Proposal to the Senate Educational Policy Committee

PROPOSAL TITLE: Transfer Administration of the Programs of the Illinois Informatics Institute to the School of Information Sciences.

SPONSOR: Allen Renear, Interim Director, Illinois Informatics Institute
Professor, School of Information Sciences
Special Advisor for Strategic Initiatives, Office of the Provost

Lisa Bievenue, Director for Informatics Programs,
Illinois Informatics Institute.

Eunice Santos, Dean, School of Information Sciences

COLLEGE CONTACT: Allen Renear Interim Director, Illinois Informatics Institute, Professor, School of Information Sciences, (217) 390-9369, renear@illinois.edu.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

In accord with the recommendations of the I3 Transition Task Force (Appendix III) we propose transferring the administration of the programs of the Illinois Informatics Institute (Informatics) from the Office of the Provost to the School of Information Sciences. This will be a hosting relationship that preserves the cross-campus nature of these programs and provides for governance from multiple colleges.

Name: Going forward the programs of the Illinois Informatics Institute will be referred to collectively as *Informatics,* which is already commonly used as the short name for the Illinois Informatics Institute. The name "Illinois Informatics Institute" will no longer be used.

Organization: Informatics will be *hosted* by the School of Information Sciences (it will not become an entity *within* the School of Information Sciences). The Informatics budget will be included, under a separate Banner code, in the iSchool budget. All Informatics staff will become iSchool staff. The Director for Informatics Programs will manage Informatics programs and staff.

Staffing: There are no plans to reduce staff and all full-time positions in Informatics will continue to exist with the current occupants in place following the transfer of administration. There are currently four full-time professional staff roles in the institute: Director for Informatics Programs, Coordinator for Informatics Education Programs, CU Community FabLab Director, and Project Coordinator. After the transition the position of Director of the Illinois Informatics Institute, currently held as a 10% appointment by Allen Renear (School of Information Sciences), will not exist and those responsibilities will be assigned to Director for Informatics Programs, currently Lisa Bievenue. The role of Director of Graduate Studies, currently held by the interim Director of the Institute, will be assigned by an appointment process described below.

Programs; Informatics has responsibility for three academic programs: the PhD in Informatics, the Informatics Minor, and the MS in Bioinformatics; and one public engagement program: the CU FabLab. The Informatics PhD, the MS in Bioinformatics, and the CU FabLab will continue to be cross-campus programs hosted by the School of Information Sciences. The Informatics Minor will become a program within the School of Information Sciences, but will continue to be operated by Informatics staff as a cross-campus program with multi-college governance.

Each program is governed by a program committee as required by the original senate proposals establishing the programs Appendix IV. All committees include cross-campus representation.

JUSTIFICATION:

The Illinois Informatics Institute was established in December 2007 in response to the University Strategic Plan's recommendation for enhancing our national prominence in information and computation. The institute was established to foster multi-disciplinary collaboration, offer courses and academic programs, and sponsor interdisciplinary research in informatics and its applications. The activities of the institute were designed to ensure that *any* student on campus would be able to become an effective user of information technology, to promote the University as a preferred base for multi-institutional informatics research projects, to ensure that the strength of our campus in computing broadly benefits its community, and to increase external funding, especially to units not already receiving appreciable funding for informatics research.

Informatics has accomplished much, and continues to make vital contributions to the University. The Informatics Minor is the second largest minor (of 70) at the University; INFO courses generated 4,989 IUs in AY2019; the unique cross-campus PhD program has 45 students with advisors throughout the University; the MS in Bioinformatics provides and important opportunity in several departments; and the CU FabLab has a multitude of programs and activities (2325 visitors, 457 hours of courses, workshops, and events).

Informatics not only makes a critical contribution to the University's curriculum, but substantially outperforms other STEM units in enrollment of women and students from under-represented groups, and for many University students outside STEM fields courses from Informatics provide important education in information technologies.

