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Board Meeting
March 15, 2018

ESTABLISH THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SUPPLY CHAIN AND OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT, COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND THE GRADUATE COLLEGE, CHICAGO

Action: Establish the Master of Science in Supply Chain and Operations Management, College of Business Administration and the Graduate College

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, College of Business Administration, and the Graduate College, recommends the establishment of the Master of Science in Supply Chain and Operations Management.

With the growing focus on e-commerce, automation and globalization, enterprises must reengineer their sourcing, warehouse, distribution and transportation capabilities to handle widely diverse demand patterns and fulfillment needs. The proposed degree addresses a widely recognized market need for individuals with requisite technology and analytical knowledge and skills for managing supply chain operations. It is targeted at students with undergraduate degrees in engineering, business, and other disciplines who seek specialized knowledge and training to work in the field, as well as working professionals looking to enhance their skills and capabilities.

The degree will also provide a strong background and suitable preparation for further education and research in broader areas with emerging interest in supply chain and operations opportunities in industries such as manufacturing, transportation and logistics, pharmaceutical and personal products, health and medical, food, and software systems. The degree builds upon existing expertise and resources in the Department of Information and Decision Sciences, including two related programs: a campus certificate and a concentration within the Master of Business Administration in operations and supply chain management.

The degree requires a minimum of 32 hours of graduate coursework. Students will complete 16 hours of required courses in data and prescriptive analytics, operations management, supply chain management, and applied supply chain strategy and practice; and 16 hours of electives chosen in consultation with the director of graduate studies. Students with the necessary business and technical background can expect to complete the degree within twelve months (full-time). Students requiring prerequisite preparation may take 18 to 24 months to complete the degree. The degree has a projected enrollment of 12 students in the first year, and 50 once fully implemented.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respect 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

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.