

PRESIDENT'S REPORT ON ACTIONS OF THE SENATES

Establish a Non-Thesis Option in the Master of Science in Chemical Engineering, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College to establish a non-thesis option in the Master of Science in Chemical Engineering.

The Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering is interested in establishing a non-thesis option based on the existing program course requirements for the Master of Science. In recent years, 3+2 combined Bachelor/Master's programs have been established and the non-thesis option better serves students in these combined programs. Students will also be able to complete the non-thesis degree before completing the Doctor of Philosophy in Chemical Engineering.

Rename the Undergraduate Minor in Geography, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to rename the undergraduate minor in Geography as Geography and Geographic Information Science.

The Department of Geography formally became the Department of Geography and Geographic Information Science in 2011. The name of the undergraduate degree program was changed at that time and the Department now proposes to rename the undergraduate minor as well.

Revise the Undergraduate Concentrations in the Bachelor of Science in Speech and Hearing Science, College of Applied Health Sciences, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Applied Health Sciences to revise the undergraduate concentrations in the Bachelor of Science in Speech and Hearing Science.

The proposed revisions include establishing two new concentrations in neuroscience and cultural-linguistic diversity and eliminating the concentration in human communication sciences. The new concentrations have been added to the existing concentrations in audiology and speech language pathology in response to student interest and demand and increased departmental faculty expertise in these areas. The concentration in human and communication sciences is being eliminated due to lack of student interest.

Revise the Doctor of Occupational Therapy, College of Applied Health Sciences, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Applied Health Sciences has approved the revision of the Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD).

The OTD is an advanced post-professional degree that prepares licensed occupational therapists to become advanced professional practitioners in clinical, educational, and management positions. Because the OTD does not prepare students to be independent researchers, the degree will be reclassified as a professional, rather than a research, doctorate. Currently, the OTD requirements reflect the degree's designation as a research doctorate: 90 credit hours for students with a baccalaureate degree and 58 credit hours for students with an approved master's degree. These hours are beyond what is necessary for a professional doctorate and well in excess of requirements at peer

institutions. As a result the degree takes more time to complete, and is therefore less competitive, than equally-regarded programs at public and private institutions.

The revised OTD will require 68 credit hours (post-baccalaureate) and 36 credit hours (post-master's degree). The required elements of the degree, core courses, a practicum, field examination, and project, will remain. While the required hours of practicum and project hours will be reduced from 28 to 16 credit hours, the resulting sixteen hours translates to a significant level of activity; specifically, a practicum of 180 contact hours over the course of a semester and 480 contact hours devoted to the development and completion of a project. In addition, 20 hours of coursework in a student-selected area of focus will be eliminated and elective hours will be increased by 10 hours. This will allow for the cross-training of all students across three areas (advanced practice, education, and management/leadership) rather than limiting them to additional expertise in one area.

The reduction in the total required hours will have no impact on the program's academic quality. Further, it will bring the OTD in line with the academic work that is appropriate for a professional doctorate, make the program more attractive by reducing time to degree completion and cost, and will assist in the diversification of the applicant pool.

Establish the Concentration in Applied Statistics, Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Statistics, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has approved the establishment of the Concentration in Applied Statistics within the Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Statistics.

Currently, undergraduate students can pursue a Bachelor of Science in Statistics and Operations Research which combines coursework in mathematics, economics, statistics, computing, and operations research. While the current degree is under enrolled, there is increasing professional demand for students with statistical training. As a result, the degree is being redesignated as a Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Statistics. The redesignated degree will require 120 credit hours comprised of 79 hours of general education and elective coursework and 41 hours in the major, almost exclusively mathematics and statistics courses. In addition, all students will earn one of two concentrations: Applied Statistics or Statistical Theory and Methods.

The concentration in Applied Statistics focuses on applications rather than theory, and will provide interdisciplinary training to prepare students for careers in applied statistics and other areas that require broad knowledge of statistical methods and reasoning. The concentration requires 12 hours (4 courses). In consultation with an advisor, students will select a sequence of statistics-related courses outside of the Department of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science, for example, in biological sciences, economics, or psychology. At least two courses must be at the 200-level or above.

