Reported to the Board of Trustees

July 22, 2021

Board Meeting

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# PRESIDENT’S REPORT ON ACTIONS OF THE SENATES

## Establish the concentration in Learning Sciences within the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science + Education, College of Education, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Education to establish the concentration in Learning Sciences within the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science + Education (B.S. in CS + Ed). A companion action item seeks establishment of the B.S. in CS + Ed program. The concentration in Learning Sciences will be one area of study within that program students can pursue.

The educational technology industry is increasing rapidly, with major tech companies in the United States investing heavily in this sector. Growth in this sector accelerated rapidly with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and the sudden need to shift most educational activities away from face-to-face to leveraging of technology for remote learning. There is a significant need for a program aimed at undergraduate students interested specifically in building educational technologies and gaining the necessary background in education. Many students seek to improve our system of education and want to create better, more equitable tools and environments for helping learners of all ages, but these students often lack the foundational knowledge in the computational sciences to develop innovative technological solutions to the problems. Likewise, students with aptitude and experience in computer science often lack the foundational knowledge of how people learn to create experiences that are authentic, transformative, and meet the needs of a diverse audience. The Learning Sciences concentration of the B.S. in CS + Ed is aimed at students who want to learn fundamental and generalizable computer science skills with the intention of applying these to educational contexts where it will be critical that they understand the unique constraints and affordances of those contexts.

## Establish the Campus Graduate Certificate in Computing Fundamentals, Grainger College of Engineering and the Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the Grainger College of Engineering and the Graduate College to establish the Campus Graduate Certificate in Computing Fundamentals.

The proposed Campus Graduate Certificate in Computing Fundamentals provides students who have earned a bachelor’s degree or higher in a non-computing discipline with an accelerated foundation in computing fundamentals. The program requires four bridging courses in fundamentals of computing and algorithms and two excursions in computing courses. To allow flexibility and gain a deeper knowledge in a computing subject of interest, students are required to complete an independent study and a related, graduate-level elective.

## Establish the joint Bachelor of Science in Community Health and Master of Public Health in Epidemiology, College of Applied Health Sciences and the Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Applied Health Sciences and the Graduate College to establish the joint Bachelor of Science in Community Health (B.S. in CHLH) and Master of Public Health in Epidemiology (MPH in Epi).

The proposed B.S. in CHLH and MPH in Epi allows students to complete both degrees in five and a half years versus six, saving them a semester of time and tuition, and benefitting the university by attracting and incentivizing talented students to stay at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign to complete their MPH as opposed to enrolling elsewhere. The B.S. in CHLH and MPH in Epi trains graduates for jobs as epidemiologists, data analysts, evaluation roles, and more.

## Establish the Joint Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences and Master of Public Health in Epidemiology, College of Applied Health Sciences and the Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Applied Health Sciences and the Graduate College to establish the joint Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences (B.S. in IHS) and the Master of Public Health in Epidemiology (MPH in Epi).

The proposed B.S. in IHS and MPH in Epi allows students to complete both degrees in five and a half years versus six, saving them a semester of time and tuition, and benefitting the university by attracting and incentivizing talented students to stay at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign to complete their MPH as opposed to enrolling elsewhere. The B.S. in IHS and MPH in Epi trains graduates for jobs as epidemiologists, data analysts, evaluation roles, and more.

## Establish the Joint Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology and Master of Public Health in Epidemiology, College of Applied Health Sciences and the Graduate College, Urbana

The proposed B.S. in Kines and MPH in Epi allows students to complete both degrees in five and a half years versus six, saving them a semester of time and tuition, and benefitting the university by attracting and incentivizing talented students to stay at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign to complete their MPH as opposed to enrolling elsewhere. The B.S. in Kines and MPH in Epi trains graduates for jobs as epidemiologists, data analysts, evaluation roles, and more.

## Establish the Concentration in Enterprise Risk Management within the Master of Science in Predictive Analytics and Risk Management, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College to establish the concentration in Enterprise Risk Management within the Master of Science in Predictive Analytics and Risk Management. A companion action item seeks establishment of the M.S. in Predictive Analytics and Risk Management. The concentration in Enterprise Risk Management would be one of two areas of study students in this degree could pursue.