Although these accomplishments are impressive and important to the University, the institute did not develop on the scale originally intended. In FY2009 the Institute had offices and student space in NCSA, a direct state budget allocation of nearly a million dollars, and was expected to grow rapidly and play the leading role in the University's informatics strategy. Today the institute has a state budget of c. $430K, has had an interim director for eight years, and is challenged for adequate administrative infrastructure and appropriate integration into the University's academic organization. Moreover, the institute no longer has an official organizational status at the University as it did not file a proposal for a change to permanent status within the required period.

Although Informatics has important successful programs, its unique organizational location (it is the only academic entity directly under the Provost), lack of infrastructural and organizational

support, and anomalous financing (it is a centrally funded, not activity funded, academic entity) results in administrative vulnerabilities, inefficiencies, limited impact, and lack of integration with University strategic directions. The new budget model will further exacerbate these challenges. Protecting these programs and students, creating needed efficiencies, and taking advantage of emerging opportunities requires a more secure and supportive position at the University.

The School of Information Sciences (iSchool) has had a long-standing close relationship with the institute and its programs has been often suggested as a likely organizational home. The current proposal reflects that consensus but at the same time also recognizes that Informatics programs should continue to play an integrating cross-campus role at the University, involving faculty and students from other colleges, and with all programs governed by committees with required representation from multiple colleges. For these reasons a hosting arrangement is recommended.

The Informatics PhD and the MS in Bioinformatics will continue as cross-campus Informatics programs, only hosted by the School of Information Sciences rather than administered by the Office of the Provost. The Informatics Minor will also continue as originally established, but will be formally located at the School of Information Sciences; this transfer will not affect the representation or nature of the program, which will also continue to be administered as an Informatics program managed by a multi-college governing committee, exactly as it is now. [This transfer of work is intended to ensure that in any future reorganization the School of Information Sciences would continue to administer the minor; obviating any need for School of Information Sciences to develop a separate minor, which would inevitably by similar in content to the Informatics minor.]

BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS: *(Please respond to each of the following questions.)*

1) Resources
   a. How does the unit intend to financially support this proposal?

      Currently the main source of financial support for Informatics is a state budget of about $430,000 that is allocated directly from the Provost's office and is based only on estimated expenditures. Informatics does not receive an IU-based allocation even though it offers courses (INFO) and often pays the instructors.

      Under the hosting arrangement and consistent with the proposed new budget model Informatics will transition from a budget allocation that is based on estimated need to an allocation based primarily on IUs from courses taught by instructors paid by Informatics. During the period of transition it is anticipated that IU-based revenue will grow and the direct allocation from the Provost's office will fall proportionately. It is unlikely that there will be any significant direct costs that would need to be covered by the iSchool and the indirect benefits to the iSchool of being more closely involved in Informatics programs, which are deeply synergistic with iSchool programs, will outweigh any possible additional costs to the iSchool.

In addition the integration of Informatics administration into the larger iSchool organization should create some net cost savings for the University over time, as well result in a more robust support structure for Informatics staff and students.

Finally, the position of Director of the Illinois Informatics Institute, currently held by Allen Renear (Professor, School of Information Sciences), will be discontinued and the Director for Informatics Programs, (an already existing filled position) will assume those responsibilities.

b. How will the unit create capacity or surplus to appropriately resource this program? If applicable, what functions or programs will the unit no longer support to create capacity?

The iSchool will not need to develop additional revenue in order to host Informatics.

c. Will the unit need to seek campus or other external resources? If so, please provide a summary of the sources and an indication of the approved support.

No additional campus or external resources will be sought, beyond the temporary and diminishing continuation of current support as described above.

d. Please provide a letter of acknowledgement from the college that outlines the financial arrangements for the proposed program.

Letter from Dean Eunice Santos included as Appendix I.

2) Resource Implications
   a. Please address the impact on faculty resources including the changes in numbers of faculty, class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratios, etc.

