

PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION

Whereas, the International Writing Program (IWP) has been a valuable asset to the University of Iowa for over thirty years, has brought international attention to the University and enhanced its reputation around the world, has contributed to a culture of respect for and celebration of writing excellence, and has the respect and admiration of members of the faculty at the University, and

Whereas, the Task Force on the Future of the University of Iowa IWP has provided an informative report containing many useful options regarding the future of the IWP, particularly with respect to administration and staffing, creation of a local advisory group, size and duration of the program, and housing,

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the University of Iowa Faculty Senate

that the Senate affirms that the IWP is an important and distinctive asset to the University, and

that the Senate believes that the IWP should continue to be conducted as a residential program for foreign writers to visit the University of Iowa for extended periods of time primarily as writers-in-residence, and

that the Senate endorses the Task Force report and calls on the University administration to appoint an interim Director without delay and charge for her or him to set up a local advisory committee and develop a specific plan for the fiscal, academic, and administrative future of the IWP, and

that it is the sense of the Senate that a Director with permanent faculty appointment (aided by a Program Supervisor or Coordinator) should be in charge of all aspects of the IWP, including fund raising, and that the accumulated deficit of the IWP should be absorbed by the University, and

that the Senate, recognizing that there are many competing uses for scarce University resources, encourages administrators at all levels to engage in the fullest possible consultation with members of the faculty before engaging in the fundamental reallocations of funds and staff from University programs, and

that the Senate deplores the divisive rhetoric employed by some to express themselves regarding the IWP and encourages members of the community to engage in open and honest dialogue concerning this and other topics.