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REDESIGNATE THE DEPARTMENT OF SPEECH COMMUNICATION, URBANA

Action: Approve the Redesignation of the Department of Speech Communication as the Department of Communication, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, 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 to redesignate the Department of Speech Communication as the Department of Communication.

The change to the Department of Communication reflects the evolution of the teaching and research interests in the department as well as national changes within the discipline. The label "speech communication" no longer accurately describes the range of scholarly and teaching activities carried out by the department. The faculty does teach several public speaking courses, but these skill-oriented classes serve students from all over campus and constitute a very small component of total course offerings. Instead, undergraduate and graduate programs focus more broadly on the humanistic and social scientific study of messages, some of which are spoken, but many of which are not. The study of nonverbal communication, written communication, computer-mediated

communication, as well as communication delivered through technologies such as television are also included.

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.