

Approved by the Board of Trustees
March 11, 2009

Board Meeting
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ESTABLISH A MULTI-INSTITUTIONAL DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN
CHEMICAL ENGINEERING WITH THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF
SINGAPORE, COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES, AND
THE GRADUATE COLLEGE, URBANA

Action: Approve the Establishment of a Multi-Institutional Doctor of Philosophy in Chemical Engineering with the National University of Singapore, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the Graduate College, Urbana

Funding: No New Funding Required

The Chancellor at Urbana with the advice of the Urbana-Champaign Senate recommends approval of a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College to establish a Multi-Institutional Doctor of Philosophy in Chemical Engineering with the National University of Singapore (NUS).

The Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering has operated a cooperatively administered Ph.D. program in Chemical Engineering with the National University of Singapore since 2004 patterned after a highly successful Master's program involving the same parties since 1998. Students completing the current program receive a degree from one institution and a certificate from the other. This proposal seeks to modify that agreement and establish a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering to be jointly awarded by both the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and the National

University of Singapore. Graduates of the proposed program would receive a single diploma with seals from both institutions.

Students in this program must meet all of the requirements in the existing Ph.D. programs at both institutions. Students in the existing and proposed program spend approximately equal proportions of their study at each university, taking courses and/or working on their research. In most cases, it is expected that students will spend about two years at each institution. The project comprising the thesis work of the Ph.D. must be overseen cooperatively by faculty at Urbana and NUS. Students must complete courses that satisfy the total number and distribution requirements of both universities, and selected from a jointly approved list.

The multi-institutional degree will recognize what already exists in practice. The present relationship has evolved and strengthened over time. Each department has evaluated the quality of the education in the partner's institution, gained their trust, and has benefited from the success of the program and collaboration. This continued collaboration with NUS coincides with Urbana's strategic vision to have a global presence in the Asia-Pacific region. NUS is a leading institution in Asia and the world. This program complements and enhances the University's presence and reputation in Singapore, most recently manifested by the grant agreement with A*STAR for advanced computer research.

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.