Dear Colleagues:

The purpose of this letter is to request your service on the Gender Equity Council. The Gender Equity Council serves as a group to guide implementation of initiatives and strategies that improve representation of women in faculty, academic professional, graduate student, and leadership roles at the university. The council also works to promote gender equity issues across campus, and to assess progress toward campus goals in the area of gender. One of the goals this year is to develop a brochure on the status of women on campus. Ollie Watts Davis and Ann Nardulli have graciously agreed to serve as co-chairs of this council.

This council will report to the newly created Diversity Administrative Coordinating Team (DACT). DACT was created in response to the Task Force’s recommendation. Its purpose is to encourage intentional efforts across the Offices of the Chancellor, the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, and the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost to implement and evaluate diversity initiatives. The representatives/chairs from the various diversity-related standing committees (e.g., Committee on Access and Accommodations and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Advisory Committee, and Committee on Race and Ethnicity) will report directly to the DACT. The DACT will also assist in greater communication and coordination across these standing committees. The DACT members include representatives from the Office of the Chancellor; the Office of the Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs; the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost; the Council of Deans; the Academic Senate; and the Student Senate.
In May 2012, an annual report should be provided to DACT which describes the council’s work during 2011-2012, and goals for 2012-2013.

Please confirm your membership by emailing Sharon Taylor (taylr@illinois.edu). The chairs will be contacting you to schedule the first meeting.

Thank you in advance for your service on this important council.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Easter
Interim Vice President, University of Illinois
Interim Chancellor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Richard P. Wheeler
Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs