

PRESIDENT'S REPORT ON ACTIONS OF THE SENATES

Establish an Undergraduate Minor in Social Work, School of Social Work, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the School of Social Work to establish an undergraduate minor in Social Work.

The undergraduate minor in Social Work is designed for students interested in combining a primary academic area with social welfare and professional social work content. It emphasizes synthesis and application of social work theories, policies, and research in the development of comprehensive solutions to major social problems.

Establish a Graduate Concentration in Bioengineering in the Master of Science in Bioinformatics, College of Engineering and the Graduate College, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Engineering and the Graduate College to establish a graduate concentration in Bioengineering in the Master of Science in Bioinformatics.

The proposed Bioengineering concentration in the Master of Science in Bioinformatics will provide advanced training in aspects of bioinformatics that pertain to the dynamic and complex behavior of biomolecular systems in the contexts of tissues, organs, and disease. This will prepare students for employment in research laboratories in academia, government, and the private sector, especially those with a biotechnology, pharmaceutical, or bioengineering focus. The concentration will ensure that molecular

biology and biotechnological principles as well as more traditional fundamentals (quantitative genetics, statistical genomics, imaging and analysis, systems approaches, etc.) are adequately covered in the degree.

Establish an Undergraduate Minor in Art and Design, College of Fine and Applied Arts, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Fine and Applied Arts to establish an undergraduate minor in Art and Design.

The undergraduate minor in Art and Design provides students with the opportunity to integrate creative art and design practices with other academic or research pursuits. Students selecting the minor do not necessarily wish to pursue a career as a practicing artist or designer, but do want the chance to work creatively in the visual arts and design, and develop related skills.

Eliminate the Psychiatric-Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist Concentration, Master of Science in Nursing, and Doctor of Nursing Practice, College of Nursing and the Graduate College, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Nursing and the Graduate College has approved the elimination of the Psychiatric-Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist Concentration within both the Master of Science in Nursing and the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree programs.

The College of Nursing currently offers two concentrations in psychiatric-mental health, one for Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNS) and one for Nurse Practitioners.

The concentrations were developed during a time when both roles were viable career options in mental health. In recent years, interest in the CNS role in mental health has diminished. More significantly, professional certification for the CNS role has been eliminated.

Only the Clinical Nurse Specialist Concentration is being eliminated. The concentration for Nurse Practitioners will remain.

Rename the Psychiatric-Mental Health Clinical Nurse Practitioner Concentration as the Family Psychiatric-Mental Health Clinical Nurse Practitioner Concentration, Master of Science in Nursing and Doctor of Nursing Practice, College of Nursing and the Graduate College, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Nursing and the Graduate College has approved the renaming of the Psychiatric-Mental Health Clinical Nurse Practitioner Concentration within both the Master of Science in Nursing and the Doctor of Nursing Practice as the Family Psychiatric-Mental Health Clinical Nurse Practitioner Concentration.

The renaming is necessary to reflect changes in accreditation and certification requirements within advanced practice mental health nursing which state the concentration must reflect a lifespan focus. In addition to the change in name, existing coursework within the concentration has been enhanced to include content about mental health across the lifespan.

The degree requirements and total number of credit hours for Master of Science and Doctor of Nursing Practice remain the same. No other changes have been made.

Establish the Concentration in Rural Pharmacy Services within the
Doctor of Pharmacy, College of Pharmacy, Chicago

The Chicago Senate with the recommendation of the College of Pharmacy has approved the establishment of the Concentration in Rural Pharmacy Services within the Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD).

The College of Pharmacy offers the PharmD at both the Chicago and Rockford campuses. Students enrolled at the Rockford campus can apply for entry into the Rural Pharmacy Education Program (RPHARM). The RPHARM program was created to address the continued shortage of pharmacists in Illinois, particularly in rural regions of the State, and is part of the Rural Health Professions Program at Rockford which utilizes an interdisciplinary curriculum to train both pharmacy and medical (RMED) students for the unique challenges of practicing in rural communities. Of approximately 50 PharmD students at Rockford, 15 are enrolled in the RPHARM program, the first cohort of whom will complete their degree in May 2014. Only Rockford students are eligible for the concentration.

The PharmD with Rural Pharmacy Services concentration will require 135 hours, two hours more than the PharmD alone. The concentration is comprised of six hours of specialized coursework (which count toward half of the electives required for the PharmD) and a two-hour capstone project. In addition, three of six Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) courses taken in the fourth year are completed in the same rural community to provide a longitudinal experience. The capstone project is based upon work completed during these APPEs.

The concentration will formally acknowledge the specialized education and clinical preparation RPHARM students receive. It is believed to be the first of its kind in U.S. colleges of pharmacy, and has the potential to provide students with a competitive advantage when seeking professional employment.