Date: March 13, 2014

To: University Senate

From: Dr. G. Christine Taylor, Ph.D.

Subject: PROPOSAL FOR A STANDING COMMITTEE FOR EQUITY AND DIVERSITY

Colleagues,

I am writing to offer my full and enthusiastic support for the formation of a new University Senate standing committee for Equity and Diversity.

Diversity and inclusion are essential to academic excellence, and the issues surrounding diversity and inclusion impact every sector of our campus, including faculty, students and staff. One of the goals of the Division of Diversity and Inclusion is to prepare all students to thrive in the diverse and global environment. We know that the preparation of tomorrow’s global leaders requires a comprehensive institutional approach.

The addition of the Equity and Diversity standing committee will place the importance of this area within the context of the academic governance structure of the institution. This will enhance our ability to reach our institutional goal.

Thank you for your consideration of the Equity and Diversity standing committee. It has my enthusiastic support.