UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT SPRINGFIELD
CAMPUS SENATE AY 2002/2003
RESOLUTION 32-9

On Changing the Name of the Illinois Legislative Studies Center name to Institute for Legislative Studies
WHEREAS, the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Center for Governmental Studies (ALPCGS) was officially created on July 18, 2002 by renaming the Institute for Public Affairs (IPA) and incorporating its functions into the larger ALPCGS with new initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Center for Government Studies at the University of Illinois at Springfield (UIS) has been asked to develop administer, and deliver academic programs and activities in partnership with the new Library and Museum; and

WHEREAS, a recommendation was developed in ALPCGS planning meetings that the Illinois Legislative Studies Center be renamed the Institute for Legislative Studies to standardize the nomenclature of ALPCGS research, training and technical assistance units and to better reflect the mission and activities of the unit; and

WHEREAS, the recommendation to rename the Illinois Legislative Studies Center to the Institute for Legislative Studies was unanimously approved by the ALPCGS Executive Committee, the ALPCGS Cabinet and the faculty the ALPCGS;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Campus Senate of the University of Illinois at Springfield approves changing the name of Illinois Legislative Studies Center name to Institute for Legislative Studies

Resolution: Proposal to Change the Name of the Illinois Legislative Studies Center to the Institute for Legislative Studies within the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Center for Governmental Studies

Introduction. The creation of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Center for Governmental Studies (ALPCGS) at UIS in July 2002 was the culmination of a two-year planning effort. The new ALPCGS resulted from a transformation of the existing Institute for Public Affairs (IPA) and its relocation to the Provost’s Office. The eight existing units of the IPA—the Center for Legal Studies, the Illinois Legislative Studies Center, the Office of Policy and Administrative Studies, the Survey Research Office, the Illinois Issues/Publications’ Unit, the WUIS/WIPA radio station, the GPCI/ILSIP internship programs—became the foundation upon which eight new initiatives were added. The new initiatives included: an expanded Lincoln Papers Project; a new Institute for Literacy in America; an
Institute for Leadership, Policy Education and Training; a Public Policy High School; a Summer Institute for High School Teachers; and their embedded programs such as a Lincoln Leadership Academy, annual Public Policy Summits, a Lincoln Legacy Lecture Series, and a number of fellowship, internship and grant opportunities.

In the late summer, the ALPCGS Planning Steering Committee, the ALPCGS Cabinet and the ALPCGS Executive Committees met at various points to discuss the organization of the new ALPCGS and the necessary steps needed to create necessary infrastructure and implement its vast program agenda. At one of these meetings, a Cabinet/Executive Committee retreat, it was realized that absorbing the existing research centers and public outreach units into the larger organizational institutes originally proposed would create unnecessary administrative layers within a well-functioning organization and submerge the well-established identities of the existing units. Rather, it was the consensus that existing units would continue to maintain a direct reporting structure to the Executive Director of the ALPCGS, while the new units were added to the structure.

Renaming the Illinois Legislative Studies Center

Because the new Abraham Lincoln Presidential Center for Governmental Studies is itself titled as a “center”, it was decided that the existing other “centers” would be renamed as institutes. This would help clarify the distinction between the ALPCGS and its respective units and also promote uniformity in identity between existing and new units. To this end, it was proposed that the Illinois Legislative Studies Center be renamed the Institute for Legislative Studies.

Although largely symbolic, this new name will create both visibility and broaden the venue of the Legislative Studies unit. Its fundamental mission will continue and it will retain a focus on the Illinois legislative processes, the new designation will reframe the unit’s identity to take advantage of research, training and public policy initiatives created through the larger domain of the ALPCGS.

At a general faculty meeting of the ALPCGS on 9/19/02, the faculty voted unanimously in favor of the proposed name change of the Illinois Legislative Center to the Institute for Legislative Studies.