Feb. 17, 2014

To Members of the Program Creation and Reorganization Review Committee of the Faculty Senate,

We do not support the proposal to eliminate the Bachelor of Arts Programs in German and Latin because we believe that the loss of these programs will (1) seriously and needlessly diminish the educational and professional opportunities of our students, (2) interfere with the intellectual mission of our research in both the sciences and the humanities, (3) harm the reputation of our University among peers and potential students, and (4) weaken our ability to serve the secondary schools in our State.

While we are not unaware of the fiscal concerns that motivate the proposal, we believe that the injury to the Flagship’s mission and reputation outweighs the financial savings that were envisioned by the Academic Program Prioritization Working Group convened by President Kennedy in 2009-2010.

Respectfully submitted by:

Douglas Allen, Professor, Philosophy
Carla Billitteri, Associate Professor, English
Richard Blanke, Professor, History
Jay A. Bregman, Professor, History
Tony Brinkley, Professor, English; Senior Faculty Associate, Franco-American Center
Howard Cody, Professor, Political Science; Director, International Affairs
Steve Evans, Associate Professor, English; Acting Director, National Poetry Foundation
Kathryn Gaianguest, Associate Professor of Sociology, Emerita
James E. Gallagher, Associate Professor Emeritus and Honors Faculty
Robert Glover, CLAS-Honors Preceptor of Political Science
Alexander Grab, Adelaide & Alan Bird Professor of History
Michael Grillo, Associate Professor, Art History; Chair, Art
David Gross, Part-Time Associate Professor; Preceptor, Honors College
Clifton Guthrie, Associate Adjunct Professor, Honors College
Mark Haggerty, Associate Professor, Honors College
Sarah Harlan-Haughey, CLAS-Honors Preceptor of English
Michael W. Howard, Professor, Philosophy
Kirsten Jacobson, Associate Professor, Philosophy
Nico Jenkins, Adjunct Professor, Philosophy; Preceptor, Honors College
Roger King, Associate Professor; Chair, Philosophy
Michael Lang, Associate Professor, History
Jessica Miller, Associate Professor, Philosophy
Stephen M. Miller, Professor, History
Jennifer Moxley, Professor, English
Elizabeth Neiman, Assistant Professor, English
Nancy Ogle, Professor, Music
Susan Pinette, Associate Professor; Director, Franco American Studies
Deborah Rogers, Professor, English
Frédéric Rondeau, Visiting Assistant Professor, French
Howard P. Segal, Professor, History; Director, Technology & Society Project
Kathryn Slott, Associate Professor, French
Nathan Stormer, Associate Professor; Chair, Communication and Journalism
James Warhola, Professor; Chair, Political Science
Justin Wolff, Associate Professor, Art History; Director, UM Humanities Initiative