Students in the Enterprise Risk Management concentration are expected to come into the M.S. in Predictive Analytics and Risk Management with a background in business administration, finance, insurance and risk management, and the like. Students with interest in predictive analytics for the finance and insurance industries are likely to be attracted to this program. The department also expects to target working actuaries who are interested in furthering their education in predictive analytics, which is a major push within the Society of Actuaries.

## Establish the Concentration in Financial and Insurance Analytics within the Master of Science in Predictive Analytics and Risk Management, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College to establish the concentration in Financial and Insurance Analytics within the Master of Science in Predictive Analytics and Risk Management. A companion action item seeks establishment of the M.S. in Predictive Analytics and Risk Management. The concentration in Financial and Insurance Analytics would be one of two areas of study students in this degree could pursue.

The Financial and Insurance Analytics concentration is suitable for candidates who aspire to become technically advanced professionals with strong modeling and data analytics skills. Students seeking this concentration are anticipated to come in with a background in mathematics, statistics, or operations research. Students with interest in predictive analytics for the finance and insurance industries are likely to be attracted to this program. The department also expects to target working actuaries who are interested in furthering their education in predictive analytics, which is a major push within the Society of Actuaries.

## Eliminate the Joint Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering and Master of Engineering in Electrical and Computer Engineering, Grainger College of Engineering and the Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the Grainger College of Engineering and the Graduate College to eliminate the joint Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering (B.S. in EE) and Master of Engineering in Electrical and Computer Engineering (MENG in ECE).

When originally established as a joint degree as reported to the Board of Trustees on May 7, 2015, the joint program was inadvertently incorrectly titled as a single joint “Bachelor of Science and Master of Engineering in Electrical and Computer Engineering” in the report item title. As stated in the body of that report item, the joint program was meant to combine 1) the Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering with the Master of Engineering in Electrical and Computer Engineering and 2) the Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering with the Master of Engineering in Electrical and Computer Engineering. As the undergraduate programs are in EE and CE specifically, the joint programs should have been established accordingly. This was subsequently corrected, and at this time, elimination of both the B.S. in EE and MENG in ECE and the B.S. in CE and MENG in ECE is sought.

Over the course of the past five years, demand for this joint degree has diminished. In the Spring, 2021 semester, there were no students in the joint B.S. in EE and MENG in ECE program. Students completing the B.S. in EE will still be able to and, upon completion of their B.S. degree, enroll in the MENG in ECE. There is no impact on faculty or staff resources as a result of the elimination.

## Eliminate the Joint Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering and Master of Engineering in Electrical and Computer Engineering, Grainger College of Engineering and the Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the Grainger College of Engineering and the Graduate College to eliminate the joint Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering (B.S. in CE) and Master of Engineering in Electrical and Computer Engineering (MENG in ECE).

When originally established as a joint degree as reported to the Board of Trustees on May 7, 2015, the joint program was inadvertently incorrectly titled as a single joint “Bachelor of Science and Master of Engineering in Electrical and Computer Engineering” in the report item title. As stated in the body of that report item, the joint program was meant to combine 1) the Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering with the Master of Engineering in Electrical and Computer Engineering and 2) the Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering with the Master of Engineering in Electrical and Computer Engineering. As the undergraduate programs are in EE and CE specifically, the joint programs should have been established accordingly. This was subsequently corrected, and at this time, elimination of both the B.S. in EE and MENG in ECE and the B.S. in CE and MENG in ECE is sought.

Over the course of the past five years, demand for this joint degree has diminished. In the Spring, 2021 semester, there were no students in the joint B.S. in CE and MENG in ECE program. Students completing the B.S. in CE will still be able to and, upon completion of their B.S. degree, enroll in the MENG in ECE. There is no impact on faculty or staff resources as a result of the elimination.

## Eliminate the Joint Bachelor of Science in Materials Science and Engineering and Master of Science in Materials Science and Engineering, Grainger College of Engineering and the Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the Grainger College of Engineering and the Graduate College to eliminate the joint Bachelor of Science in Materials Science and Engineering and Master of Science in Materials Science and Engineering (B.S.-M.S. in MATSE).

The joint B.S.-M.S. in MATSE has had low enrollment for several years: zero students from Fall, 2017 to Summer, 2019 and one student from Fall, 2019 to Summer, 2020. Given the lack of student interest, the department wishes to discontinue the joint program. Students completing the B.S. in MATSE will still be able to and, upon completion of their B.S. degree, enroll in the M.S. in MATSE. There is no impact on faculty or staff resources as a result of the elimination.

