

**NEW UNITS OF INSTRUCTION, PUBLIC SERVICE,  
AND RESEARCH AT PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES**

**Submitted for:** Action.

**Summary:** This item requests approval of three degree programs at three public universities.

**Action Requested:** That the Illinois Board of Higher Education approves the following:

Chicago State University

- Bachelor of Arts in International Studies

Governors State University (out-of-region authority)

- Bachelor of Health Administration

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

- Bachelor of Science in Health



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

**NEW UNITS OF INSTRUCTION, PUBLIC SERVICE,  
AND RESEARCH AT PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES**

By statute, the Illinois Board of Higher Education is responsible for approving new on-campus and off-campus units of instruction, organized research, and public service, and units of administration proposed by public university governing boards. The Board's approval criteria, defined in rules adopted for administering the statute, address university mission, academic control, faculty and staff, support services, financial resources, student demand, curriculum, statewide need, and congruence with Board policies and priorities. In addition to the approval criteria in rules, each new program was reviewed for its contributions to the goals of *IBHE 2011*, which sets forth new priorities to guide Illinois higher education in the first decade of the new millennium. Staff recommendations are based on analyses of application materials and responses to staff questions, and, for advanced degree programs, recommendations of external consultants.

**Chicago State University**

**Proposed Program Title:** Bachelor of Arts in International Studies

*Projected Enrollments:* The University projects initial enrollment of seven full-time students rising to 35 students by the fifth year.

**Background**

Chicago State University (CSU) seeks authority to grant the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in International Studies in the Chicago Region. Developed through a collaboration among the College of Arts and Sciences departments of History, Philosophy, and Political Science, the proposed program is designed to provide students with an understanding of international issues and problems, extend skills needed to engage the global community in a variety of careers and from a variety of international perspectives, and to provide knowledge of basic forms of international behavior and interaction. The proposed program has been designed to make use of existing faculty and facility resources and can be implemented at no additional cost to the University.

*IBHE 2011*

The B.A. in International Studies will address the following goals of *IBHE 2011*:

*Goal 1 - Affordability: To ensure that college is affordable for all Illinoisans, particularly low-income students.* Chicago State University provides an affordable, public university option to students in the Greater Chicago area and beyond. The B.A. in International Studies will meet the need for globally-trained graduates at no additional cost to the state or the University.

*Goal 3 - Diversity: To increase access and success in more diverse college student body and faculty ranks, including those with disabilities.* Chicago State University is among the most diverse public universities in the state and the nation. The University's student demographics reflect its location and mission: the Fall Semester 2006 class is 80% Black (non-Hispanic), 8% Hispanic, 3% White (non-Hispanic), 1% Asian/Pacific Islander and 8% Other. Female students outnumber males by a ratio of almost three to one. The majority of CSU students are commuter students. Moreover, a substantial proportion of the students have dependent children and/or employment obligations. The University serves its mission proudly and with great success; it ranks first in Illinois and seventh in the nation in graduating African-American college students.

*Goal 4 - Efficiency: To promote efficiency and accountability in higher education operations.* By leveraging existing physical and intellectual assets on the CSU campus, the B.A. in International Studies meets a rising need at no additional cost to the campus or to the state.

### **Comparable Programs in Illinois**

No Illinois public universities offer an undergraduate degree in international studies. Seventeen Illinois private universities and colleges offer such a degree, but at a substantially higher cost to the students than would be available at a public institution.

### **Mission and Objectives**

*1050.30(a)(1): A) The objectives of the unit of instruction, research or public service are consistent with the mission of the college or university; B) The objectives of the unit of instruction, research or public service are consistent with what the unit title implies.*

The mission of CSU commits the University to "meeting the educational needs of promising graduates from outstanding secondary schools as well as educating students whose academic and personal growth potential and promise may have been inhibited by lack of economic, social, or educational opportunity." In addition to furthering the CSU mission, the International Studies degree will directly support the University's strategic goals as set forth in the Chicago State University Strategic Plan 2006. Strategic Goal 1 reads, "Improve recruitment, retention and graduation of a culturally and economically diverse student body while increasing the number of well-prepared and academically able students entering the nurturing environment that facilitates development of the whole person to become an accomplished, balanced, civil, competent, caring, creative global citizen." The goal of the International Studies degree is to increase the number of well-prepared and academically able students concerned with international studies and related academic and career possibilities in the CSU student population. The proposed program supports the mission of the University and of the College of Arts and Sciences, and the proposed program is consistent with what the program title implies.

### **Curriculum and Assessment**

*1050.30(b)(1) [applicable only to units of instruction]: A) The caliber and content to the curriculum assure that the objectives of the unit of instruction will be achieved; B) The breadth and depth of the curriculum are consistent with what the title of the unit of instruction implies; C) The admission and graduation requirements for the unit of instruction are consistent with the stated objectives of the unit of instruction; D) Provision is made for guidance and counseling of students, evaluations of student performance, continuous monitoring of progress of students toward their degree objectives and appropriate academic record keeping.*

*1050.30(a)(2): The design, conduct, and evaluation of the unit of instruction, research or public service are under the direct and continuous control of the sponsoring institution's established processes for academic planning and quality maintenance.*

### Admission Requirements

Formal admission for degree candidacy will occur after having attained sophomore standing and having completed the fifteen hours of required core coursework.

### Curriculum

The International Studies degree will offer its students a curriculum consisting of 42 credit hours of course work. The instructional component of the International Studies degree will feature a more intensive foreign language requirement, a core curriculum of 15 hours, an area or component specialization, a study abroad or internship experience, and a senior level methods and writing course. In addition, all students are required to complete the general education requirements of the University and the College of Arts and Sciences.

The core curriculum includes five required courses: POS 150: The World in Crisis, HIS 220: Key Problems in World History, ECON 203: Comparative Economic Systems, GEO 110, Globalization and Diversity, and ANT 101: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology.

Students must complete a second year of foreign language study, an internship or study abroad experience, and 12 hours in a concentration (International Economics and Business; International Relations/Comparative Government/International Law; International History, Culture, and Society; International Language and Literatures; International Public Health; and International Environmentalism). Students must also complete a senior capstone course for 3 hours of credit.

### Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes

Regular assessment at all levels is an integral and essential part of the International Studies degree. Measurable student outcomes include academic performance, student satisfaction, and student retention and graduation rates.

All matriculating International Studies degree students will be asked to complete an assessment to identify risk factors in students' skills and attitudes. Upon admission to candidacy students will take the International Studies degree assessment instrument. Together with their stated interests in international studies and future graduate/professional school or career goals, students will be advised as to course selection. Students nearing the completion of their final semester will take the assessment again. Comparison of the two will amount to a pre- and post-test assessment of whether the International Studies degree is successfully addressing the needs of its students.

### Program Assessment

The success of the International Studies degree Curriculum will be assessed through course-based assessment and major program assessment. The latter will involve creation of an assessment instrument (to be given on admission to candidacy and in one's final semester), a writing sample, exit and alumni surveys, and reflective assessments.

### **Facilities (space, equipment, instructional materials)**

*1050.30(a)(4): A) Facilities, equipment and instructional resources (e.g., laboratory supplies and equipment, instructional materials, computational equipment) necessary to support the high quality academic work in the unit of instruction, research or public service are available and maintained; B) Clinical sites necessary to meet the objectives of the unit of instruction, research or public service; C) Library holdings and acquisitions, owned or contracted for by the institution, that are necessary to support high quality instruction and scholarship in the unit of instruction, research and public service, are conveniently available and accessible, and can be maintained.*

Current facilities in the College of Arts and Sciences will be sufficient to support this program.

#### **Library**

Current library resources in place to support the History, Philosophy, and Political Science programs at the University are expected to be sufficient to support the proposed program.

### **Faculty and Staff**

*1050.30(a)(3): A) The academic preparation and experience of faculty and staff ensure that the objectives of the unit of instruction, research or public service are met; B) The academic preparation and experience of faculty and staff, as evidenced by level of degrees held, professional experience in the field of study and demonstrated knowledge of the field, ensure that they are able to fulfill their academic responsibilities; C) The involvement of faculty in the unit of instruction, research or public service is sufficient to cover the various fields of knowledge encompassed by the unit, to sustain scholarship appropriate to the unit, and to assure curricular continuity and consistency in student evaluation; D) Support personnel, including but not limited to counselors, administrators, clinical supervisors, and technical staff, which are directly assigned to the unit of instruction, research or public service, have the educational background and experience necessary to carry out their assigned responsibilities.*

The B.A. in International Studies will utilize current and future faculty in the departments of History, Political Science, and Philosophy and courses currently offered in these departments.

### **Fiscal and Personnel Resources**

*1050.30(a)(5): A) The financial commitments to support the unit of instruction, research or public service are sufficient to ensure that the faculty and staff and support services necessary to offer the unit of instruction, research or public service can be acquired and maintained; B) Projections of revenues necessary to support the unit of instruction, research or public service are based on supportable estimates of state appropriations, local tax support, student tuition and fees, private gifts, and/or governmental grants and contracts.*

This proposal is a no-cost program request. Upon approval, the program will be housed in the Department of History, Philosophy, and Political Science, within the College of Arts and Sciences, which has the administrative and other resources needed to facilitate the program's operation.

## **Accreditation and Licensure**

*1050.30(b)(3) [applicable only to units of instruction]: Appropriate steps have been taken to assure that professional accreditation needed for licensure or entry into a profession as specified in the objectives of the unit of instruction is maintained or will be granted in a reasonable period of time.*

*Reporting Requirement (Board Policy, April 2002): Programs in which state licensure requires specialized accreditation for students to obtain professional licensure, but which have not yet achieved accreditation, will undergo full review and report to IBHE every three years until accreditation is achieved.*

Chicago State University is a member of the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. No additional programmatic accreditation is required.

## **Need**

*1050.30(a)(6): A) The unit of instruction, research or public service is educationally and economically justified based on the educational priorities and needs of the citizens of Illinois; B) The unit of instruction, research or public service meets a need that is not currently met by existing institutions and units of instruction, research or public service.*

The target population for the International Studies degree consists primarily of students within Chicago State University's recruitment area who have a strong motivation to succeed and whose academic interests relate to international studies and related fields. Many students with these kinds of interests already enroll at Chicago State, but at present there is no academic vehicle for organized study from a specifically international and global perspective. There is a demonstrable demand for an academically rigorous college program that simultaneously can provide the academic and social support to facilitate this type of study.

## **Program Information**

*1050.30(b)(2) [applicable only to units of instruction]: The information which the institution provides for students and the public accurately describes the unit of instruction, including its objectives, length, residency requirements if any, schedule of tuition, fees, and all other charges and expenses necessary for completion of the unit of instruction, cancellation and refund policies, student rights and responsibilities, and such other material facts concerning the institution and the unit of instruction as are likely to affect the decision of the student to enroll. Such information shall be available to prospective students prior to enrollment.*

Information about Chicago State University's Bachelor of Arts in International Studies, including a detailed description of the curriculum, admission requirements, tuition, fees, and other cost information, as well as CSU policies, will be published on the University's website. Comparable information about the program will be published in hard copy in the University's Undergraduate Catalog.

**Staff Conclusion.** The staff concludes that the Bachelor of Arts in International Studies proposed by Chicago State University meets the criteria to implement the Board of Higher Education Act (110 ILCS 205/et.seq.) as set forth in 23 Illinois Administrative Code, Ch. II,

Section 1050.30, and the Illinois Board of Higher Education policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation or licensure.

## **Governors State University**

### **Proposed Program Title:** Bachelor of Health Administration

*Projected Enrollments:* The University projects enrollments of approximately 20 students in each annual cohort.

## **Background**

Governors State University is seeking authority to grant the Bachelor of Health Administration (B.H.A.) degree in the West Suburban Region. Governors State University (GSU) currently has authority to grant this degree in the South Metro and Chicago regions. The proposed extension of the existing program will be delivered on the Triton College campus. The expansion of the B.H.A. program into the proposed region will meet the needs of the region, particularly employees of regional hospitals and healthcare facilities.

### *IBHE 2011*

The B.H.A. will address the following goals of *IBHE 2011*:

*Goal 1 - Affordability: To ensure that college is affordable for all Illinoisans, particularly low-income students.* GSU tuition is the lowest among public universities in Illinois. The B.H.A. is designed to accommodate part-time students taking evening courses, which is appealing to those who need to work to support their education.

*Goal 2 - Attainment: To improve educational attainment for all Illinois students through a seamless P-20 system of high-quality teaching and learning, through an increased focus and outreach to non-traditional students, and through stronger emphasis on preparing graduates in high-demand workforce areas.* The proposed extension program targets non-traditional students, including community college students seeking a 4-year education.

*Goal 3 - Diversity: To increase access and success in more diverse college student body and faculty ranks, including those with disabilities.* The extension site is located in an area boasting a highly diverse population, including adult learners and other underrepresented groups. The B.H.A. has been specifically designed to address the needs of these students for a baccalaureate completion program in a healthcare field.

*Goal 4 - Efficiency: To promote efficiency and accountability in higher education operations.* The proposed program leverages the intellectual and physical assets of GSU and its delivery partner to provide baccalaureate completion opportunities to community college students seeking a 4-year degree.

## **Comparable Programs in Illinois**

The GSU Program is the only state-supported undergraduate health administration program in the Chicago metropolitan area, and it is the only Association of University Programs of Health Administration (AUPHA) certified program in the south and southwest suburbs of Chicago. There are five similar programs in the Chicago region: health information management,

health services management, public health with emphasis on health administration, and health care leadership. Loyola University of Chicago offers an AUPHA certified health services management program, but did not produce any graduates in 2007. Chicago State University offers health information administration, with 4 graduates in 2007. Similarly, Western Illinois University offers a health services management program with 10 graduates in 2007. Northern Illinois University provides a bachelor of public health, with emphasis on health administration. Another similar program is the Health Care Leadership program offered by National-Louis University (NLU) at several off-campus locations including Chicago, Elgin, and Skokie. Although the NLU program is not a health administration program, it may meet a similar demand for health care administrators/managers in healthcare organizations. There were 86 graduates from the program in 2007, compared to 58 graduates from the GSU program.

### **Mission and Objectives**

*1050.30(a)(1): A) The objectives of the unit of instruction, research or public service are consistent with the mission of the college or university; B) The objectives of the unit of instruction, research or public service are consistent with what the unit title implies.*

Governors State University (GSU) is a public, upper division and graduate level institution located approximately 35 miles south of downtown Chicago. As such, GSU undergraduate students enter their studies at the junior level. Therefore, all of GSU's undergraduate students are transfer students.

Consistent with its mission, GSU has agreements with many area community colleges that help ensure proper transfer of courses. In particular, Triton College and GSU have a formal articulation agreement allowing graduates of Triton College and residents of Triton's district to complete two undergraduate and two graduate degrees through GSU in Triton's University Center. The Bachelor of Health Administration degree program through GSU will be the 5<sup>th</sup> degree program offered through the University Center. Given the nature of the program, Triton College's University Center is a central location to offer the program and serve the employees at University of Chicago Hospital, surrounding hospitals and healthcare facilities, family service agencies, insurance providers and medical group management agencies.

The proposed program will provide a quality, generalist undergraduate health administration curriculum to a diverse group of students, preparing them for entry level and mid-level management positions in a variety of healthcare organizations. Healthcare is the largest industry in the U.S. and demand for skilled and trained administrators is on the rise.

### **Curriculum and Assessment**

*1050.30(b)(1) [applicable only to units of instruction]: A) The caliber and content to the curriculum assure that the objectives of the unit of instruction will be achieved; B) The breadth and depth of the curriculum are consistent with what the title of the unit of instruction implies; C) The admission and graduation requirements for the unit of instruction are consistent with the stated objectives of the unit of instruction; D) Provision is made for guidance and counseling of students, evaluations of student performance, continuous monitoring of progress of students toward their degree objectives and appropriate academic record keeping.*

*1050.30(a)(2): The design, conduct, and evaluation of the unit of instruction, research or public service are under the direct and continuous control of the sponsoring institution's established processes for academic planning and quality maintenance.*

## Admission Requirements

Entrance requirements into the proposed program are identical to those currently employed on the GSU campus. Entrance to the University requires at least 60 credit hours from another accredited college or university. No more than 75 lower division credits can be transferred from another institution and counted toward the degree.

## Curriculum

The proposed program is designed to serve older adults who have completed prerequisite coursework and who wish to complete the baccalaureate degree of health administration. The proposed program is designed to provide students with an understanding of the healthcare system and the major functional areas of healthcare management. The program requires 120 semester hours of coursework including 60 hours of general education. Core courses consist of 51 semester hours in public health, information systems, accounting, economics, marketing, management, finance, human resources, statistical methods, and ethics. Nine semester hours of electives are also included in the program. The curriculum requirements for the out-of-region program are identical to those at the home campus.

## Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes

A capstone course evaluates students through case studies. The students are expected to review, analyze, evaluate, and synthesize each case from management, consumer, and societal perspectives by utilizing competencies gained through the program courses.

A practicum is designed to integrate the didactic part of the curriculum with application. The student is expected to apply competencies gained from the program to management practice. At the conclusion of a student's practicum the preceptor is required to complete an assessment of the student's abilities as related to the project and to his/her overall abilities and potential. These assessments are discussed with students and are used as a final piece of advisement. The evaluations are especially useful to evaluate career marketability, leadership ability, communication skill, technical and conceptual competence, and professional socialization and ethics.

## Program Assessment

The process of evaluating the proposed program involves students, faculty, alumni, and preceptors. The program evaluation is designed to demonstrate achievement of the program's mission, goals, and objectives. Data collected in this process will be used to prepare a progress report during the third year of operation and for the IBHE's eight year program review process.

Student Admission Questionnaire: As part of the admission requirement, all applicants will complete a detailed questionnaire concerning their backgrounds and needs.

Student Pre-Graduation Surveys: As part of the graduation process, all students will complete a detailed questionnaire concerning their perceptions of the quality of the program. The results will be incorporated into the program's self-assessment strategies and used to inform quality improvement.

Student Evaluation of Instruction: University policy dictates that every course taught be evaluated by students. The University provides standard forms that are distributed by faculty at the completion of each course. Each faculty member receives the completed forms after they are scanned and summarized and then reviewed by the chair and dean.

Faculty Curriculum Review: Program faculty as a whole periodically discuss coverage within existing courses of new, relevant, and important issues. When an important issue develops in the field, the faculty discusses where in the curriculum it should be covered or whether it should be covered in one course or across multiple courses. This review will ensure the courses offered in the proposed program are updated to incorporate the most recent trends in the healthcare industry.

Preceptor Review and Assessment: At the conclusion of a student's field placement, the preceptor is required to complete an assessment of the student's abilities as related to the project and to his/her overall abilities and potential. These assessments are discussed with students and are used as a final piece of advisement.

Faculty Review/Evaluation: The proposed program will share the same GSU faculty including the undergraduate program director. All GSU faculty undergo annual reviews based on their performance in the areas of Teaching/Primary Duties, Scholarship, and Service relative to the approved Department Criteria for Retention and Tenure. In addition to multi-level reviews of faculty performance, suggestions for areas of improvement for subsequent years are included. For untenured faculty to be retained each year through tenure, they must exceed the minimum requirement as specified within the Department Criteria.