Establish the Concentration in Statistical Theory and Methods, Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Statistics, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has approved the establishment of the Concentration in Statistical

Theory and Methods within the Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Statistics.

Currently, undergraduate students can pursue a Bachelor of Science in Statistics and Operations Research which combines coursework in mathematics, economics, statistics, computing, and operations research. While the current degree is under enrolled, there is increasing professional demand for students with statistical training. As a result, the degree is being redesignated as a Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Statistics. The redesignated degree will require 120 credit hours comprised of 79 hours of general education and elective coursework and 41 hours in the major, almost exclusively mathematics and statistics courses. In addition, all students will earn one of two concentrations: Applied Statistics or Statistical Theory and Methods.

The concentration in Statistical Theory and Methods is a traditional program in statistics, and will prepare students for graduate studies in statistics or related fields. The concentration requires 12 hours (4 courses). Specifically, students will complete three specific, upper-level courses in advanced mathematics, applied linear algebra and analysis, and a 400-level statistics course.

Eliminate the Minor in Urban Real Estate, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences,
Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has approved the elimination of the Minor in Urban Real Estate.

Originally established as the Minor in Real Estate in Fall 2006, the minor was housed in the Department of Economics within the College of Business

Administration. When the department was transferred to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences in Fall 2008 the minor followed. The following year it was revised and redesignated as the Minor in Urban Real Estate to reflect the focus on issues pertaining to real estate in large cities, and its perspective encompassing urban and regional economics.

Soon thereafter the department lost two key faculty members in the field, and additional faculty have since departed. This has resulted in the inability to offer the courses necessary to sustain the minor. As no students are currently pursuing the minor and the department has no plans to revive the program, the minor has been slated for elimination.

Revise the Master of Science in Nursing, College of Nursing, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Nursing and Graduate College has approved the revision of the Master of Science in Nursing.

Currently the M.S. in Nursing, like programs at peer institutions across the country, is designed as an advanced specialist program. This means the degree has a small number of core courses that provide a foundation for graduate education in nursing, but the focus of the degree is a choice among various specialties called concentrations within the University. Students complete five core courses (10 hours), select from among sixteen concentrations and complete the requisite coursework, and choose to complete the degree through coursework only or by completing a thesis or project. The total credit hours required for the degree varies by concentration, anywhere from 36 to 70 hours.

Applicants for the degree must have a baccalaureate degree in nursing from an accredited program, or have a baccalaureate degree in another field and have

graduated from a nursing program preparing them for registered professional nursing. However, for individuals without previous nursing preparation who hold a baccalaureate degree in a field other than nursing, the College of Nursing offers a Graduate Entry Program (GEP). GEP students complete 15 months of full-time, intensive coursework (56 hours) in the foundations of nursing to prepare for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses and entry into nursing practice. Students then continue in one of the advanced practice specialties and complete the requirements for the M.S. in Nursing.

The American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) and its accrediting arm, the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), have targeted 2015 for graduate nursing programs to transition all advanced specialties/concentrations away from the M.S. in Nursing to the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP). As a result, the M.S. in Nursing will be revised from an advanced specialist to an advanced generalist degree. An advanced generalist degree will prepare nurses to act as care coordinators for groups of clients, while providing direct care in complex cases. This includes evaluating client outcomes, assessing client risks, promoting client and family advocacy, and delivering effective and efficient care.

The revised M.S. in Nursing will be comprised of eleven required courses (34 hours) and will be completed by coursework only. No coursework in advanced practice specialties (e.g., midwifery, pediatrics) will be completed and the sixteen concentrations currently affiliated with the degree will be eliminated. The curriculum has been designed to meet the requirements for graduate education at the Chicago campus, the core competencies required for master's-level preparation in nursing, and includes a

135-hour clinical component. To reduce curricular barriers and create a seamless pathway to the specialty training within the professional doctorate in nursing, 10 of the 11 required courses for the M.S. are also requirements for the DNP.

