

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

Approved by the Regents
February 17, 2006

ACTION ITEM

SUBJECT: UM-Dearborn Safety Office

ACTION REQUESTED: Licensing of Campus Safety Officers

BACKGROUND:

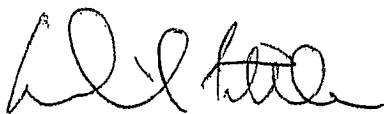
UM-Dearborn is one of two four-year public campuses in Michigan that do not have law enforcement officers licensed through the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES), and we believe that adding licensed law enforcement officers would benefit the campus in important ways. It would give some of our officers the legal ability to intervene in those very rare instances where individual conduct poses risks to others on the campus. It would also enhance the ability of Campus Safety to control unsafe or reckless driving. While we have an excellent relationship with the City of Dearborn and the Dearborn Police Department, many of our concerns are not the same concerns or priorities of the Dearborn police. Licensed campus safety officers would be more committed to the particular needs of our educational environment, and would be able to provide a higher level of service.

Over the past three years, many discussions have taken place at UM-Dearborn about a proposal to license some campus safety officers. Those discussions have included open forums, meetings with both the Faculty Senate and the Staff Senate, and sessions with Student Government. Discussions were also held with UM Public Safety and the Dearborn Police Department. The leadership of both departments is in support of this change. Most recently, two public hearings were held by the Board of Regents on December 5 and December 8, 2005 at UM-Dearborn in compliance with Public Act 120, of the Public Acts of 1990.

If seeking the licensing of our officers is approved by the Regents, an Oversight Committee consisting of faculty, staff, and students will be formed to work with campus safety officials before any officers are actually licensed.

We recommend the Regents approve the licensing of UM-Dearborn campus safety officers pursuant to Public Act 120.

Respectfully Submitted,



Daniel Little
Chancellor
University of Michigan-Dearborn

February 2006