#### **Facilities (space, equipment, instructional materials)**

*1050.30(a)(4): A) Facilities, equipment and instructional resources (e.g., laboratory supplies and equipment, instructional materials, computational equipment) necessary to support the high quality academic work in the unit of instruction, research or public service are available and maintained; B) Clinical sites necessary to meet the objectives of the unit of instruction, research or public service; C) Library holdings and acquisitions, owned or contracted for by the institution, that are necessary to support high quality instruction and scholarship in the unit of instruction, research and public service, are conveniently available and accessible, and can be maintained.*

Adequate instructional and support facilities are provided through Triton College. Online supports are made available to enrolled students and additional support is provided by the community college partner.

The University Library has extensive online resources for access by students at off-campus locations. In addition, the University Library works closely with faculty and students to provide both face-to-face and distance-based support and information in a timely manner.

Virtual computing and library resources are available from Governors State University's main campus online, and face-to-face support is available at Triton College. In addition, on-site physical computer facilities are available at both sites through cooperation with Triton College.

Academic advising for Triton College students will be performed by the undergraduate advising office to provide the greatest continuity and consistency of service between on- and off-campus programs.

GSU's Career Services Office also has available resources and materials online for ready access by students and alumni.

Instructional support equipment, (DVD players, projectors, laptops, etc.) are made available to instructors as needed.

### **Faculty and Staff**

*1050.30(a)(3): A) The academic preparation and experience of faculty and staff ensure that the objectives of the unit of instruction, research or public service are met; B) The academic preparation and experience of faculty and staff, as evidenced by level of degrees held, professional experience in the field of study and demonstrated knowledge of the field, ensure that they are able to fulfill their academic responsibilities; C) The involvement of faculty in the unit of instruction, research or public service is sufficient to cover the various fields of knowledge encompassed by the unit, to sustain scholarship appropriate to the unit, and to assure curricular continuity and consistency in student evaluation; D) Support personnel, including but not limited to counselors, administrators, clinical supervisors, and technical staff, which are directly assigned to the unit of instruction, research or public service, have the educational background and experience necessary to carry out their assigned responsibilities.*

The faculty teaching at the extension site will consist of tenure/tenure-track faculty and adjunct faculty who also teach on-campus. It is the policy of GSU that adjunct faculty teaching at the undergraduate level must be credentialed at least with a master degree in the discipline and significant practical experience in the areas to be taught. The hiring and evaluation of the faculty and adjuncts is done in the same manner as the hiring and evaluation of the faculty/adjuncts teaching on the GSU campus.

An academic advisor working at the GSU campus will also provide assistance in guiding course work by clarifying pre-requisite course requirements. This advisor also will provide guidance in identifying students' internship placement sites.

The faculty who teach at the extension site will provide the same number of office hours for direct interaction with students. Office hours will be set prior to the class time on the day of class to facilitate convenience for adult and part-time students.

The program will have an orientation for enrollees to address what is expected of them and to inform them about University support services. This orientation will be held each semester.

### **Fiscal and Personnel Resources**

*1050.30(a)(5): A) The financial commitments to support the unit of instruction, research or public service are sufficient to ensure that the faculty and staff and support services necessary to offer the unit of instruction, research or public service can be acquired and maintained; B) Projections of revenues necessary to support the unit of instruction, research or public service are based on supportable estimates of state appropriations, local tax support, student tuition and fees, private gifts, and/or governmental grants and contracts.*

No new state resources are requested to establish this program. The proposed program will be supported through the reallocation of existing resources and tuition paid by students enrolled in the program.

## **Accreditation and Licensure**

*1050.30(b)(3) [applicable only to units of instruction]: Appropriate steps have been taken to assure that professional accreditation needed for licensure or entry into a profession as specified in the objectives of the unit of instruction is maintained or will be granted in a reasonable period of time.*

*Reporting Requirement (Board Policy, April 2002): Programs in which state licensure requires specialized accreditation for students to obtain professional licensure, but which have not yet achieved accreditation, will undergo full review and report to IBHE every three years until accreditation is achieved.*

The B.H.A. program at GSU is certified by the Association of University Programs in Health Administration.

## **Need**

*1050.30(a)(6): A) The unit of instruction, research or public service is educationally and economically justified based on the educational priorities and needs of the citizens of Illinois; B) The unit of instruction, research or public service meets a need that is not currently met by existing institutions and units of instruction, research or public service.*

The GSU Bachelor of Health Administration program serves the south and southwest suburbs of Chicago. The proposed program mainly targets place-bound students at Triton College and residents in the Triton School district. Through the proposed program, GSU can extend its services to the near western suburbs of the city of Chicago, where approximately 331,000 people reside in 25 demographically and culturally diverse towns and villages.