Revisions to the master's degree necessitate revisions to the structure of the Graduate Entry Program. Instead of completing pre-licensure coursework followed by requirements for the degree, coursework will be integrated so both are completed simultaneously, thus ensuring no student can sit for licensure until the degree has been conferred. Further, GEP students will now complete 45 hours of preparatory coursework in addition to the 34 hours required for the master's degree.

The M.S. in Nursing is offered at Chicago and at regional campuses in Peoria, the Quad Cities, Rockford, and Urbana. The revisions affect the degree at all locations.

Eliminate the Sixteen Concentrations within the Master of Science in Nursing, College of Nursing, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Nursing and Graduate College has approved the elimination of the sixteen concentrations within the Master of Science in Nursing.

Currently the M.S. in Nursing, like programs at peer institutions across the country, is designed as an advanced specialist program. This means the degree has a small number of core courses that provide a foundation for graduate education in nursing, but the focus of the degree is a choice among various specialties, called concentrations within the University. Students complete five core courses (10 hours) and select from

among sixteen concentrations each with its' own requisite coursework. The total credit hours required for each concentration varies from 26 to 60 hours.

The American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) and its accrediting arm, the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), has targeted 2015 for the graduate nursing program to transition all advanced specialties away from the M.S. in Nursing to the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP). As a result, the M.S. in Nursing will be revised from an advanced specialist to an advanced generalist degree requiring 34 hours. An advanced generalist degree will prepare nurses to act as care coordinators for groups of clients, while providing direct care in complex cases. This includes evaluating client outcomes, assessing client risks, promoting client and family advocacy, and delivering effective and efficient care.

Within the revised M.S. in Nursing, no coursework in advanced practice specialties (e.g., midwifery, pediatrics) will be completed. As such, the sixteen concentrations currently affiliated with the degree will be eliminated. They are:

- (1) Administrative Studies in Nursing;
- (2) Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner;
- (3) Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner;
- (4) Advanced Community Health Nurse;
- (5) Family Nurse Practitioner;
- (6) Family Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner;
- (7) Nurse Midwifery;
- (8) Nurse Midwifery/Women's Health Nurse Practitioner;
- (9) Occupational Health/Advanced Community Health Nurse;
- (10) Occupational Health/Family Nurse Practitioner;
- (11) Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist;
- (12) Pediatric Nurse Practitioner;
- (13) Perinatal Clinical Nurse Specialist;
- (14) School/Advanced Community Health Nurse;
- (15) School/Family Nurse Practitioner;
- and (16) Women's Health Nurse Practitioner.

The M.S. in Nursing is offered at Chicago and at regional campuses in Peoria, the Quad Cities, Rockford, and Urbana. The eliminations affect the degree at all locations.

Revise the Doctor of Nursing Practice, College of Nursing, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Nursing has approved the revision of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP).

The DNP is the terminal professional practice degree within the profession of nursing. Unlike the research doctorate (Ph.D.) in Nursing, which prepares students to generate and discover new knowledge, the DNP prepares students to translate and implement knowledge in their respective areas of clinical expertise. Because the DNP does not prepare students to be independent researchers, the degree will be reclassified as a professional, rather than a research, doctorate. Current DNP requirements reflect the degree's designation as a research doctorate: at least 90 credit hours for students with a bachelor's degree in nursing (BSN) and at least 45 credit hours for students with a master's degree in nursing (MSN). These hours are beyond what is necessary for a professional doctorate and exceed requirements of the DNP at peer institutions. As a result the degree takes more time to complete, and is therefore less competitive, than equally-regarded programs.

Further, the current DNP requirements reflect a national model of nursing education in which the MSN provides advanced practice training in areas of specialization (e.g., pediatrics, gerontology). Effective 2015, the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) and its accrediting arm, the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), will require graduate nursing programs to transition all

advanced specialties/concentrations away from the MSN to the DNP. Therefore the revised DNP, which will continue to require an advanced specialty, must include degree requirements for post-MSN students with and without specialties.

