

PROPOSED: Regents' Bylaw 14.08 Institutional Neutrality

The mission of the University of Michigan is to serve the people of Michigan and the world through preeminence in creating, communicating, preserving and applying knowledge, art, and academic values, and in developing leaders and citizens who will challenge the present and enrich the future.

To advance the University's mission and protect its longstanding commitment to diversity of thought and freedom of expression; preserve an environment where members of our academic community are free to engage in open inquiry, dialogue, and disagreement; and avoid any suggestion that the University community must conform to a particular side of a contested issue, the University will maintain a position of institutional neutrality on political or social issues and events not directly related to its internal governance.

Therefore, University leaders, including Regents, the president, executive officers, chancellors, deans, directors, chairs, and others in similar positions, will not issue statements on behalf of the University or the unit, campus, school, college, department, institute, center, division, board, or executive committee under their authority, unless such statements directly relate to matters of internal governance. University leaders may issue statements in their individual or scholarly capacity, provided they indicate that they are not speaking on behalf of the University.