

Approved by the Board of Trustees
May 20, 2021

Board Meeting
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RENAME AND REORGANIZE THE BACHELOR OF ARTS IN PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATION, COLLEGE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND ADMINISTRATION,
SPRINGFIELD

Action: Rename and Reorganize the Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration,
College of Public Affairs and Administration

Funding: No new funding is required to rename or reorganize the program.

The Interim Chancellor, University of Illinois Springfield, and Vice President, University of Illinois System with the advice of the Springfield Senate recommends approval of a proposal from the College of Public Affairs and Administration to rename the Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration (BAPA) to the Bachelor of Arts in Public and Nonprofit Administration (BAPNA) and to reorganize the curriculum to expand options for students, while streamlining faculty and university resources.

The current BAPA prepares students to serve as managers in nonprofit organizations and local, state, and federal governments. This interdisciplinary field applies the theories and methods of the social sciences to solve problems of management, administration, and governance in the nonprofit and public sectors. The degree program prepares students through the integration of theory and practice to advance the public interest and civic engagement. Changing the degree name to the BAPNA will

incorporate the emphasis on nonprofit administration that is not reflected in the current BAPA title. Incorporating the nonprofit element into the degree name is both timely and important due to the increasing delivery of government programs through nonprofit organizations.

Under the new BAPNA title, the current BAPA program will be reorganized in the following four distinct ways:

- Eliminate the current BAPA requirement for students to choose a required track
- Expand nonprofit topics to be more central to all core courses
- Add voluntary concentrations to the major
- Expand the program to be offered fully online

Currently, BAPA students are required to complete one of three tracks.

Under the new BAPNA title, the three tracks will be eliminated, allowing students to complete the degree by taking courses in a number of fields appropriate to their career choices. Elimination of the tracks will simplify the program for students, allow students more coursework flexibility, and improve the program's marketability.

Because public and non-profit administrators may have careers in a variety of fields, the program proposes to add three voluntary nine-credit hour concentrations into the BAPNA, allowing students to tailor their degree to better meet their career goals. The three voluntary concentrations are Child Advocacy Studies (CAST), Environment and Society, and Public Health. Completing a BAPNA concentration will not increase the number of hours required for the degree, as the nine hours required for each

concentration will count as required elective hours for the major. A common 27-hour core unites the three concentrations and provides coherence in the curriculum. In addition, by completing the optional CAST concentration, students will obtain certification approved through the National Child Protection Training Center (NCPTC).

The BAPA is currently offered in traditional face-to-face and blended formats with some courses also being offered online. As part of the reorganization, the BAPNA will be expanded to be offered fully online. Online delivery is expected to increase enrollments and to be of interest to traditional students, working adults, and students who with an Associate's degree seeking a BAPNA.

No additional costs are associated with the reorganization of the BAPA. Because UIS has both the facilities and faculty to support the proposed voluntary concentrations and the expansion to online delivery, no additional funding is required or requested.

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 recommends approval. The action is subject to further review by the Illinois Board of Higher Education but IBHE approval is not required.