

Board Meeting  
November, 18, 2010

ESTABLISH THE CENTER FOR CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH, COLLEGE OF  
MEDICINE, CHICAGO

**Action:** Approve the Establishment of the Center for Cardiovascular Research,  
College of Medicine

**Funding:** No New Funding Required

The Chancellor at Chicago with the advice of the Chicago Senate, the Graduate College, and the College of Medicine, recommends the establishment of the Center for Cardiovascular Research.

The mission of the Center for Cardiovascular Research is to discover the fundamental mechanisms of cardiovascular disease and translate those discoveries into clinical utility.

The Center for Cardiovascular Research was approved by the Illinois Board of Higher Education on a temporary basis in 2004, and is now being proposed for permanent approval. During the temporary period, the Center has attracted approximately \$54.0 million in external funding.

The goals of the Center are to create knowledge that transforms understanding of cardiovascular science for application to the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of diseases of the heart and blood vessels; to provide trainees at all levels a unique educational experience involving basic and clinical

scientists studying questions from molecular to clinical levels; to impact the citizens of Chicago and the State of Illinois in facing the challenges of cardiovascular disease through enhanced training of health care professionals and in educational programs associated with national efforts of organizations such as the American Heart Association and the Heart Failure Society of America; to provide a point of interaction between the University and industrial partners; and to promote philanthropy targeted for cardiovascular research in partnership with internal and external advisory boards and university and college development officers.

In view of the economic impact of death and disability from cardiovascular disease, the Center for Cardiovascular Research addresses a high priority for the region and the State. The track record of the Center in meeting educational needs is clearly indicated by support from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for two training grants providing research training for 18 fellows. This is one of the largest NIH-funded training programs in the United States. Recent studies arising from Center investigators have provided new blood tests for sudden death risk. Investigators in the Center did seminal studies on the protein, troponin, which is used as a marker for heart attacks worldwide. Faculty in the Center for Cardiovascular Research operate clinical trials to develop new therapies for the afflictions currently besetting the people of Chicago, Illinois, and the world.

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 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. This action is subject to further review and approval by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.