Approved by the Board of Trustees

March 28, 2024

**15**

Board Meeting

March 28, 2024

# RENAME THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND MODERN LANGUAGES, COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

**Action:** Rename the Department of English and Modern Languages, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, Springfield

**Funding:** No new funding required

The chancellor, University of Illinois Springfield, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the advice of the University of Illinois Springfield Senate and the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, recommends the renaming of the Department of English and Modern Languages. The department will be renamed the Department of English.

The modern language program, which currently houses only a minor in Spanish, was incorporated into the Department of English in 2014 to enhance the mission of the English department by broadening the study of language and literatures.

The modern language program does not currently have a tenure-line position to cover language instruction and to maintain and grow the program. As a result, the program has been staffed exclusively with adjuncts. In addition, there are currently no language requirements in the UIS general education or honors curricula to create demand for modern language programming. Without faculty and curricular investments, student interest in the Spanish minor has waned, and the minor will be eliminated.

With the absence of modern language program offerings, renaming the department the Department of English accurately reflects the mission of, and the curricular offerings and faculty expertise currently housed in, the unit. No additional resources are anticipated as a result of this name change.

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 will be reported to the Illinois Board of Higher Education.