Approved by the Board of Trustees

March 17, 2022

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Board Meeting

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## ESTABLISH THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NUTRITION AND HEALTH, COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES, URBANA

**Action:** Establish the Bachelor of Science in Nutrition and Health, College of

Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

**Funding:** No funding impact is expected, as this proposal and the related action and

report items do not change class sizes, student-faculty ratios, or other

metrics.

The Chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and Vice President, University of Illinois System, with the advice of the Urbana-Champaign Senate recommends approval of a proposal from the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences to establish the Bachelor of Science in Nutrition and Health (B.S. in NH).

The current structure of the undergraduate degree program in the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition is a single Bachelor of Science with a major in Food Science and Human Nutrition (FSHA). Within this B.S. in FSHN, students choose from one of four concentrations: Dietetics, Food Science, Hospitality Management, or Human Nutrition. A recent review of the department’s undergraduate enrollment and curriculum suggested the restructuring that is proposed here and in companion action and report items to dissolve the concentration structure and the major to which these concentrations are tied and to establish four separate B.S. degrees that elevate the existing concentrations. This reorganization is in keeping with current and prospective student demand and is expected to make graduates of the separate B.S. degrees more marketable to employers and graduate programs. Currently enrolled students will be allowed to complete their program of study. The current B.S. in FSHN and the existing concentrations will be moved to phasedown until currently enrolled students graduate, then they will be eliminated.

Specific to this program, Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition faculty voted in 2021 on a name change from “Human Nutrition” to “Nutrition and Health” (NH) and elevation from a concentration to a major to better reflect the coursework and career options. The B.S. in NH provides an understanding of human nutrition with in-depth focus on physiological and biochemical aspects of metabolism coupled with an awareness of the nutrient composition of foods and the role of social and economic factors as determinants of food selection. Students will be prepared for a variety of post-graduation options including pre-health professions (pre-medicine, pre-dental, pre-pharmacy, or pre-nursing, for example), laboratory research, food product research and development, academia, and extension/nutrition education.

Little to no impact is expected in terms of funding, instructional resources, or student-to-faculty ratios. The revised undergraduate structure will draw upon the existing courses that comprise the core of the current B.S. in FSHN and the current existing concentrations. No new courses are needed, and existing courses have capacity to enroll the uptick in enrollment the department expects to happen with the elevation of concentrations to majors. No new or additional facilities, significant improvements to existing facilities, or additional resources from the University Library are needed.

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 Interim 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 of Illinois System recommends approval. This action is subject to further review by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.