## Eliminate the Digital Libraries Concentration within the Certificate of Advanced Study in Library and Information Science, School of Information Sciences and the Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the School of Information Sciences and the Graduate College to eliminate the Digital Libraries Concentration within the Certificate of Advanced Study in Library and Information Science.

Only four students have completed this concentration since 2011, and zero students have enrolled since 2018. The courses required for the concentration are no longer offered as often as needed to support the concentration, and the field of digital libraries has changed substantively since the concentration was designed. Continuing a concentration would require substantive new resources and faculty attention to ensure relevance, and the School of Information Sciences does not wish to pursue revision and continuation; rather, elimination of the concentration is sought at this time.

## Establish the Post-Baccalaureate Campus Certificate in Global Health Nursing, College of Nursing and the Graduate College, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Nursing and the Graduate College, has approved the establishment of the Post-Baccalaureate Campus Certificate in Global Health Nursing.

The certificate program will prepare nurses and other health and human services professionals to address global health challenges and health disparities. UIC will be the only major research university in the region offering a Global Health Nursing Certificate program. The program is comprised of three required courses (nine credit hours total), completed over two to three semesters. Additionally, there is an optional practicum course (one to three credit hours), in which students will be mentored in applying what they have learned to an actual global health experience. The three required courses provide a foundation in the field, as well as competencies in relation to global health program development, management, and practice. These courses are also open to students not pursuing the certificate, including students from other UIC units and nondegree students with instructor approval.

## Establish the Specialization (Concentration) in Social Work within Justice Systems in the Master of Social Work, Jane Addams College of Social Work, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the Jane Addams College of Social Work, has approved the establishment of the Specialization in Social Work within Justice Systems in the Master of Social Work.

“Specialization” is an accreditation-specific term in the field of social work. In practice, to ensure the specialization appears on student transcripts, the specialization is treated as a concentration. The specialization will enable students to pursue careers as probation officers, clinicians, policy analysts, and agency directors, as well as other opportunities open to masters-prepared students within the juvenile and criminal justice systems. The MSW program consists of 62 credit hours of coursework and field instruction, with 28 credit hours at the generalist level and 34 credit hours within a given specialization. The MSW curriculum currently offers four specializations: Child and Family; Mental Health; Organization and Community Practice; and School Social Work. Social Work within Justice Systems will be added as a fifth specialization. The requirements include three new courses that have been developed for the specialization.

## Establish the Joint Juris Doctor, Concentration in Health Equity, Law & Policy/Master of Public Health, Concentration in Health Policy and Administration, University of Illinois Chicago School of Law and School of Public Health, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the University of Illinois Chicago School of Law and the School of Public Health, has approved the establishment of the Joint Juris Doctor, Concentration in Health Equity, Law & Policy/Master of Public Health, Concentration in Health Policy and Administration.

There is a growing need for lawyers who are well-versed in issues related to the field of health, as well as a need for public health analysts, officials, and advocates whose work is informed by legal perspectives and engagement with issues of inequity. The joint degree program allows students to gain this expertise by drawing on two specific concentrations related to health policy. The Juris Doctor degree provides law students with broad training in the field of law, and law students can then opt for the Concentration in Health Equity, Law & Policy. The Master of Public Health ensures graduates have a general understanding of the field of public health, specific competence in a selected area of study, and skills and experience in public health settings. The minimum total credit hours required will be 120, with 86 credit hours in the law school and 34 hours in the School of Public Health; a maximum of 13 credit hours may be shared between the two degrees. Students will be able to complete both degrees within four years (plus a summer course).

## Establish Six Concentrations within the Doctor of Philosophy in Biomedical Sciences and Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences, College of Medicine and the Graduate College, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Medicine and the Graduate College, has approved the establishment of six concentrations within the Doctor of Philosophy in Biomedical Sciences and the Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences.

The Graduate Education in Medical Sciences (GEMS) Program, a collaboration of six academic departments and faculty in clinical departments with active research programs, in the past has offered six distinct degrees with similar curricular structures at both the doctoral and master’s levels. At both levels, those six-degree programs have now been consolidated, renamed, and revised into a single degree (i.e., the Doctor of Philosophy in Biomedical Sciences, and the Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences).

