

Board to vote on UIS curriculum change

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The University of Illinois at Springfield's transition to a four-year school could become official this week.

On Thursday, the University of Illinois Board of Trustees is expected to vote on a proposed new general education curriculum at UIS. If approved, the move will dramatically alter UIS's academic approach.

The proposal expands the existing Capital Scholars program to include a broader number of first-year students, said UIS spokeswoman Cheryl Peck. The school will maintain the original Capital Scholars curriculum, an honors sequence that began in 2001.

UIS was founded in 1970 as Sangamon State University, an upper-division school with no freshmen or sophomores.

Four-year students who enroll in the new general education curricu-

lum will be known as Capital Scholars. The original Capital Scholars program probably will be renamed the Capital Scholars Honors program. The U of I board is expected to vote on the name change Thursday.

A record number of students enrolled in the honors curriculum this fall, Peck said.

The school plans to admit more than 150 non-honors freshmen next fall, increasing to as many as 300 the total number of freshmen

enrolled in the two curriculums.

Also up for board approval is the appointment of Harry Berman as UIS provost and vice chancellor of academic affairs. Berman has been a teacher and administrator at the school for 28 years.

Berman, a professor in the human services program, has served as interim provost since January.

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