

## M e m o r a n d u m

To: University Senate

From: Blaine Lilly, Chair  
Council on Academic Affairs

Date: February 9, 2016

### A PROPOSAL FROM THE COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS TO ESTABLISH A MASTER OF ARTS IN BIOETHICS DEGREE PROGRAM, COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

WHEREAS the program will serve as the core for bioethics graduate study at the University, facilitating teaching, research, collaboration, and advanced training for healthcare professionals, practitioners, students and others seeking to engage in the moral dilemmas and life questions in the field of bioethics, and is particularly well-aligned with the Health and Wellness Discovery Theme; and

WHEREAS it will be an online program designed to appeal to current professionals in health-related fields, students in professional programs who wish to complement those degree programs through the study of bioethics, and other students who anticipate advanced graduate study in the medial humanities or social sciences, but who are undecided as to their disciplinary direction; and

WHEREAS the program will be administered through the Center for Bioethics and Medical Humanities, has the support of the Office of Distance Education and e-Learning, will include both full-time and part-time students with an expected initial class of 10-25 students, has core and elective courses, and has the resources in place to establish and maintain it; and

WHEREAS the proposal was reviewed and approved by a subcommittee and then by the full Council on Academic Affairs at its meeting on January 13, 2016; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the University Senate approve the proposal to establish a Master of Arts in Bioethics degree program, and respectfully request approval by the Board of Trustees.