



1
2 **Proposal to Support Universities Allied for Essential Medicines**
3

4 **Background:**
5

6 Universities Allied for Essential Medicines (UAEM) is a student advocacy group with chapters
7 at over twenty-five major research universities in the United States, Canada, and the United
8 Kingdom. UAEM has been campaigning for universities to acknowledge their role in global
9 public health, and to improve access to health goods in developing countries by changing their
10 technology licensing policies. (Background information attached)
11

12 **Preamble:**
13

14 Acknowledging that an unacceptable number of the global poor who need essential medicines
15 lack access to them; and,
16

17 Recognizing that university scientists are major contributors in the drug development pipeline,
18 conducting more than half of the United States' basic research and are responsible for important
19 health technologies; and,
20

21 Fully believing that universities have the power to help make medicines and health technologies
22 more accessible for the world's poor through their licensing policies; and,
23

24 Understanding that universities have an avowed commitment to advancing the public good, in
25 this case both locally and globally in accordance with the Penn Compact; and,
26

27 Aware that a decrease in the price of medicines typically correlates with greater access (for
28 individuals) in lower and middle income countries, and that generic competition is a means to
29 achieve low prices for patented medicines;
30

31 Cognizant that UAEM's mission has been adopted by GAPSA and various other student
32 organizations (see background information) making this a collaborative effort across all students
33 at the University of Pennsylvania; and,
34

35 Realizing that undergraduate support is integral to UAEM's ability to lobby their initiative to the
36 administration.
37
38
39
40
41

1 The Undergraduate Assembly hereby,

2

3 **Enactment:**

4

5 Supports UAEM and its two-fold mission to (1) promote greater access to biomedical end
6 products in low- and middle- income countries and (2) increase research conducted on neglected
7 diseases;

8

9 Further Supports UAEM's statement that "improving global human welfare is a primary goal of
10 university technology transfer";

11

12 Urges the University of Pennsylvania administration to incorporate the aforementioned statement
13 into its policies; and

14

15 Further Urges that the Office of the Vice Provost for Research operationalize that statement
16 through concrete initiatives such as a change in technology licensing practices for biomedical
17 innovations.