Presently, students entering the program with a BSN complete 32 hours of core practice-competency courses, 38 to 54 hours of specialty and role-competency courses in one of fifteen concentrations, a preliminary examination, and 20 hours of project and practicum work. Students entering with an MSN have already acquired expertise in an area of specialty practice, so they complete only 25 hours of core practice courses, a preliminary examination, and 20 hours of project and practicum work. Students wishing to pursue an additional concentration in nursing leadership may choose to do so.

The revised DNP will require at least 60 credit hours (post-BSN) and at least 39 credit hours (post-MSN). All students must complete a preliminary examination and 11 hours of project and practicum work. Students with a BSN will complete 22 to 31 hours of core practice and, if required, 12 to 14 hours of clinical science courses, as well as 21 to 43 hours of specialty courses in one of twelve concentrations. Students with an MSN with a documented specialty will complete 21 to 28 hours of core practice courses, and post-MSN students without a specialty concentration will be required to complete 21 to 28 core practice courses and, if required, 12 to 14 hours of clinical science courses, as well as 21 to 43 hours of specialty courses in one of the concentration areas.

Finally, the DNP curriculum was assessed and revised to align course content with AACN guidelines, called the AACN Doctoral Essentials, and to contain the 1,000 clinical hours accreditation required of the DNP.

The reduction in the total required hours will have no impact on the program's academic quality. Further, it will bring the DNP in line with the academic work that is appropriate for a professional doctorate, make the program more attractive by reducing time to degree completion, and will assist in the diversification of the applicant pool.

The DNP is offered at Chicago; at regional campuses in Peoria, the Quad Cities, Rockford, and Urbana; and online. The revisions affect the degree at all locations and in all methods of delivery.

Rename and Revise the Advanced Community Health Nurse Concentration as the
Advanced Population Health Nursing Concentration, Doctor of Nursing Practice,
College of Nursing, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Nursing has approved the renaming of the Advanced Community Health Nurse Concentration within the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) as the Advanced Population Health Nursing Concentration.

Curricular standards, set by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), and board certification exams require that specialty concentrations be titled to accurately reflect programs of study. The term "community nursing" is not appropriate for the scope of the concentration, as it can be used to describe one-to-one care that is delivered within a community setting. The intent and design of the concentration has been to emphasize the nursing of populations, not individuals, within communities, organizations, and/or primary-care and acute-care settings. Therefore, renaming the concentration is appropriate to reflect course content, competencies, knowledge, and skills mandated by professional standards.

In addition, the concentration currently requires 35 hours of coursework in population-focused nursing and management. The revised concentration will require 32 hours, a change resulting from the assessment and realignment of the DNP curriculum with the AACN guidelines.

The concentration is offered at Chicago and at regional campuses in Peoria, the Quad Cities, Rockford, and Urbana. The renaming and revision affects the concentration at all locations.

Rename and Revise the Executive Nursing Leadership Concentration as the Health Systems Leadership and Informatics Concentration, Doctor of Nursing Practice, College of Nursing, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Nursing has approved the renaming of the Executive Nursing Leadership Concentration within the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) as the Health Systems Leadership and Informatics Concentration.

The Executive Nursing Leadership Concentration was designed for a select group of master's prepared nurses; specifically, a subset of students entering the DNP having already completed a master's degree in nursing and with experience as nursing administrators. In order to make a leadership specialty available to all DNP students (those entering with either a bachelor's or master's degree) and ensure the preparation of students wishing to pursue high-level administrative roles within healthcare systems, the current concentration will be revised to meet accreditation and regulatory standards. Further, the concentration will be renamed as the Health Systems Leadership and Informatics Concentration to accurately reflect the program of study as required by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) and board certification exams.

Currently the concentration requires 32 to 35 credit hours. The revised concentration will require 30 hours, a change resulting from the assessment and realignment of the DNP curriculum with the AACN guidelines.

The concentration is offered at Chicago; at regional campuses in Peoria, the Quad Cities, Rockford, and Urbana; and online. The renaming and revision affects the concentration at all locations and all methods of delivery.

