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April 28, 1987

JAMES J. DUDERSTADT

Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs

Dear Colleagues:

We have appreciated the constructive manner in which you have worked with us in recent weeks to strengthen the University's commitment to building a racially, ethnically, and culturally diverse community. We have listened very carefully both to the concerns and the recommendations presented by a great many different campus groups; individual students, faculty, staff; and alumni, friends, and others from outside the University. These interactions have played a key role in helping us to develop a plan and move forward with a series of actions designed to intensify our efforts to achieve full participation by underrepresented minorities at all levels of the University and enhance the climate for diversity on our campus.

To facilitate a rapid response to the many individuals and groups who have participated in this dialogue, while meeting the press of ongoing commitments and responsibilities characterizing the end of the academic year, we felt it most appropriate to issue a report to the entire University community. To this end, we will be using a special issue of the University Record to describe the steps we have taken or intend to take in the near future to respond to the Six-Point Plan announced in March. Additional initiatives will, of course, be developed and implemented in the coming months under the leadership of the new Vice Provost for Minority Affairs.

Because of your strong interest and involvement in recent discussions on these matters, I would like to provide you with an advance copy of our report to the University community. We will, of course, be willing to continue to meet directly both with interested groups and individuals in the weeks and months ahead.

On behalf of the University, I would like to thank you for the efforts and thoughts you have directed toward focusing attention on the challenge of diversity on this campus. Working together, I am confident we can move constructively and productively toward achieving our common objectives of restoring Michigan to a position of leadership in this critical area.

Sincerely

James J. Duderstadt

JJD:klp Enclosure Dean Rhetaugh Dumas Dean Harold Johnson

Professor Walter Allen Professor Percy Bates Professor Bunyan Bryant Professor Donald Deskins Professor Thomas Holt Professor Lemuel Johnson Professor George Jones Professor Charles Moody Professor Aldon Morris

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CC: VBN