**Proposed Bill Proposing New Process for Small Grant Applications through the Office of Sponsored Programs**

WHEREAS, funds from many sources that support scholarly research, including private foundations, are relatively small in dollar value; and

WHEREAS, these small funding awards are typically used solely to support research travel to, and/or per diem at, external locations; and

WHEREAS, the University should encourage scholarly activity of all levels and across all disciplines; and

WHEREAS, enhanced scholarly activities benefit the University by raising its academic profile and reputation; and

WHEREAS, the scholarly activities of many faculty are neither enabled nor supported by existing University Research Centers; and

WHEREAS, the University’s existing internal proposal preparation and approval process (the “process”) is oriented toward large extramural grants that, in part, include faculty and/or staff salary support; and

WHEREAS, the application of Facilities and Administrative fees (“F&A”) on small grants substantially reduces their value, scholarly impact, and usefulness; and

WHEREAS, the (a) process and (b) application of F&A can be onerous and therefore discourage faculty from seeking “small” funding awards to support scholarly activity,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Office of Vice President for Research and Economic Development and the Office of Sponsored Programs, in conjunction with the Office of Academic Affairs, develop a simplified proposal review and approval process (the “new process”) for any funding proposal less than or equal to $5000 that is limited to travel, per diem, or other costs directly related to scholarly activities.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the new process be developed in conjunction with representatives from the Faculty Senate and each College.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the new process be operational no later than the start of the Fall 2016 semester.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That F&A be automatically waived for any proposal less than or equal to a total of $2500 that is limited to travel, per diem, or other costs directly related to scholarly activities.