## **Program Information**

*1050.30(b)(2) [applicable only to units of instruction]: The information which the institution provides for students and the public accurately describes the unit of instruction, including its objectives, length, residency requirements if any, schedule of tuition, fees, and all other charges and expenses necessary for completion of the unit of instruction, cancellation and refund policies, student rights and responsibilities, and such other material facts concerning the institution and the unit of instruction as are likely to affect the decision of the student to enroll. Such information shall be available to prospective students prior to enrollment.*

Information about Governors State University's Bachelor of Health Administration, including a detailed description of the curriculum, admission requirements, tuition, fees, and other cost information, as well as GSU policies, will be published on the University's website. Comparable information about the program will be published in hard copy in the University's Undergraduate Catalog.

**Staff Conclusion.** The staff concludes that the Bachelor of Health Administration program proposed by Governors State University meets the criteria to implement the Board of Higher Education Act (110 ILCS 205/et.seq.) as set forth in 23 Illinois Administrative Code, Ch. II, Section 1050.30, and the Illinois Board of Higher Education policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation or licensure.

## University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

### Proposed Program Title: Bachelor of Science in Health

*Projected Enrollments:* The University projects initial enrollments of 100 students in the program's first year, rising to 400 students by the fourth year and beyond.

### Background

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) requests authority to offer the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Health in the Prairie region. The proposed B.S. degree is designed as an interdisciplinary program that brings together the range of health-related disciplines found on the UIUC campus. The degree is structured in such a way as to facilitate participation in a wide variety of research and field experiences in the health sciences. Internships will be available in research laboratories in areas such as community health, physical activity and health, cognitive aging, prevention and health, neuroscience, rehabilitative aspects of disability, health impact of communication disorders, and healthy communities. In addition, the program has been developed to provide a focus on health-related aspects of disabilities by building connections with the UIUC Disability Resources and Educational Service division; to link with funded research projects related to Physical Activity and Obesity; to form close ties to the UIUC Center on Health, Aging, and Disability; and to build bridges with Central Illinois Health Providers. By utilizing existing academic and physical assets, the University expects to introduce the new degree program with no need for new state funds.

### *IBHE 2011*

The B.S. in Health will address the following goals of *IBHE 2011*:

*Goal 1—Affordability: To ensure that college is affordable for all Illinoisans, particularly low-income students.* Scholarships and grants-in-aid are available to qualified students including those in financial need. Health students will be eligible to apply for a wide-variety of student awards.

*Goal 2 – Attainment: To improve educational attainment for all Illinois students through a seamless P-20 system of high-quality teaching and learning, through an increased focus and outreach to non-traditional students, and through stronger emphasis on preparing graduates in high-demand workforce areas.* The proposed degree program will partner with K-12 public schools to examine issues related to the health of children and youth. The College of Applied Health Sciences (AHS) has developed a number of on-going collaborations with school districts across the state that will be available to Health students and faculty with interests in children and youth. The College is committed to quality educational instruction and has identified the following five strategic priorities in the area of education and learning; (1) revise and reform the undergraduate and graduate curriculum to include more discovery courses, capstone experiences, community projects, and team-based learning opportunities; (2) provide incentives and resources for faculty to employ cutting edge educational technology to develop creative curricular offerings; (3) increase the number of graduate-only courses; (4) increase opportunities for innovative learning experiences, including distance learning, team-based learning, and cross-campus curricular partnerships; and (5) increase opportunities for student participation in research experiences.

*Goal 3 – Diversity: To increase access and success in more diverse college student body and faculty ranks, including those with disabilities.* AHS is committed to improving faculty and student diversity, including people with disabilities. AHS has a large proportion of minority and international students and is one of the most diverse colleges on the UIUC campus as assessed by the gender and race of faculty and students. For example, 47 percent of the students in the Community Health program are minorities. AHS faculty are active in the mentoring of African American, Latina/o, and Native American students as evidenced by the success of AHS faculty and students in receiving National Institutes of Health minority fellowships. The Disability Resources and Educational Services division (DRES) is housed in AHS and has a 60-year history of facilitating educational and vocational opportunities for individuals with disability.

### **Comparable Programs in Illinois**

There are no similar interdisciplinary undergraduate Health degrees at state institutions of higher education in Illinois. A unique feature of this degree is that it is not housed within a specific academic department. Rather, students from a wide range of academic backgrounds will take courses from a wide range of health-related disciplines, preparing the students to address interdisciplinary health issues such as inactivity, obesity, and diabetes. The new degree will create increased professional opportunities in areas such as health behavior change, wellness promotion, and disability prevention.

### **Mission and Objectives**

*1050.30(a)(1): A) The objectives of the unit of instruction, research or public service are consistent with the mission of the college or university; B) The objectives of the unit of instruction, research or public service are consistent with what the unit title implies.*

National and state demographic trends predict unprecedented increases in the number of older individuals and persons with disabilities for the foreseeable future. In addition, health-related difficulties associated with a range of societal trends and conditions, such as inactivity, obesity, and diabetes, create increased professional opportunities in areas such as health behavior change, wellness promotion, and disability prevention. One of the consequences of these demographic shifts is a substantial increase in the need for students trained in health-related sciences and for the advancement of the knowledge base underlying the delivery of those services.