   Informatics does not have its own faculty and we anticipate no significant impact on University faculty resources more generally. Although the current modest growth in Informatics minors, PhD advisees, and courses offered may continue, for the most part Informatics will probably be advising approximately the same number of students in the same programs, offering the same number of courses with the same section sizes. It will continue to draw on the same sources for instructors, teaching assistants, and doctoral advisors as it does now.

   b. Please address the impact on course enrollment in other units and provide an explanation of discussions with representatives of those units. *(A letter of acknowledgement from units impacted should be included.)*

   No specific impact can be identified as no particular significant change in current enrollments is projected.

Letters of support from the College of Fine and Applied Arts, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Gies College of Business, Graduate College, College of Engineering, NCSA, the Library, and the Department of Computer Science are included in Appendix II.

c. Please address the impact on the University Library *(A letter of estimated impact from the University Librarian must be included for all new program proposals. If the impact is above and beyond normal library business practices, describe provisions for how this will be resourced.)*

These changes will not will place any new or unique demands on either collections or personnel.

[Letter from John Wilkin, Dean of Libraries and University Librarian, included in Appendix II]

d. Please address the impact on technology and space (e.g. computer use, laboratory use, equipment, etc.)

Informatics has been located in NCSA; they are now in leased space provided by the iSchool. No additional resources are anticipated.

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE: August 16, 2020.

STATEMENT FOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY CATALOG: *(All proposals must include either a new or revised version of the entry in the Programs of Study Catalog, if applicable. Entries will be published as approved by the Senate. Future changes in the statement for Programs of Study Catalog which reflect changes in the curriculum, must go through the normal review process at the appropriate levels.)*

No change in the Programs of Study statement is needed.

CLEARANCES: *(Clearances should include signatures and dates of approval. **These signatures must appear on a separate sheet.** If multiple departments or colleges are sponsoring the proposal, please add the appropriate signature lines below.)*

Signatures:

Eunice Santos   April 6, 2020

_____   _____
Unit Representative: Date:

Eunice E. Santos
Dean and Professor
School of Information Sciences
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Eunice Santos   April 6, 2020

_____   _____
College Representative: Date:

Eunice E. Santos
Dean and Professor
School of Information Sciences
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

_____   _____
Provost Representative: Date:

BACK MATTER

APPENDIXES

I: College letter on financial arrangements

II: Letters of Support

III: Report from I3 Transition Task Force:
Proposal for Repositioning the Illinois Informatics Institute (2017-12-03)

IV: Staffing and Committees

Appendix I: College letter on financial arrangements
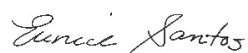
April 6, 2020

Financial Arrangements for Informatics Hosting

Per discussion with Allen Renear, Interim Director of Informatics:

> Informatics is an academic unit centrally funded by the Office of the Provost and does not receive tuition distribution based on students taught even when Informatics pays the instructor. The expectation is that going forward courses taught by instructors paid by Informatics will generate a tuition allocation according to the current formula which will be provided to Informatics. Over time, funding from the Office of the Provost will then be reduced in proportion to the recovered tuition and eventually eliminated. The popularity of Informatics courses and the Informatics minor, and the distributed nature of the PhD in Informatics and the BS in Bioinformatics provides financial viability.

It is anticipated that all Informatics staff will be retained in the School of Information Sciences, thus requiring no additional staff infrastructure to host Informatics.

The School of Information Sciences will have financial oversight for Informatics. Funds generated by Informatics will be used to support and advance Informatics and Informatics-related activities.

Eunice E. Santos
Dean and Professor
School of Information Sciences
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Appendix II: Letters of Support

College of Fine and Applied Arts

Gies College of Business

College of Media

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Department of Computer Science

University Libraries

COLLEGE OF FINE & APPLIED ARTS

Office of the Dean
100 Architecture Building
608 East Lorado Taft Drive
Champaign, IL 61820

March 30, 2019

The Senate Committee on Educational Policy;

I write to support the proposal to move programming currently associated with the Illinois Informatics Institute into the School of Information Sciences. Having witnessed the rise of the Institute and benefitted from its stewardship under the I-School, I see the proposed move as not only wise, but necessary. In my judgment, the programming associated with this initiative has been of great value, even as the framing of the original Institute was flawed. The proposed move resolves the weakest aspects of the original plan, while preserving the strengths. Given the I-School's clarified mission in recent years, the move to make Informatics Programming part of that unit also makes total sense.

