TO: Campus Community

FROM: Royce C. Engstrom, President

On Wednesday, November 5, 2014, the University of Montana will host its 9th Annual Diversity Symposium, “DiverseU”. DiverseU is a campus-wide series of events focused on the topic of diversity. Students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members discuss, present, perform, and exhibit art throughout the day. DiverseU provides a forum for honest dialogue in order to explore the complexities of human experience, promote understanding, and create community among participants through the practice of civil discourse.

This event offers an opportunity for the campus community to present research, facilitate discussion, exhibit materials, and host other events related to the topic of diversity.

You can participate in DiverseU in one or more of the following ways:

**Attend and participate.** Faculty may include DiverseU in syllabi and curricula or may allow students to attend DiverseU events in lieu of the traditional class meeting time.

**Recognize those who attend and/or present sessions.** Students, faculty, staff, and administrators will have the opportunity to present sessions that engage a range of topics relevant to DiverseU. Please positively support those individuals who choose to present and attend presentations by recognizing their efforts.

**Allow release time for staff.** DiverseU aligns with the strategic commitment of the University of Montana to enhance the culture of diversity on campus for the benefit of students, faculty, and staff. I encourage supervisors to allow staff to attend the events of the day, subject to maintaining adequate coverage.

**Collaborate with DiverseU.** The DiverseU Planning Committee would like to encourage campus-wide efforts to engage our community in discussions of diversity. If your department is hosting an event related to topics of diversity, let the planning committee know, and they may be able to assist you in promoting the event.

Find out what important events and sessions are being featured this year by visiting the DiverseU website.

Thank you for your participation and support.

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