The health needs of a diverse society are best served by individuals who possess interdisciplinary competence and who are prepared to study and apply knowledge across traditional fields of knowledge. The same holds for meeting the needs of a population whose health can be improved with carefully guided behavioral change. In response to these needs, the proposed interdisciplinary major in Health aims to graduate individuals who will take leading roles in improving health and well-being in the state, the nation, and across the globe. Some graduates from this program of study will enter the workforce immediately, while others will pursue professional or graduate degrees after attaining the B.S. in Health. The degree is structured in such a way as to serve as a pre-professional undergraduate program for a range of biomedical careers including medicine, dentistry, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and public health. The significant number of electives (24-28 hrs) will enable students to work with their academic advisors to design a program ideally suited to meet the entry requirements for post-graduate study in a range of biomedical and health-related graduate programs.

The proposed program supports the mission of the University, and the program objectives are consistent with what the title implies.

### **Curriculum and Assessment**

*1050.30(b)(1) [applicable only to units of instruction]: A) The caliber and content to the curriculum assure that the objectives of the unit of instruction will be achieved; B) The breadth and depth of the curriculum are consistent with what the title of the unit of instruction implies; C) The admission and graduation requirements for the unit of instruction are consistent with the stated objectives of the unit of instruction; D) Provision is made for guidance and counseling of students, evaluations of student performance, continuous monitoring of progress of students toward their degree objectives and appropriate academic record keeping.*

*1050.30(a)(2): The design, conduct, and evaluation of the unit of instruction, research or public service are under the direct and continuous control of the sponsoring institution's established processes for academic planning and quality maintenance.*

### **Admission Requirements**

Entry requirements for the degree will be consistent with those set for prospective undergraduate students at UIUC. No special entry requirements are needed for the degree.

### **Curriculum**

The proposed undergraduate degree program is interdisciplinary in nature, focusing on applied health and societal issues across a range of traditional fields. The proposed degree will be housed in the College of Applied Health Sciences, under the guidance and management of the College. The program of study includes a set of core courses that focus on applied health, afford students with basic knowledge of applied health issues, and include one course specifically focusing on the nature of interdisciplinary education. The degree program also includes a set of three concentrations, of which a student must complete at least one, that emphasize major societal issues: health and aging, health and behavior change, and health and diversity. Finally, the degree program includes a capstone experience with several options for completion: a practicum experience, an internship, or engagement in faculty-guided research experience. The program of study addresses a major need in the state of Illinois and across the nation for graduates prepared to enter a range of applied health fields and/or to pursue graduate study in health fields.

The proposed Health degree program is designed to be completed within four years. A minimum of 128 hours of undergraduate credit is required; 36-39 hours of coursework are required in the UIUC General Education program. In addition, 42 hours of coursework are required in the health core; as well as 22-23 hours within one of three concentrations. Finally, 24-28 hours of electives are available for students to develop personalized academic programs. Most of the courses of the health degree are conducted in traditional face-to-face delivery.

### **Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes**

Graduates of the program will be able to function effectively in the applied health professions and will exhibit a wide range of knowledge, skills, and abilities that include the ability to analyze a health-related problem for the factors amenable to planned change, the ability to design and implement health interventions and/or education programs for specific populations and in a variety of organizations; the ability to collaborate successfully with lay people and

professional colleagues including a wide variety of health workers; the ability to provide consultation, training, direction, and technical assistance in the development, expansion, and improvement of community-based applied health programs and services; the ability to assist in obtaining and managing resources needed to implement and evaluate applied health interventions and programs, and the ability to identify and apply basic principles and techniques of research and evaluation in applied health.

#### Program Assessment

The assessment plan calls for the evaluation of student, faculty, and programmatic performance using a variety of formative and summative evaluation procedures designed to ensure constant quality assurance.

#### **Facilities (space, equipment, instructional materials)**

*1050.30(a)(4): A) Facilities, equipment and instructional resources (e.g., laboratory supplies and equipment, instructional materials, computational equipment) necessary to support the high quality academic work in the unit of instruction, research or public service are available and maintained; B) Clinical sites necessary to meet the objectives of the unit of instruction, research or public service; C) Library holdings and acquisitions, owned or contracted for by the institution, that are necessary to support high quality instruction and scholarship in the unit of instruction, research and public service, are conveniently available and accessible, and can be maintained.*

The University anticipates the space needs for the Health degree program to be modest. Existing classrooms, teaching and research laboratories, offices, and meeting and student space will be sufficient to meet the needs of the new degree. Furthermore, because the foundation for the Health degree is built on the programs within the College of AHS and guided by the faculty of the units, no new library resource needs are anticipated.