Reorganize and Revise the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Concentration as Two Concentrations: Primary Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner and Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, Doctor of Nursing Practice, College of Nursing, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Nursing has approved the reorganization of the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Concentration within the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) as two concentrations: the Primary Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Concentration and the Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Concentration.

Currently the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (PNP) Concentration prepares students in the care of children across health settings, but primarily for practice outside hospitals. Primary care thus focuses on health promotion and prevention, guidance for families, and management of common acute problems and stable chronic illnesses in infants, children, and adolescents. As the healthcare needs of children have become more complex, students need formal preparation to care for children in acute settings, meet regulatory and certification requirements for this scope of practice, and to be eligible for employment in hospitals. As children's hospitals are now a significant employer of PNPs, the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty and other nursing organizations have called for the delineation of acute care and primary care content and

competencies. In addition, many primary care graduates are hired for positions that may in the future require acute care certification. Therefore, the College of Nursing will reorganize and revise the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Concentration into two concentrations focusing on primary and acute care.

The concentrations will share two required courses and two required practicums in health maintenance, common acute illness, and the management of stable chronic conditions. The Acute Care PNP will require an additional course and practicum in the area of complex, acute, and critical illness. The concentrations will require 23 hours (primary care) and 33 hours (acute care).

The concentration is offered at Chicago and at regional campuses in Peoria, the Quad Cities, Rockford, and Urbana. The reorganization and revision affects the concentration at all locations.

Eliminate the Occupational Health/Advanced Community Health Nurse Concentration, Doctor of Nursing Practice, College of Nursing, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Nursing has approved the elimination of the Occupational Health/Advanced Community Health Nurse Concentration within the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP).

The concentration is one of five affiliated with the DNP that is being eliminated due to low enrollment and changes in market trends and professional demand. Any students currently enrolled in the concentration will be able to complete the coursework necessary to earn the DNP with an Occupational Health/Advanced Community Health Nurse Concentration. While no longer offered as a concentration,

students wishing to take coursework in occupational health can do so in the Advanced Population Health Nursing or Family Nurse Practitioner concentrations.

The concentration is offered at Chicago and at regional campuses in Peoria, the Quad Cities, Rockford, and Urbana. The elimination affects the concentration at all locations.

Eliminate the Occupational Health/Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration,
Doctor of Nursing Practice, College of Nursing, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Nursing has approved the elimination of the Occupational Health/Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration within the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP).

The concentration is one of five affiliated with the DNP that is being eliminated due to low enrollment and changes in market trends and professional demand. Any students currently enrolled in the concentration will be able to complete the coursework necessary to earn the DNP with an Occupational Health/Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration. While no longer offered as a concentration, students wishing to take coursework in occupational health can do so in the Advanced Population Health Nursing or Family Nurse Practitioner concentrations.

The concentration is offered at Chicago and at regional campuses in Peoria, the Quad Cities, Rockford, and Urbana. The elimination affects the concentration at all locations.

Eliminate the Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist Concentration,
Doctor of Nursing Practice, College of Nursing, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Nursing has approved the elimination of the Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist Concentration within the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP).

The College of Nursing currently offers two concentrations in pediatrics, one for Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNS) and one for Nurse Practitioners (NP). The concentrations were developed during a time when both roles were viable career options in pediatrics. In recent years, interest in the CNS role in pediatrics has diminished and many colleges have phased out their CNS concentrations.

The Pediatric CNS concentration is one of five affiliated with the DNP that is being eliminated due to low enrollment and changes in market trends and professional demand. Any students currently enrolled in the concentration will be able to complete the coursework necessary to earn the DNP with a Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist Concentration. While no longer offered as a concentration, students wishing to take coursework in pediatrics can do so in the Pediatrics Nurse Practitioner Concentration which is being revised to encompass both acute- and primary-care.

The concentration is offered at Chicago and at regional campuses in Peoria, the Quad Cities, Rockford, and Urbana. The elimination affects the concentration at all locations and all methods of delivery.

Eliminate the Perinatal Clinical Nurse Specialist Concentration,
Doctor of Nursing Practice, College of Nursing, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Nursing has approved the elimination of the Perinatal Clinical Nurse Specialist Concentration within the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP).

