

ILLINOIS STATE
UNIVERSITY



University Curriculum Committee

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August 31, 2016

TO: Susan Kalter, Chairperson, Academic Senate

FROM: Claire Lieberman, Chair, University Curriculum Committee

RE: Executive Summary – Proposal for the New School of Information Technology Major in Cybersecurity, B.S.

The University Curriculum Committee has approved and is forwarding for Academic Senate consideration the attached proposal from Information Technology to add a new Major in Cybersecurity, B.S.

The School of Information Technology provided the following rationale for adding the new program:

- Computer security is an increasing need in today's interconnected world, and the market for information security professionals is also increasing.
- The School of Information Technology's Business and Industry Advisory Council recognizes a significant need in the field for information security professionals. The new major will provide opportunities for students and help to fulfill this important need.
- State Farm Insurance Company is providing financial and other support to help build Illinois State University's information security program because of their need for graduates in this area.
- ISU is currently considered a Center for Academic Excellence in Information Assurance/Cyber Defense Education by the National Security Agency and Department of Homeland Security. Based on the NSA/DHS program's changing criteria, a major in information assurance and security would help maintain this certification.
- The new program would replace the Information and Assurance and Security sequence in the Information Systems B.S. program once it is in place. This will allow the major to offer more security-specific courses and provide curricular flexibility for this new and very dynamic area.

The University Curriculum Committee supports the proposal to add this new major degree program.

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Attachments