

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT ON ACTIONS OF THE SENATES

### Establish a Combined Bachelor of Science in Materials Science and Engineering and Master of Engineering in Materials Engineering, College of Engineering, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Engineering and the Graduate College to establish a combined Bachelor of Science in Materials Science and Engineering and Master of Engineering in Materials Engineering.

This proposal accompanies the proposal to establish the Master of Engineering degree on the Action Agenda. For students in engineering, in general, and materials science and engineering, in particular, a master's degree is becoming the desired professional entry degree. Furthermore, the engineer of tomorrow is expected to have strong oral and written communication skills, knowledge of business, management, and entrepreneurial practices, and an awareness of societal, economic, and political issues on a global scale. The major in Materials Engineering in the master's component of the combined degree program proposed will provide students with the opportunity to broaden their materials knowledge base, improve communication skills, obtain a foundation in business, technology management, and/or entrepreneurship, and gain practical engineering experience.

Establish a Graduate Minor in Queer Studies, 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 graduate minor in Queer Studies.

The Queer Studies graduate minor offers students a versatile interdisciplinary framework to complement and strengthen research in their chosen field of study and gain expertise in the field of queer studies. The new Queer Studies graduate minor will not only reflect current scholarship in the field, but will also meet students' needs for credentials in a growing interdisciplinary field of research that has wide implications for research in the humanities, social sciences, arts, education, and law.

Establish an Undergraduate Minor in Food and Agribusiness Management, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences to establish an undergraduate minor in Food and Agribusiness Management.

The Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics has a long history of teaching, research, and outreach in agribusiness management, a field that continues to be a leading area of study for those interested in working in the dynamic areas of food and agricultural management. Specialists educated in the field of food and agribusiness are critical because of the global demand for food, fiber, and fuel. This

demand must be balanced with stewardship of the natural environment. Through a coherent set of courses addressing food, agriculture, agricultural economics, and management of agricultural businesses, the proposed minor enables students to deepen their knowledge of the global food and agribusiness system and associated managerial issues as a complement to studies in a related area.

Revise the Master of Computer Science in Computer Science, College of Engineering and Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Engineering and the Graduate College to revise the Master of Computer Science in Computer Science.

The Department of Computer Science has proposed to decrease the total hours of the Master of Computer Science degree from 36 hours to 32 hours. The change will be implemented by reducing the number of credit hours in elective courses from 8 to 12 credit hours to 4 to 8 credit hours. Feedback from both students and industry indicate that a degree, which totals 32 hours and can be completed in one academic year, would be beneficial to students and their potential employers.

Establish a Graduate Concentration in Spanish Literatures and Cultures, Master of Arts in Spanish, 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 graduate concentration in Spanish Literatures and Cultures in the Master of Arts in Spanish.

All master's level students in the program choose between two areas of specialization: Linguistics, or Literatures and Cultures. The Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese determined that the Spanish major was not sufficiently accurate, given that areas of specialization are not reflected on the transcript. A concentration in Spanish Linguistics was established previously and the faculty have proposed to establish the concentration in Spanish Languages and Literatures.

Eliminate the Concentration in Hebrew Language and Literature, Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences in Linguistics, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to eliminate the concentration in Hebrew Language and Literature in the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences in Linguistics.

The Program in Jewish Culture and Society recently established a concentration in Jewish Studies in the Interdisciplinary Studies major. The new concentration replaces the existing Hebrew Language and Linguistics concentration in the Linguistics major. The new concentration combines the study of Hebrew with a broad range of course offerings in Jewish religion, culture, and history.

Eliminate the Concentration in Professional Science Master, Master of Science in Plant Biology, 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 eliminate the concentration in Professional Science Master's (PSM) in the Master of Science in Plant Biology.

This proposal accompanies the proposal to establish the Master of Science in Plant Biotechnology on the Action Agenda. To date, efforts to optimize industry linkages and promote the program to students have been hampered by limitations imposed by both the name and content of the current Illinois PSM in Plant Biology. Hence, the department has proposed to terminate the program and replace it with a new Plant Biotechnology major that, in combination with the Illinois PSM concentration, will more clearly communicate objectives and effectively serve the needs of both business partners and students.

Establish a Minor in Disability and Human Development,  
College of Applied Health Sciences, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Applied Health Sciences has approved the establishment of the Minor in Disability and Human Development.

The minor is an important first step in building an undergraduate program in Disability and Human Development within the College, which in 1998 was the first to offer a Doctor of Philosophy in Disability Studies. The minor will provide students with the breadth and depth of knowledge to understand and address issues related to the

experience of people with disabilities. Further, it will include a critical examination of disability and how people with disabilities figure into local, national, and international contexts. The minor was developed to meet the expressed interest of the University's diverse student body and to expand the College's reputation in disability education.

The minor will be open to students from any college. The total hours required for the new minor will be 12 hours.

Eliminate the Concentration in Education and Democratic Society within the Bachelor of Arts in Urban Education, College of Education, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Education has approved the elimination of the Concentration in Education and Democratic Society (EDS) within the Bachelor of Arts in Urban Education.

Currently, the Bachelor of Arts in Urban Education has two concentrations. Elementary Education leads to the Illinois State Board of Education teacher certification. Education in a Democratic Society was created for students who, at the completion of their third year, choose not to seek certification as elementary school teachers. Both concentrations share the same common core.

Since its establishment, the EDS Concentration has had low enrollment. Only nine students are currently enrolled in this option, while 101 students are pursuing certification in the Elementary Education Concentration. In addition, increasing Illinois State Board of Education requirements have made it difficult for the two concentrations to maintain a common core. By eliminating the EDS Concentration, the Urban Education

degree will return to its core mission of preparing state-certified elementary teachers. The concentration will be phased down so that currently enrolled students may complete their studies. Effective Fall 2015 the Bachelor of Arts in Urban Education will only lead to licensure in elementary education.

Establish a Minor in Instructional Design and Training,  
College of Education, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Education has approved the establishment of the Minor in Instructional Design and Training.

Instructional Design refers to the development of educational and performance support products, processes, and environments using learning and instructional theory to ensure the quality of instruction. The minor will be open to students from any college, and is designed to build upon the content foundation of students' home disciplines. The minor will prepare students for employment in education, business, communications, health, non-profit, and consulting fields where the effective design of information, instruction, and media are important.

The total hours required for the new minor will be 12 hours. Students will complete three required core courses and one production course in which students implement what they have learned by creating instructional materials in one of three genres: print-based, web-based, or multimedia. All courses will be available online to minimize scheduling conflicts with classes within students' major courses of study.

Establish a Minor in Urban Planning and Policy,  
College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs, has approved the establishment of the Minor in Urban Planning and Policy.

The minor is offered to expose undergraduate students to basic concepts in urban planning and policy, acquaint them with the field as a possible career choice, and encourage future graduate study. The minor will be open to students from any college. In addition, it emphasizes the University's urban mission by providing opportunities for students to gain further understanding of urban phenomena, the complex interactions between local and global forces, and the needs and opportunities of Chicago and other urban centers.

The total hours required for the new minor will be 12 hours.