Numerous colleagues, including many in the Departments of English and Classics, and on the Honors Advisory Board, have formally expressed dismay at the proposed Program;

In 2005 the Honors Advisory Board rejected a similar Honors Foundation in Great Books sequence described in the University’s original proposal (dated February 3, 2005);

In 2005 over 100 faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences and across the University publicly condemned the University’s secretive negotiations over a similar program;⁴

The University has publicly reiterated its commitment to furthering undergraduate education in international and global studies and to an inclusive educational mission;⁵

Instructional faculty participating in the recent evaluation and revision of the undergraduate curriculum did not identify a need for additional courses or programs in western culture; and

The proposed program, by requiring disproportionate attention to “the West,” is intended to have a lasting influence on the direction of the curriculum which would reflect negatively on the quality, reputation, and image of the University;

Therefore be it resolved that the General Faculty of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill:

- Calls upon the Chancellor and the Administration of the College of Arts and Sciences to withdraw formally from negotiations over the proposal;
- Reiterates the faculty’s role as the primary arbiter of intellectual and curricular matters;
- Restates the faculty’s long-running commitment to academic freedom;
- Expresses grave concern at recent attempts to circumvent that role;
- Calls upon the Chancellor and Administration of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to implement policies and practices that faithfully preserve curricular integrity and transparency; and
- Calls upon the Chancellor and Administration of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to act in accordance with the spirit and letter of the rules established by the Task Force on Donations Affecting the Curriculum.

Appendix H

The Thomas Jefferson Award is given annually “to that member of the faculty who most closely approximates in his teaching and personal life the philosophy and conduct of Thomas Jefferson.” Among his many distinctions, Jefferson is particularly remembered for his dedication to the inalienable human rights and essential equality of all people, and for his vision of the growing American nation as a “valley of democracy,” in which all its citizens would experience the economic as well as political freedom necessary for the pursuit of their happiness.

The recipient of the Jefferson Award for 2006 has dedicated himself to these ideals with uncommon commitment for over four decades, devoting his career to expanding affordable housing for all Americans, and financial services and asset-building opportunities for poor and moderate-income families.

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³ The proposed program would be housed in Honors and the first course of the proposed sequence contains exclusively Greco-Roman material.
⁴ The letter, with a list of the first 71 signatories (33 more have since signed on) may be found at http://www.dailytarheel.com/media/storage/paper865/news/2005/03/01/OpionsLettersToTheEditor/Open-Letter From 71 Faculty To University Administrators-1363732.shtml?norewrite=200604171652&sourceDomain=www.dailytarheel.com or via a link at http://perrin.socscll.unc.edu
⁵ Moeser, James, “State of the University, 2005” (http://www.unc.edu/news/archives/sep05/stateofuniversity091505.htm); Faculty Council resolution 98-6 (http://www.unc.edu/diversity/facultystatement.html)
As a social worker in Brooklyn, New York, Michael Stegman realized that poor housing and community conditions played an important role in undermining the attempts that his clients were making to lift themselves from poverty. This led him to graduate study in City and Regional Planning, and on receiving his doctorate in 1966, he joined Carolina’s Department of City and Regional Planning where he conducted pioneering research on affordable housing. For a decade he also chaired that department, which has been ranked consistently among the top five in the country. Since 1997 he has served as the Duncan MacRae '09 and Rebecca Kyle MacRae Professor of Public Policy, and as founding chair of UNC’s Department of Public Policy.

Professor Stegman’s research has led repeatedly to new public policy initiatives to benefit low- and moderate-income households. In his 1991 book More Housing More Fairly, for instance, he demonstrated that the housing needs of the poor and near-poor could be met by redirecting some of the billions spent on homeowners’ tax breaks instead of increasing the federal budget deficit by new spending. In another study, he challenged proposals to reduce the availability of public rental housing, showing that most tenants could not afford other forms of shelter.

In 1997 he founded the Center for Community Capitalism in UNC’s Frank Hawkins Kenan Institute for Private Enterprise, to develop initiatives for increasing economic wealth and opportunities in inner-city communities. His research studies there have produced a steady series of influential reports aimed at improving the lives of the working poor in North Carolina and nationally, documenting and proposing solutions to such problems as housing costs of the working poor, lack of access to banking services and thus to other financial services such as auto and mortgage loans and retirement savings, and predatory and abusive lending practices.

In his 1999 book Savings and the Poor, for instance, he documented the fact that an estimated 13 percent of American families do not even have bank accounts, including one-third of all minority households, one out of four renters, and one out of six people under the age of 35. The study showed how the federal government could use direct deposit of federal benefits to create Individual Development Accounts (IDAs), special savings accounts that could help working poor families to build wealth and a better future, a proposal endorsed both by Senator Joseph Lieberman and by presidential candidate George W. Bush.

During the 1970s and again in the 1990s Professor Stegman served as a senior policymaker in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. As Assistant Secretary and Acting Chief of Staff he chaired the White House Working Group on President Clinton’s National Urban Policy Report, which emphasized moving families on welfare toward self-sufficiency, leveraging private investment for impoverished neighborhoods, promoting community development at the local level, and emphasizing work and financial responsibility. He headed the U.S. delegation to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements in Istanbul in 1996, "Habitat II," where he negotiated the United States’ agreement to the conference’s declaration of housing as a human right. He also created HUD’s Office of University Partnerships to support university collaborations with community and business groups in economically depressed urban neighborhoods; and he helped shape President Clinton’s proposal to eliminate federal capital gains tax on home sales of less than $500,000.

Professor Stegman is a Fellow of the Urban Land Institute, and in 1995 he was awarded the Richard T. Ely Distinguished Educator Award of Lambda Phi Alpha, the Honorary Society for the Advancement of Land Economics. In 1997 the National Journal named him one of Washington’s 100 most influential decision makers. Last year Professor Stegman’s contributions to humanity were further recognized in his appointment as Director of Policy for the Program on Human and Community Development of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. In that capacity he serves as the Foundation’s lead observer of domestic policy issues in the areas of affordable housing, community change, mental health, juvenile justice, education, and urban and regional policy.

Like Thomas Jefferson, Professor Stegman has devoted his life both to the pursuit of knowledge and to the use of that knowledge in public service to improve the lives of our country’s citizens, particularly its less fortunate ones. We are therefore very pleased to recognize him as this year’s recipient of the Thomas Jefferson Award.