PROPOSED PROGRAM TERMINATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
B. A. PROGRAM IN LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND THE ARTS

Action Requested: Consider approval of the request by the University of Iowa to discontinue the B. A. Program in Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Executive Summary: The request to discontinue the Program is based on the fact that the program has not set sufficiently clear goals for student learning and is not organized in a way to provide general curricular review. Only one faculty member is appointed to the Program and no faculty recruitment efforts for the Program are anticipated. This request was reviewed by the Board Office and the Council of Provosts and is recommended for approval. There are no objections to the program termination. This request is consistent with the Board of Regents’ strategy (4.1.1) to “pursue opportunities to realize greater efficiency in operations, consistent with best practices in the delivery of education and other services.”

Background:

- The B.A. Program in Literature, Science, and the Arts was designed to introduce students to team-taught classes that bridged the sciences and the arts. This was a relatively cutting-edge concept 60 years ago, but it is not today. Currently, there are many opportunities throughout the university for students to undertake this type of study.

- The program was reviewed in Spring 2006 and the committee recommended terminating the program and its major.

- There are approximately 40 students who are program majors. These students will have the opportunity to continue until they graduate. Courses will be offered through August 2011, which should provide adequate opportunity for existing students to complete the program. No new students will be admitted into the program.

- There are no cost savings anticipated as a result of closing the program. The one faculty member will retain appointment in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Division of Interdisciplinary Programs, where the program currently exists.

- There is no impact anticipated on other programs.

Details about the program termination are available in the Board Office.