

## **PROPOSAL FOR A BSBA/MPA CO-TERMINAL DEGREE**

### Background:

- IIT allows up to 9 credit hours of graduate course work to be counted toward a B.S. degree if approved in a specific co-terminal degree combination.
- Currently, undergraduate business students take 9 free elective credits and 15 credits as part of a specialization

### Proposal:

- Creation of a co-terminal BSBA/MPA degree.
- Students could complete an undergraduate Business Administration and Public Administration graduate degree in 5 years. A business administration undergraduate degree is an excellent preparation for students who desire a career in nonprofit or public management. Increasingly, employers are seeking job candidates who have acquired the quantitative, analytic, economic and managerial skills taught in a business curriculum. The graduate curriculum complements the business curriculum by providing exposure to public and nonprofit sector decision-making, law, policy design and evaluation and research techniques.
- Students would take three graduate MPA courses to replace three of the undergraduate courses that are free electives. These courses would be taken while the student was an undergraduate and count toward the MPA degree.
- Completing both degrees separately requires 159 credits (126 for BSBA and 33 for MPA). The co-terminal degree would require 150 credits, with 9 credits counting toward both degrees.
- Students would be required to maintain a combined 3.0 GPA to be admitted to and to remain in a co-terminal degree.
- If approved, the BSBA/MPA co-terminal degree would be effective in the 2012-2013 academic year.