

BOARD OF REGENTS
BRIEFING PAPER

**1. Agenda Item Title: *Handbook* Revision, Cultural Diversity
Committee Charge**

Meeting Date: December 3-4, 2015

2. BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:

The Board's final approval is requested of a proposed amendment to *Handbook* Title 1, Article VI, Section 3 to revise the Cultural Diversity Committee charge. This revision was presented for initial discussion at the September 10-11, 2015, meeting of the Board of Regents and the Cultural Diversity Committee.

3. SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:

Specifically, the proposal expressly states that the issues the Committee would study, and recommend policies on, in an effort to promote cultural and ethnic diversity include, but are not limited to, "socio-economic, historical, cultural, capability, identity, gender, expression, linguistic and intellectual differences and similarities, throughout the System in order to ensure access and equity for all students, staff and faculty."

4. IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):

It is important to keep the Committee charge current on issues as they emerge.

5. BULLET POINTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

- The additional issues are important in society and in the institutional communities and should receive specific focus and attention.

6. POTENTIAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

The current Committee charge is sufficient.

7. ALTERNATIVE(S) TO WHAT IS BEING REQUESTED/RECOMMENDED:

Leave the Committee charge as currently written.

8. COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:

- Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title #____ Chapter #____ Section #____
- Amends Current Board Policy: Title #_1__ Chapter #__Article VI__ Section #__3__
- Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter #____ Section #____
- Other:_____
- Fiscal Impact: Yes____ No__x__
- Explain:_____

**POLICY
PROPOSAL
TITLE I, ARTICLE VI, SECTION 3**

Cultural Diversity Committee

Additions appear in *boldface italics*; deletions are [~~stricken~~ and bracketed]

Section 3. Standing Committees and their Duties

d. **The Cultural Diversity Committee** shall study issues and recommend policies to the Board in an effort to promote cultural and ethnic diversity, *including, but not limited to, socio-economic, historical, cultural, capability, identity, gender, expression, linguistic and intellectual differences and similarities*, throughout the System in order to ensure access and equity for all students, *staff and faculty*. The Committee shall:

1. Review and examine issues, information, and activities that promote diversity among the students, staff and faculty of the System;
2. Examine information and indicators regarding student access and equity;
3. Make recommendations to the Board intended to create, enhance, promote, and support an educational environment that welcomes all cultural and ethnic minorities; and
4. Take actions appropriate to increase awareness, visibility, and emphasis of campus diversity programs.