I have advised students into the minor associated with the Informatics program since its inception. I have also served on dissertation committees for informatics PhD students, and made regular use of the Fab Lab. So I've had ample contact with most aspects of the program. Where the original idea for an institute grew out of a need to capture interdisciplinary interests and expertise, I never saw the Institute ever tend to the distinct challenges of fostering a truly interdisciplinary program. We didn't see new external grants aimed at the program, for example, or a coherent intellectual program formed in conversation with a particular external industry or philanthropic partner.

Instead, we saw informatics programming forming out of an understanding of distinct needs of users; undergraduates needed coursework in technical systems that met them where they were, and PhD students needed an armature around which to build a course of research in information studies. With its base in library science, the I-School understands users and services, and so was well-suited to stewarding this portfolio, especially when the steady (if broad) themes across these user groups lay in questions of organization, access, and generation of information.

The I-School has thus performed a model job of tending a poorly-formed initiative that ended up proving unexpectedly useful. With the I-School now moving into undergraduate studies and anchoring the aspect of data science that deals with the human, I think it is in an even better position now to host what was the Informatics Institute as simply a collection of programs appropriate to the I-School's mission.

I support this proposal wholeheartedly, and look forward to the programming's strengthening as a result of this move.

Kevin Hamilton
Dean and Professor

March 27, 2020

Prof. Allen Renear
Special Advisor for Strategic Initiatives
Office of the Provost
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Prof. Renear:

I am writing on behalf of the Gies College of Business to express our support for the transfer of the administration of the programs of the Illinois Informatics Institute (I3) to the School of Information Sciences. I appreciate your extensive consultations with us and your thoughtfulness in putting this proposal together.

The I3 programs are very important, especially in an era where nearly every industry and occupation is being disrupted by advances in data science. However, the current administrative structure has, as indicated in the proposal, led to inefficiencies and a lack of strategic integration. The School of Information Sciences (iSchool) is a logical home for I3 given both its intellectual fit and the iSchool's long-standing close relationship with I3.

I am confident that the iSchool will ensure that I3 continues to play an important role in integrating faculty and students from across campus, including Gies.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey R. Brown
Dean, Gies College of Business

ILLINOIS

COLLEGE OF MEDIA

Office of the Dean
119 Gregory Hall, MC-462
810 S. Wright St.
Urbana, IL 61801

March 27, 2019

Dear Allen,

Thank you for sharing the proposal for transferring the administration of the programs of the Illinois Informatics Institute to the School of Information Sciences. I support this repositioning, as I see it as a good arrangement for the Informatics programs and for the University as a whole. My faculty colleagues and I look forward to collaborating on areas of shared interest within this space.

Sincerely,

Tracy Sulkin
Dean

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

Office of the Dean
2090 Lincoln Hall, MC-448
702 S. Wright St.
Urbana, IL 61801

March 27, 2019

Allen Renear, Dean
School of Information Sciences
501 E. Daniel St.
Champaign, IL 61820

Dear Allen,

Thank you for sharing the Senate proposal to transfer the administration of the Illinois Informatics Institute to the School of Information Sciences. The proposal is consistent with the recommendations of the Provost's I3 Transition Task Force. I believe that your school's curricular focus and institutional support will help the Informatics programs thrive, helping to advance the work of students and researchers across the campus.

I am very happy to support this proposal and look forward to the growth of vibrant and active programs in Informatics.