The concentration is one of five affiliated with the DNP that is being eliminated due to low enrollment and changes in market trends and professional demand. In recent years, interest in the CNS role has diminished and many colleges have phased out their CNS concentrations. Further, the Perinatal CNS certification examination has been eliminated.

Any students currently enrolled in the concentration will be able to complete the coursework necessary to earn the DNP with a Perinatal Clinical Nurse Specialist Concentration. While no longer offered as a concentration, students wishing to take coursework in pediatrics can do so in the Pediatrics Nurse Practitioner Concentration which is being reorganized into two concentrations to encompass both acute- and primary-care.

The concentration is offered at Chicago and at regional campuses in Peoria, the Quad Cities, Rockford, and Urbana. The elimination affects the concentration at all locations.

Eliminate the School/Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration,
Doctor of Nursing Practice, College of Nursing, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Nursing has approved the elimination of the School/Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration within the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP).

The concentration is one of five affiliated with the DNP that is being eliminated due to low enrollment and changes in market trends and professional demand. Any students currently enrolled in the concentration will be able to complete the coursework necessary to earn the DNP with a School/Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration. While no longer offered as a concentration, students wishing to take school nurse coursework can do so in the Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration.

The concentration is offered at Chicago and at regional campuses in Peoria, the Quad Cities, Rockford, and Urbana. The elimination affects the concentration at all locations.

Establish the Concentration in Public Health Informatics,
Online Master of Science in Public Health (Health Policy and Administration),
School of Public Health, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the School of Public Health has approved the establishment of the Concentration in Public Health Informatics within the online Master of Science in Public Health.

The Master of Science in Public Health provides a general understanding of public health along with research competence in a chosen area of concentration: biostatistics, community health sciences, environmental and occupational health sciences, epidemiology, and health policy and administration. In addition, students have the option of earning secondary concentrations affiliated with their primary concentration. The degree and all five concentrations are offered onsite; however, the M.S. in Public Health with a Concentration in Health Policy and Administration is also offered online.

The School of Public Health will establish a secondary concentration in Public Health Informatics (PHI). It will only be available to and required of students pursuing the online M.S. in Public Health (Health Policy and Administration).

The PHI Program was established within the School of Public Health in 2002 in direct response to the growing need for public health professionals who possess the knowledge required to develop, implement, and evaluate public health information systems. This need continues to increase, and as a result the School has developed a PHI Concentration within the Master of Public Health (MPH) and campus certificate in PHI. These programs, like the PHI Concentration within the M.S. in Public Health, are offered exclusively online. In addition to addressing the needs of the profession, the PHI concentration will provide a focused, pre-doctoral level education for students wishing to pursue informatics within the Ph.D. in Public Health.

The PHI concentration is comprised of 11 hours of core requirements, a minimum of 16 hours of selective coursework, and a minimum of 6 hours of electives. Earning the degree with both concentrations in Health Policy and Administration and Public Health Informatics will require 48 hours of coursework and a thesis.

Establish Concentrations in Clinical Mental Health Counseling; School Counseling; and Marriage, Couple and Family Counseling in the Master of Arts in Human Development Counseling, College of Education and Human Services, Springfield

The Springfield Senate with the recommendation of the College of Education and Human Services has approved the establishment of three concentrations in the Master of Arts in Human Development Counseling: Clinical Mental Health Counseling; School Counseling; and Marriage, Couple and Family Counseling.

The current human development counseling graduate curriculum offers “Areas of Study” in the proposed concentrations to prepare students for the corresponding career paths. This administrative change from the descriptive term “areas of study” to formal “concentrations” will allow the program to better track students through the curriculum, make it easier to certify that students are appropriately prepared for licensure in their respective areas of study, provide streamlined reporting to accreditation bodies, and provide recognition of curricular differences on student transcripts.

Existing coursework within each area of study will remain intact in the respective concentration. No revisions in curriculum content or delivery are associated with this change from “areas of study” to “concentrations”.