

Board Meeting
July 25, 2013

REORGANIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF BIOENGINEERING, COLLEGE OF
ENGINEERING AND COLLEGE OF MEDICINE, CHICAGO

Action: Reorganize the Department of Bioengineering, College of Engineering and College of Medicine

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 Engineering and the College of Medicine recommends approval to reorganize the Department of Bioengineering as a department under both the College of Engineering and the College of Medicine.

Bioengineering has been a department in the College of Engineering since 1965. Composed of thirteen core faculty and adjunct faculty from six Chicago campus colleges, the department offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in bioengineering, as well as graduate degrees and a campus certificate in bioinformatics. In 2007-2008, the Colleges of Engineering and Medicine initiated discussions about how to stimulate highly collaborative research between the two colleges. These discussions led to a formal study of the organizational structure of peer bioengineering programs, the feasibility of reorganizing the department under both colleges, and how such a structure would benefit research, scholarship, and the education of students. A new department head was hired in

2011 with the understanding that a reorganization process would be initiated. After two years of extensive consultative and logistical meetings with faculty and leadership in the department, both colleges and the Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, a formal proposal was unanimously endorsed by department faculty and the colleges' governance. A Memorandum of Understanding sets clear guidelines for how the reorganization impacts administrative organization, financial operations, staffing, and promotion and tenure. Undergraduate degrees will continue to be granted through the College of Engineering, while current graduate degrees will continue to be granted through the Graduate College.

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.