and during the five years following closing, JMLS will also transfer substantial unrestricted funds to UIF to be used for the benefit of the UIC John Marshall Law School. The transfer of funds will be subject to receiving the necessary approvals from UIF, and to the terms and conditions of gift agreements that are acceptable in form and substance to all parties.

As a condition to closing the acquisition transaction with JMLS, the parties will seek and obtain accreditation of the newly established school of law at UIC from the Higher Learning Commission and the American Bar Association, as well as the necessary approval for a change of control from the U.S. Department of Education. The establishment of a new school of law at UIC is also subject to review and approval by the Illinois Board of Higher Education. If the requisite accreditation and approvals are obtained within the anticipated timeframe, the first class at UIC John Marshall Law School is expected to matriculate in fall 2019.

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

concurr with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference voted unanimously in support and has indicated that no further Senate jurisdiction is involved at this stage.

The President of the University recommends approval.