

Board Meeting
July 30, 2007

APPROVE RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ADDITION TO THE COLLEGE OF
MEDICINE, PEORIA, FOR CANCER CENTER, CHICAGO

WHEREAS, the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine's Peoria cancer group, led by Dr. Jasti Rao, Professor and Head, Department of Cancer Biology and Pharmacology, and Director, Program of Cancer Biology, is critical to the University's statewide cancer initiative with its unique research focus on factors affecting brain cancer, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Rao is developing strong intellectual property on factors and methods to stop tumor growth by preventing the growth of blood vessels within tumors, and

WHEREAS, the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine at Peoria aspires to support this program by providing the facilities necessary to support and build upon the group's success through the addition of a research facility consisting of wet labs and associated support spaces, to be located at the southwest corner of the existing building located at One Illini Drive in Peoria, and

WHEREAS, this program is currently funded by five National Institutes of Health (NIH) grants as well as private foundation funding, and

WHEREAS, the Chicago campus is preparing to submit a statewide comprehensive cancer center application to NIH that encompasses a statewide clinical research program, and

WHEREAS, this proposed project already has significant community and political support in both endorsement and funding, totaling over \$9.0 million from various sources and a program has been identified that can be achieved at the \$9.0 million thus raised, and

WHEREAS, substantial fundraising from private and corporate sources will continue to contribute to the funding of this project, and

WHEREAS, to maximize the utility of the facility, the University's goal is to construct a 22,800 gross square foot addition estimated to cost \$13.5 million, and continued efforts will be made to secure additional funds up to the \$13.5 million.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. THAT once final funding for the project has been identified, a request for formal project approval will be brought forward to the Board of Trustees, and
2. THAT at this time the Board of Trustees recognizes the need for and the importance of the Peoria Cancer Center Addition at the UIC College of Medicine at Peoria to the future of cancer research at the University of Illinois, and
3. THAT the Board of Trustees fully supports the continued planning and fundraising for this project in order to build upon the existing successful translational program in brain cancer research and treatment.