MEMORANDUM

TO: President Ray M. Bowen

SUBJECT: Baha’i Institute Resolution

At its regular meeting on January 20, 1999, the Faculty Senate approved the attached resolution regarding the shutdown of the Baha’i Institute. If I can provide you additional information, please let me know.

Thank you for your consideration of this item. I would appreciate your informing me of your action on this recommendation.

Diane S. Kaplan
Speaker, 1998-99

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Ronald G. Douglas, Executive Vice President & Provost

Received
Approved

Ray M. Bowen, President  
Feb 23, 1999  
Date
Baha’i Resolution

Whereas the Faculty Senate of Texas A&M University is committed to the importance of providing for students “an intellectual environment that encourages the development and expansion of the human mind and spirit,” which is part of the stated purpose of Texas A&M University as stated in the undergraduate catalogue; and

Whereas the Faculty Senate of Texas A&M University holds as a fundamental value the right of a student to an education appropriate to the needs of that student; and

Whereas the Faculty Senate strongly supports the right of every person, based on capacity, to higher education as stated in Article 26 of the International Declaration of Human Rights and Article 13 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, and

Whereas the Iranian government through its systematic exclusion of young people of the Baha’i faith from colleges and universities in Iran since 1980 and through its recent closure of the Baha’i Institute of Higher Education has violated both the International Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Faculty Senate of Texas A&M University strongly condemns the recent shutdown of the Baha’i Institute of Higher Education by the Iranian government, the simultaneous arrest of faculty members and the confiscation and destruction of academic books and educational equipment in private homes;

Be it further resolved that the Faculty Senate calls upon the Iranian government to conform to the International Declaration and International Covenant by allowing the reopening of the Baha’i Institute and by allowing all of its qualified citizens the freedom to pursue higher education.