Action Item
Request to Discontinue the Center for Creative Writing in the Arts  BOT-2.2

Background Information
The Center for Creative Writing in the Arts (CCWA) was approved by the Board of Trustees on November 3, 2005 as an instructional center housed within the College of Arts and Sciences. The purpose of the CCWA was to support and enhance the academic programs and co-curricular activities in creative writing offered by several departments within the College, including screenwriting, playwriting, and translation.

In the era since its establishment, many of the departments and programs that benefit from the CCWA’s activities are now located outside of the College, principally in the School of Music, Theater and Dance. In addition, the definition of “writing” and “text” has expanded beyond the traditional print media (books, magazines, and newspapers). The definition of performance text now includes music, lyrics of songs, and work developed for television, radio, and the Internet, including literary blogs, webisodes and games. “Texts” additionally now include work at the juncture of art and writing such as graphic novels and other artistic “word work”. As a result, the current mission is “to be a forum for multidisciplinary creative collaboration and to provide networking, assistance and encouragement for artists whose creative work originates with the written word.”

All UNCG centers are regularly reviewed by the Office of Research and Economic Development, in consultation with the center director and the reporting dean and department head/chair (if applicable). Following the latest review for the CCWA, it became apparent that a center structure is not the best structure to support the current goals of the CCWA. Therefore, it is requested that the CCWA be discontinued effective May 7, 2015. Going forward, the work of CCWA will be supported by the creation of new research network, initially led by Dr. Sarah Krive, Assistant Dean in the Lloyd International Honors College, and Mariam Stephan, Graduate Director in the Art Department.

The CCWA currently has no budget, no staff, receives no state funds, and has no existing contracts/grants that are affiliated with it. Any ongoing future activities previously associated with the center will be planned and organized by the new research network.

Recommended Action
That the Board of Trustees of The University of North Carolina at Greensboro approve the discontinuation of the Center for Creative Writing in the Arts.

Dana Dunn
Acting Chancellor Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor