

PRESIDENT'S REPORT ON ACTIONS OF THE SENATES

Establish an Undergraduate Minor in Computational Science and Engineering, College of Engineering, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Engineering to establish an undergraduate minor in Computational Science and Engineering (CSE).

The Computational Science and Engineering minor is designed to provide undergraduate students with a solid base in problem-solving using computation as a major tool for modeling complicated problems in science and engineering. The CSE minor is aimed at helping students develop competencies in computational methods required to conduct computer experiments. The CSE minor comprises 18 total hours with 9 hours in topics relevant to scientific computing and 9 hours of application coursework. Students may opt to complete an undergraduate research project that provides the opportunity to work with a faculty member using their acquired computational skills in solving real problems.

Revise the Criteria for University Honors, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the advice of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Affairs, Vice Provost for Academic and Enrollment Services, and the Committee of Associate and Assistant Deans has approved a proposal to revise the criteria for university honors recognition at graduation. Currently, the University Honors system

recognizes three traditional levels of distinction for scholastic excellence according to the following ranges of cumulative grade point averages where A equals 4.00: Summa cum laude (3.90 and above); Magna cum laude (3.75 to 3.89); and Cum laude (3.50 to 3.74). In order to be eligible, students must also have earned 60 hours of UIC coursework with 42 hours earned before entering the final semester.

The revised criteria will retain the current levels of distinction and the corresponding ranges of grade point averages. However, the criteria will be revised to make the awarding of University Honors based solely on coursework earned at UIC, not the cumulative grade point average which reflects all college coursework earned at any institution. Further, the minimum hours of earned UIC coursework will be changed to be in alignment with the University's Enrollment Residence Requirement which states that students must: complete the first 90 or last 30 semester hours at UIC, with the exception of the College of Business Administration which requires students to complete the last 30 semester hours, and must complete at least one-half of the semester hours required in their major area of study at UIC.

Under the revised criteria, a student who satisfies the Enrollment Residence Requirement and whose UIC grade point average falls within the ranges for distinction will be awarded University Honors. These changes are being made in order to meet the goals initially envisioned for University Honors of creating a more universally understood system that celebrates student achievement, and because current criteria adversely impacts transfer students who have been successful at UIC. By making the UIC grade point average the sole determinant for University Honors, the importance of

the UIC academic experience is emphasized and University Honors is then based on the grade point average which appears on the official University transcript.

Establish the Concentration in Health Care Informatics in the Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems, College of Business and Management, Springfield

The Springfield Senate with the recommendation of the College of Business and Management has approved the establishment of a concentration in Health Care Informatics in the Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems.

The creation of the Health Care Informatics concentration in the Management Information Systems major will allow students an opportunity to pursue specialty coursework and apply technical and business principles to the emerging highly technical field of health care delivery services. The 18 hour concentration, which will be offered in both blended and online formats, will meet the employment demands of regional, State, and national employers in health care delivery systems including but not limited to clinics, hospitals, and insurance companies.