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MEMORANDUM

To: Donna E. Shalala, President

From: Richard L. Williamson
Chair, Faculty Senate

Date: April 22, 2010

Subject: Faculty Senate Legislation #2009-29(D) – Resolution pertaining to the Internal Road and the Gifford Arboretum

At its April 21, 2010 meeting, the Faculty Senate adopted the following resolution.

The Faculty Senate of the University of Miami,

Noting the inevitable damage to the Gifford Arboretum from the current internal road project, since a number of transplanted plants will not survive;

Alarmed at the loss of educational continuity of the Arboretum collection even if the plants are successfully transplanted;

Concerned that the interior road will cause additional pollution, noise and deteriorating safety on our campus;

Realizing that the proposed road is contrary to the interests of some of our neighbors, and poorly serves the legitimate concerns of others, when there are better alternatives that meet their interests in reduced traffic and slower traffic speeds;

Appalled at the enormous waste of University resources that building the internal road will involve; and

Saddened, that the funds necessary to complete all of the road project could be used to meet more pressing needs of the University,

Calls upon the City of Coral Gables and the University, in their respective roles, to:

1. modify the first phase of the internal road requirement, so as to eliminate the internal road running through the existing Arboretum;
2. retain the changes required by the Code in the parking areas south of the current access to the University fountain which are foreseen in phase 1 of the project, but at a slower pace so as to minimize the drain on University resources in any given year and reduce the disruption that this construction will unavoidably involve;
3. terminate entirely phase 2 of the road project in favor of a requirement for additional traffic calming measures on San Amaro and Campo Sano to slow traffic; and
4. continue to work with each other toward a favorable resolution of these matters.

Adopted this 21st day of April, 2010.

This legislation is now forwarded to you for your information.

RW/rh

cc: Thomas LeBlanc, Executive Vice President and Provost