As part of this curricular revision, students will now be able to select from six concentrations: Cancer Biology; Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine; Integrative and Translational Physiology; Microbiology, Immunity, and Inflammation; Molecular and Structural Biology; and Neurobiology. The concentrations within the M.S. and Ph.D. programs are each comprised of five to seven credit hours of core courses; required hours in relation to a research rotation; and required hours in relation to mentored research.

## Establish the Concentration in Clinical Exercise Physiology and Concentration in Performance, Sports, and Exercise Psychology in the Master of Science in Kinesiology, College of Applied Health Sciences and the Graduate College, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Applied Health Sciences and the Graduate College, has approved the establishment of the Concentration in Clinical Exercise Physiology and Concentration in Performance, Sports, and Exercise Psychology in the Master of Science in Kinesiology.

The two new concentrations will bring the total number of concentrations within the M.S. in Kinesiology to five, including: Clinical Exercise Physiology (CEP); Performance, Sports, and Exercise Psychology (PSEP); Exercise Physiology; Psychology of Exercise; and Biomechanics. The new concentrations are each comprised of coursework only, requiring a minimum of 40 credit hours to earn the degree and concentration. The CEP concentration requires nine courses (including six new courses), with the remaining credits fulfilled through internships, electives, and/or independent study. The PSEP concentration requires 11 courses (including seven new courses), with the remaining credits fulfilled through internships, electives, and/or independent study.

Rename the Minor in Bioengineering, College of Engineering, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Engineering, has approved the renaming of the Minor in Bioengineering as the Minor in Biomedical Engineering.

Effective Fall 2021, the Richard and Loan Hill Department of Bioengineering and three degrees (i.e., Bachelor of Science, Master of Science, and Doctor of Philosophy) in bioengineering will be renamed. Specifically, the term “bioengineering” will be replaced with “biomedical engineering.” Alumni, industrial employers of program graduates, and prospective students and their families have expressed a clear preference for the term “biomedical engineering.” Further the terms are synonymous per the U.S. Department of Education’s National Center for Educational Statistics, which is responsible for the classification of instructional programs. These changes were approved in AY 2019-2020 by UIC governance, and reported to the Board of Trustees and Illinois Board of Higher Education. However, during that process, the college did not include an explicit request to rename the minor. This item corrects that oversight. The requirements for the minor are unchanged.

## Rename and Revise the Campus Certificate in Patient Safety, Error Science and Full Disclosure, College of Medicine and the Graduate College, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Medicine and the Graduate College, has approved the renaming and revision of the Campus Certificate in Patient Safety, Error Science and Full Disclosure.

The program will be renamed as the Campus Certificate in Essentials in Healthcare Safety and Quality. The new name better reflects the revised course content and is consistent with both the expectations of employers and accreditation standards. The certificate is comprised of three required courses (12 credit hours total), which also are foundational courses for the M.S. in Patient Safety Leadership.

## Rename and Revise the Concentration in Psychology and Promotion of Exercise, Health, and Sport Behavior in the Master of Science in Kinesiology, College of Applied Health Sciences and the Graduate College, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Applied Health Sciences and the Graduate College, has approved the renaming and revising of the Concentration in Psychology and Promotion of Exercise, Health, and Sport Behavior in the Master of Science in Kinesiology.

The concentration will be renamed as the Concentration in Psychology of Exercise in an effort to simplify the degree name. The current three required courses will be replaced with two other required courses, including a new course and an existing course. The remaining requirement for the concentration is met through a combination of electives and/or independent study.

## Eliminate the Secondary Concentration in Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology as an Option in the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health, Concentration in Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences, School of Public Health and the Graduate College, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the School of Public Health and the Graduate College, has approved the elimination of the Secondary Concentration in Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology as an Option in the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health, Concentration in Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences.

Currently, students pursuing the M.S. in Public Health or Ph.D. in Public Health may complete one of five primary concentrations, three of which also have secondary concentrations. The Secondary Concentration in Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology has been available to M.S. and Ph.D. students whose primary concentration is either Epidemiology or Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences.

Effective Fall 2021, the Concentration in Epidemiology will become a stand-alone degree at the master’s and doctoral level, the M.S. in Epidemiology and Ph.D. in Epidemiology. In turn, the Secondary Concentration in Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology will become a primary concentration within these new degrees. However, the Secondary Concentration in Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology will no longer be available to students in the M.S. or Ph.D. in Public Health, Concentration in Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences.