

**INDIANA UNIVERSITY PURDUE UNIVERSITY INDIANAPOLIS
IUPUI
School of Liberal Arts**

Resources and Planning Committee

MEMORANDUM

TO: Phil Scarpino, President
SLA Faculty Assembly

FROM: Richard Gunderman, Chair

SUBJECT: Ph.D. Proposal in Economics

DATE: December 3, 2008

The Resources and Planning Committee met on Wednesday, November 5th and considered the proposal for a Ph.D. program in Economics.

The Committee was impressed by the content of the proposal and the strategic positioning of the program to focus on Health Economics and Nonprofit/Philanthropic Economics. These specialties take advantage of IUPUI's designation as the life sciences campus for Indiana University and of connections with the IU School of Medicine and the IU Center on Philanthropy, located on our campus. It is a bold step forward for the School and the Campus.

The Committee also had the opportunity to review a lengthy list of resource requirements which the Economics Department presented to Dean Blomquist. The Committee applauds the Department and the Dean for formally recognizing that such programs cannot be launched without a substantial resource commitment.

We also recognize that the state will not provide any start-up funds for such programs. It is up to the University, the Campus, the School, and the Department to find the resources to make the program work. The Dean has indicated that he is committed to working with the Department to find ways to assemble the necessary resources to offer a high-quality program. Dean Blomquist has indicated that the Department will not be asked to implement the program unless the necessary resources can be assembled. Strategies are being pursued with the Campus and the community. We do not pretend this will be easy. The Committee is agnostic as to whether the necessary resources can be assembled. The list of resource requirements is very complete and comprehensive. If these resources can be assembled, the Committee is confident that the Economics Department can offer a high quality program.

We believe the proposal should be allowed to proceed to higher levels of approval while the Dean and Department seek to garner the necessary resources to implement the program.