

University of Michigan

Diversity Blueprints Task Force Charge

President Mary Sue Coleman has announced the formation of the Diversity Blueprints Task Force, part of the University's effort to reaffirm its commitment to the educational value of diversity while assuring equal treatment of groups or individuals based on their race, gender, color, ethnicity or national origin, as required by Proposal 2.

Co-chaired by Provost Teresa Sullivan and Senior Vice Provost Lester Monts, the task force will converse with all sectors of the campus and community about ways to legally promote racial, ethnic, and gender diversity in university life. Its charge is to recommend measures that will maintain Michigan as one of the nation's premier universities while adhering to the strictures of Proposal 2. This will entail evaluating and improving the University's effectiveness in recruiting, retaining, and supporting a diverse student body, faculty, and staff and enhancing its educational outreach and engagement.

Through deliberations and public fora, the task force will encourage alumni, faculty, staff, students, and others to consider the question posed by President Coleman and Provost Sullivan in a recent message to the campus, "How can we maintain and enhance diversity at U-M in the years ahead?"

The first task will be to engage the U-M community in developing fresh, innovative approaches to sustain and enhance diversity. Over the coming months, the task force will carefully consider various points of view, taking into account the work of existing diversity committees and councils and the distinctive cultures of University of Michigan schools and colleges. It will then recommend a plan to effectively achieve the University's diversity goals.

Careful analysis and thoughtful deliberation are required to ensure that the University adopts approaches that are effective and efficient. The task force will prepare its report for the president by February 15, 2007. Its recommendations will be considered for implementation by March 15, 2007.

Task Force Membership

Co-chairs Provost Teresa A. Sullivan and Senior Vice Provost Lester P. Monts will work with University administrators, faculty, staff, students, and alumni, who have been nominated or selected because of their track record of interest and expertise. To take full advantage of that expertise, the task force will be divided into several subcommittees. Each group will have access to senior advisors with specialized knowledge in such areas as financial aid and admissions. Task force members, staff and advisors are listed in the attachment.