Sincerely,

Feng Sheng Hu
Harry E. Preble Dean

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

University Library

Office of University Librarian and Dean of Libraries
230 Main Library, MC-522
1408 West Gregory Drive
Urbana, IL 61801

April 1, 2019

Allen Renear
renear@illinois.edu

Dear Dean Renear,

I write to offer my enthusiastic endorsement of the proposal to transfer administration of the programs of the Illinois Informatics Institute to the School of Information Sciences. The University Library has long had connections to and has benefited from I3 and our University's focus on informatics. I believe the proposed transfer will strengthen these important programs by providing a more appropriate administrative home. The Library will continue to engage with these programs and will work to ensure the success of the proposed administrative change.

It is critically important that the informatics activities be closely associated with existing research and education programs. As noted in the proposal, the Institute, as proposed, never flourished in the ways we expected. For a variety of reasons, it did not grow to be a pervasive presence that convened many parties on the campus. However, informatics remains important to the University, and not exclusively to the School of Information Sciences. That said, I believe all of the relevant deans appreciate the fact that the primary locus of work and interest in this area is in the School of Information Sciences. And, as pointed out in the proposal, I3 is the only effort of its sort located in the office of the provost: a more direct connection to a school or college will improve alignment of resources with the priority and success of our informatics efforts. The School of Information Sciences is the natural home for these activities. Moreover, the proposed measures to ensure appropriate multi-college governance will foster collaboration and meaningful connections across campus.

I am happy to endorse the proposed administrative change, and will work within the Library to ensure the success of the new arrangement. I would be glad to partner on programs and to be a convener of broader efforts, where desired and appropriate.

Sincerely,

John P. Wilkin
Juanita J. and Robert E. Simpson
Dean of Libraries and University Librarian

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

Thomas M. Siebel Center for Computer Science
201 N. Goodwin Ave.
Urbana, IL 61801-2302 USA

NANCY M. AMATO

Abel Bliss Professor and Head
2248 Siebel Center
namato@illinois.edu

April 6, 2020

Professor Allen Renear
Interim Director, Illinois Informatics Institute
Professor, School of Information Sciences
Special Advisor for Strategic Initiatives, Office of the Provost
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Professor Renear,

On behalf of the Computer Science Department, I support the proposed hosting arrangement for the Informatics programs within the School of Information Sciences.

These are important programs and this arrangement will provide them with needed stability as well as improved connections with University administrative offices.

Since the very beginning of the Illinois Informatics Institute, the Department of Computer Science has been involved in the development and operation of Informatics programs and we look forward to continuing to that involvement.

Sincerely,

Nancy M. Amato
Abel Bliss Professor and Head
Department of Computer Science

Appendix III: Proposal for Repositioning the Illinois Informatics Institute

Interim Provost John Wilkin convened the "I3 Transition Task Force" in 2017, with the charge of securing broad agreement among the deans of relevant colleges on transferring the administration of Informatics Programs to the School of Information Sciences.

The members were William Mischo (Interim Dean of Libraries), Chair; Jeffrey Brown (Dean, Gies College of Business), Andreas Cangellaris (Dean, Grainger College of Engineering), Wojtek Chodzko-Zajko (Dean, Graduate College), William Gropp (Director, NCSA), Peter Mortensen (Interim Dean, College of Fine and Applied Arts), Allen Renear (Dean, School of Information Sciences), and David Tewksbury (Executive Associate Dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences).

The Task Force report (included here) was submitted to Interim Provost Wilkin in December 2017. In January of 2018 Provost Wilkin asked Informatics and the School of Information Sciences to develop a senate proposal reflecting the general substance of the recommendations. The current proposal follows those recommendations closely.

Proposal for Repositioning the Illinois Informatics Institute
December 3, 2017
I3 Transition Task Force

Bill Mischo (Chair, Interim Dean of Libraries), Jeffrey Brown (Dean, Business), Andreas Cangellaris (Dean, Engineering), Wojtek Chodzko-Zajko (Dean, Graduate College), William Gropp (Director, NCSA), Peter Mortensen (Interim Dean, FAA), Allen Renear (Dean, School of Information Sciences), David Tewksbury (Executive Associate Dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences, LAS)

Rationale: The Illinois Informatics Institute (I3) has important successful programs, but its organizational location in the Office of the Provost results in weakened impact, unnecessary additional costs, and lack of integration with University strategic directions. The School of Information Sciences (iSchool) has had a long-standing close relationship with I3 and has been repeatedly suggested as a likely organizational home. The proposal reflects that consensus and also recognizes that I3 programs should continue to play an integrating role at the University, involving faculty and students from across campus.

Name: The Institute itself no longer has an official status at the University and so going forward the name "Illinois Informatics Institute" cannot be used. The programs of the Illinois Informatics Institute will be managed by the iSchool and referred to collectively as: Informatics.

The Informatics PhD: The PhD program in Informatics will continue to be a cross-campus program. It will be hosted at the iSchool and governed by a Doctoral Studies Committee (DSC) of 8-12 faculty members appointed by the Provost and responsible for overseeing curriculum, policy, advising, and admissions.

The Informatics Minor: the minor in Informatics will be located at the iSchool and governed by an Education Committee (EC) of 4-8 University faculty members appointed by the iSchool dean. Reflecting the long-standing cross-campus orientation of this minor and the intention to involve other colleges in its management and evolution, the governing committee will include representation from at least two other colleges. This committee will be responsible for overseeing curriculum, policy, and advising, as well as cross-campus collaborations or programmatic specializations.

FabLab: The FabLab will be hosted at the iSchool and governed by a FabLab Advisory Committee consisting of 6-12 members appointed by the Provost.

Staffing (excluding hourly, temporary, and graduate assistants)

I3 operations will be integrated into the iSchool and continuing staff (noted) will become iSchool employees.

o Director for Informatics Programs (Lisa Bievenue): Reports to the iSchool Associate Dean for Academic Affairs; oversees all informatics programs and grants held by Informatics.

o Informatics Program Coordinator (Karin Readel): Reports to the Director for Informatics Programs; coordinates administration, policy, and advising for both the Informatics PhD and the Informatics Minor; chairs the Education Committee, on the Doctoral Studies Committee ex officio

o FabLab Director (currently Jeff Ginger): Directs the FabLab.

o Director of Graduate Studies (tba; currently Renear): Oversees the PhD program; chairs the DSC.

Administrative support (Currently from Swanlund Shared Services): Will be provided by the iSchool

Funding: Central support will continue at the present level for three years. After that improvements in efficiency and income will reduce central funding. Tuition distribution will follow University policy.

Location: Informatics offices will continue to be located in NCSA.

Process: Following endorsement from the Provost and Council of Deans, and with advice from the Senate Executive Committee, these steps will be taken:

1) The three Informatics governance committees will be constituted

2) The iSchool Dean will convene a working group to develop and carry out final plans for the transition. The three Informatics governance committees will be consulted throughout.

Appendix IV: Staffing and Committees

Relevant Staff Roles

Director for Informatics Programs: The Director of Informatics Programs reports to the Dean of Information Sciences and is responsible for the general coordination of all Informatics activities and programs as well as Informatics staffing decisions and budget management. The Director is appointed by the Provost with advice from a search committee with broad representation from colleges involved in Informatics programs.

Coordinator for Informatics Education Programs: The Coordinator for Informatics Education Programs reports to the Director of Informatics Programs and is responsible for management, advising, and other support for the Informatics PhD, Informatics Minor, and the MS in Bioinformatics.

CU Community FabLab Director: The CU FabLab Director reports to the Director of Informatics Programs and is responsible for management and advancement of the CU Community FabLab.

Director of Graduate Studies: The Director of Graduate Studies is appointed by the Provost from nominations submitted by the iSchool dean following consultation with the Informatics PhD Governing Committee.

Program Committees

The academic programs of the Illinois Informatics Institute are each already formally established: the Informatics PhD in EP.09.75, the MS in Bioinformatics in EP.04.04 and EP.17.18, and the Informatics Minor in EP.07.59 and EP.15.72. The descriptions below are not intended to materially revise the existing definitions of those programs, or to alter the guidance of any other related policy documents, other than as minimally necessary to make and support the transfer of administration of these programs proposed above. The reasons for supplementation or adjustment to the existing description are:

1) Program committee size and service terms for the Informatics Minor and Informatics PhD, and service terms for the MS in Bioinformatics program committee, are not indicated in the respective proposals. Specifying these will support management and governance.

2) The procedure for selecting the chair of the Informatics PhD program committee is appointment by the Director of the Illinois Informatics Institute, a position that will no longer exist. Going forward appointment by the Provost will help ensure the cross-campus and interdisciplinary nature of this program.

3) The procedure for selection of the chair of the Bioinformatics Steering Committee is not indicated in EP.40.04 or elsewhere. It will be appropriate for the Dean of the Graduate College, who, as specified in EP.04.04, appoints committee members from nominations made by participating units, to appoint the chair as well.

4) There is only a single sentence defining the program committee for the Informatics Minor: "A steering committee with representation from the colleges will work with the Coordinator for Education Programs for I3 to provide oversight and direction for the

Minor" (EP.07.59). In addition to specifying service terms, committee size, and appointment procedures, placing additional constraints on committee composition, (requiring participation from at least three colleges other than the iSchool) will help ensure cross-campus and interdisciplinary nature of this program.

Informatics PhD: The Informatics PhD is a cross-campus program hosted at the iSchool. As specified in EP09.75 this program is overseen by a Governing Committee (GC) consisting of faculty members nominated by participating colleges and units and will include a representative from each of the five defined areas of Informatics and a representative from the Graduate College. With advice from the current GC and the Director for Informatics Programs the Provost will appoint committee members and the committee chair. The committee will have 8-12 members who will serve for renewable terms of years; the chair will also serve a renewable two year term.

MS in Bioinformatics: The MS in Bioinformatics is a cross-campus program. It is hosted at the iSchool and overseen, as specified in EP.04.04, by the Bioinformatics Steering Committee (BSC), consisting of one member from each of the currently approved participating units (as identified by those units); members will serve for renewable two year terms. The Dean of the Graduate College will appoint the BSC chair, who will also serve a renewable two year term.

Informatics Minor: Although it will be formally part of the School of Information Sciences, the Informatics Minor will be governed by the Informatics Minor Steering Committee (IMSC) as described in EP.04.59, and managed as a cross-campus Informatics program. With advice from the current IMSC and the Director for Informatics Programs the iSchool Dean will appoint 6-8 committee members and the committee chair for renewable two year terms; the committee chair will also serve a renewable two year term. The IMSC will always include a member from the Department of Computer Science and members from at least other two other colleges.

The Director for Informatics Programs, Coordinator for Informatics Education Programs, iSchool Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, and iSchool Dean, are members ex officio on all committees.

April 8, 2020

Sent Via Email

Professor Eric Meyer
Chair, Senate Educational Policy Committee

Dear Professor Meyer,

Attached is a proposal from the Illinois Informatics Institute and the School for Information Sciences to transfer the administration of the programs of the Illinois Informatics Institute from the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost to the School of Information Sciences. This transfer includes three specific academic programs, namely:

- The PhD in Informatics;
- The MS in Bioinformatics; and
- The undergraduate minor in Informatics.

This proposal has the support of the Graduate College and the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost. It now requires review by the Senate Educational Policy Committee.

Sincerely,

Kathryn A. Martensen

Kathryn A. Martensen
Assistant Provost for Educational Programs

Cc: A. Renear
        E. Santos
        W. Chodzko-Zajko
        J. Hart
        A. McKinney
        A. Edwards
        D. Forgacs
        E. Stuby