A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE FACULTY OF NEWMAN UNIVERSITY AND REITERATING THE IMPORTANCE OF COMPREHENSIVE UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

Whereas, on October 25, 2023, Newman University announced that it would eliminate eight undergraduate majors—English, finance, history, marketing, mathematics, philosophy, social work, and theater—and terminate 10 faculty members, including tenured professors; and

Whereas, the Kansas Board of Regents has recently ordered state universities, including Wichita State University, to undertake a review of academic programs, with the potential for mandated program cuts at the end of this academic year; and

Whereas, Wichita State University markets itself as an "urban-serving" university with a commitment to providing excellent education to the students of the city of Wichita and the surrounding region; and

Whereas, the program closures at Newman University further limit the array of curricular options available to local students who want to pursue higher education in this region; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Wichita State University Faculty Senate reiterates its support for terminated Newman faculty; and be it further

Resolved, that the Faculty Senate encourages the administration of Wichita State University to give due consideration to the university's critical role in the region's educational and intellectual ecosystem as it conducts its mandated program reviews during this academic year, as well as during future academic program reviews.