Approved by the Board of Trustees

March 20, 2025

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Board Meeting

March 20, 2025

ELIMINATE THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SUSTAINABLE URBAN MANAGEMENT, COLLEGE OF FINE AND APPLIED ARTS AND THE GRADUATE COLLEGE, URBANA

**Action:** Eliminate the Master of Science in Sustainable Urban Management, College of Fine and Applied Arts and the Graduate College

**Funding:** No new funding required

The chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the advice of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate, recommends approval of a proposal from the College of Fine and Applied Arts and the Graduate College to eliminate the Master of Science in Sustainable Urban Management.

The Master of Science in Sustainable Urban Management (MSSUM) has not generated sufficient student interest and enrollment to justify continuation. Mid-career students, the target demographic of the program, were unable to relocate for the one-year period needed to complete the coursework. With this limited market, two of the four courses required for the program have not been offered since Spring 2019 due to insufficient enrollment, and these courses will be deactivated. The small number of students in the program were utilizing course substitutions, completing with an amended program that mirrors the Master of Urban Planning (MUP) program. The MSSUM’s learning outcomes were delivered through the substitute courses, but the program ultimately was not offered as originally designed. The population who is interested in the program’s content can be served with the existing MUP program. In Fall 2024, five students were admitted to the MSSUM. However, none accepted the offer of admission, although one shifted their application to the MUP and is currently enrolled in that program. Thus, there are no students currently in the MSSUM program.

There is no impact on funding, faculty and staff resources, facilities, or equipment as there has been little to no enrollment. Faculty involved with the program also teach in the MUP program, so the program elimination does not impact unit course offerings or faculty teaching assignments.

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 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.