#### **Faculty and Staff**

*1050.30(a)(3): A) The academic preparation and experience of faculty and staff ensure that the objectives of the unit of instruction, research or public service are met; B) The academic preparation and experience of faculty and staff, as evidenced by level of degrees held, professional experience in the field of study and demonstrated knowledge of the field, ensure that they are able to fulfill their academic responsibilities; C) The involvement of faculty in the unit of instruction, research or public service is sufficient to cover the various fields of knowledge encompassed by the unit, to sustain scholarship appropriate to the unit, and to assure curricular continuity and consistency in student evaluation; D) Support personnel, including but not limited to counselors, administrators, clinical supervisors, and technical staff, which are directly assigned to the unit of instruction, research or public service, have the educational background and experience necessary to carry out their assigned responsibilities.*

The College of Applied Health Sciences has more than 50 faculty members with expertise in disciplines germane to the study of Health. The addition of a new interdisciplinary program of study in Health will have modest budgetary implications for the College. An academic advisor dedicated to serving students in the program will be essential to ensure appropriate guidance and oversight of student needs. Internal reallocations will be made, within AHS, to ensure availability of seats in key courses for the interdisciplinary major students, and

some adjustments in capacity in key courses may be needed. The University anticipates that, over time, increased enrollment in the Health program of study will defray costs associated with program management. The Health program will initially be managed with current AHS faculty resources. However, if this program grows over time, additional faculty may be needed.

### **Fiscal and Personnel Resources**

*1050.30(a)(5): A) The financial commitments to support the unit of instruction, research or public service are sufficient to ensure that the faculty and staff and support services necessary to offer the unit of instruction, research or public service can be acquired and maintained; B) Projections of revenues necessary to support the unit of instruction, research or public service are based on supportable estimates of state appropriations, local tax support, student tuition and fees, private gifts, and/or governmental grants and contracts.*

No new state resources are required for this program. Given the interdisciplinary nature of the program, the coursework used for the major comes from existing courses offered by outside units.

### **Accreditation and Licensure**

*1050.30(b)(3) [applicable only to units of instruction]: Appropriate steps have been taken to assure that professional accreditation needed for licensure or entry into a profession as specified in the objectives of the unit of instruction is maintained or will be granted in a reasonable period of time.*

*Reporting Requirement (Board Policy, April 2002): Programs in which state licensure requires specialized accreditation for students to obtain professional licensure, but which have not yet achieved accreditation, will undergo full review and report to IBHE every three years until accreditation is achieved.*

The University is a member of the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. No programmatic accreditation is available for the proposed program.

### **Need**

*1050.30(a)(6): A) The unit of instruction, research or public service is educationally and economically justified based on the educational priorities and needs of the citizens of Illinois; B) The unit of instruction, research or public service meets a need that is not currently met by existing institutions and units of instruction, research or public service.*

The demand for professionals ready to work in applied health-related fields vastly exceeds the supply of current graduates, both in the state of Illinois and across the nation. Societal demographics will continue to contribute to this need in the coming years as the population ages. In addition, health-related difficulties associated with a range of societal trends and conditions, such as inactivity, obesity, and diabetes, create increased professional opportunities in areas such as health behavior change, wellness promotion, and disability prevention.

Also, the undergraduate population in the College of AHS has increased significantly over the past decade, and faculty numbers have also increased in recent years. The College

serves a significant number of inter-college transfer students, primarily students who have not declared a major upon admission to the University. There is a growing interest in applied health fields among the UIUC undergraduate population. Many AHS undergraduates seek a general applied health education, preparing them to enter a range of fields and/or to pursue graduate studies. Thus, an interdisciplinary program of study, managed at the level of the College, serves both student interest and societal demand.

### **Program Information**

*1050.30(b)(2) [applicable only to units of instruction]: The information which the institution provides for students and the public accurately describes the unit of instruction, including its objectives, length, residency requirements if any, schedule of tuition, fees, and all other charges and expenses necessary for completion of the unit of instruction, cancellation and refund policies, student rights and responsibilities, and such other material facts concerning the institution and the unit of instruction as are likely to affect the decision of the student to enroll. Such information shall be available to prospective students prior to enrollment.*

Information about the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's Bachelor of Science in Health, including a detailed description of the curriculum, admission requirements, tuition, fees, and other cost information, as well as UIUC policies, will be published on the University's website. Comparable information about the program will be published in hard copy in the University's undergraduate catalog.

**Staff Conclusion.** The staff concludes that the Bachelor of Science in Health proposed by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign meets the criteria to implement the Board of Higher Education Act (110 ILCS 205/et.seq.) as set forth in 23 Illinois Administrative Code, Ch. II, Section 1050.30, and the Illinois Board of Higher Education policies pertaining to assessment and accreditation or licensure.

The staff recommends adoption of the following resolutions:

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants to Chicago State University Authorization to Grant the Bachelor of Arts in International Studies subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.*

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants to Governors State University Authorization to create the Bachelor of Health Administration in the West Suburban and Chicago Regions subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.*

*The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby grants to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Authorization to create the Bachelor of Science in Health and the Master of Science in Taxation subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.*

