NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY of the Bahá'ís of the United States

February 14, 2017

To all Local Spiritual Assemblies and registered Bahá'í groups

Dear Bahá'í Friends,

We are pleased to invite all Bahá'í youth who are engaged in their undergraduate studies and who wish to begin participating in the series of enriching seminars prepared by the Institute for Studies in Global Prosperity (ISGP) to express their interest by completing a web-based application form.

The series of ISGP undergraduate seminars, entitled "Participating in the Prevalent Discourses of Society," seeks to accompany Bahá'í undergraduate students annually over the course of four years of university studies. The purpose of these intensive seminars is to raise the consciousness of youth about the importance of engaging in action and discourse directed at social change; to develop their capacity to reflect, to analyze, and to learn from action; to explore elements of a conceptual framework for contributing to the advancement of civilization; to provide them with tools to understand and analyze the culture in which they are immersed as well as the content of the university courses they are studying; to help them assume ownership of their education; and to assist them in their efforts to acquire the kind of knowledge that will enable them to live productive and meaningful lives. These seminars are sponsored by the National Spiritual Assembly and conducted by ISGP—an organization established in 1999 by the Universal House of Justice. A seminar brochure is attached with further details. More information about ISGP may also be found at <u>www.globalprosperity.org</u>.

Below is registration information for upcoming seminars taking place at Bosch Bahá'í School and Green Acre Bahá'í School:

Bosch unit Santa Cruz, California June 18—28, 2017 Online application due by **March 18, 2017** Form available <u>here</u> Green Acre unit Eliot, Maine July 22—August 1, 2017 Online application due by **April 30, 2017** Form available <u>here</u>

Admitted participants will be required to attend the entire 11-day seminar and will be expected, if they choose to return in subsequent years, to attend the particular unit where they first participated.

Applications for the first year of the seminar submitted after the deadline will not be considered. The seminars in the United States are heavily subsidized by the National Spiritual Assembly, and the remaining fee is a flat rate of \$440. This contributes to the cost of room and board for the 11 days, as well as the seminar materials. Assistance with raising the necessary funds to attend the seminar will be provided to those who are unable to pay for the entire \$440 fee and/or travel costs on their own. For further questions about the seminar at Bosch, or for assistance with applying, please contact isgp.bosch@gmail.com. For further questions about the seminar at Green Acre, or for

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assistance with applying, please contact <u>isgp.ga@gmail.com</u>.

While each offering of the undergraduate seminars aims to reach as many Bahá'í university students as possible, due to the limited number of spaces available, preference may be shown to first-year students, though undergraduate students who are further along in their studies are also welcome to apply.

We encourage you to share news of this opportunity widely, especially among eligible Bahá'í youth in your area.

With loving Bahá'í greetings,

Kennet El Bower

Kenneth E. Bowers Secretary

Attachment

cc: National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Alaska