Approved by the Board of Trustees

November 14, 2024

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Board Meeting

November 14, 2024

# ELIMINATE THE MASTER OF JURISPRUDENCE, UIC SCHOOL OF LAW, CHICAGO

**Action:** Eliminate the Master of Jurisprudence, UIC School of Law

**Funding:** No funding required

The chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the advice of the University of Illinois Chicago Senate and the UIC School of Law, recommends the elimination of the Master of Jurisprudence (MJ).

The Master of Jurisprudence is a degree for non-lawyers. In 2019, the Master of Jurisprudence program was transferred over from the law school’s predecessor institution, The John Marshall Law School, when the law school was acquired by the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC). However, the program is currently dormant, with admission having been suspended in 2020 due to the low number of qualified applicants. There are no students currently enrolled in the program, with all but one of its concentrations having been eliminated already in 2020. This decision also follows from a review by the UIC Senate Committee on Educational Policy Program Review Council, which recommended that the law school consider suspending or canceling the degree program.

There are no significant impacts associated with the elimination of the degree program, as it has already been inactive for several years. The law school will instead focus its administrative resources on the Juris Doctor, its primary degree program, while formally eliminating any courses associated solely with the MJ program, as these courses have not been offered since the law school’s acquisition by UIC.

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. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further senate jurisdiction is involved.

The president of the University of Illinois System recommends approval. This action is subject to further review by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.