

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

**Adopted by the Regents
May 16, 2013**

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Death

Action Requested: Adoption of Memorial Statement

The Regents of the University of Michigan acknowledge with profound sadness the death of **Beth N. Diamond, M.L.A.**, assistant professor of landscape architecture in the School of Natural Resources and Environment and assistant professor of art and design in the Penny W. Stamps School of Art and Design. Professor Diamond died on April 29, 2013, after a courageous battle with cancer.

Professor Diamond received her B.A. degree from Friends World College, Long Island University in 1990, and her B.L.A. and M.L.A. degrees from the University of Oregon in 1995 and 1997, respectively. She served on the faculty of the University of Oregon (1998), the University of Kentucky (1999-2002), and California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (2002-05). Professor Diamond joined the University of Michigan faculty as an assistant professor in 2005.

Professor Diamond's scholarly work explored the power of landscape architecture to interactively engage viewers, galvanize public discourse, and reinvigorate social and community cohesion. She sought to critically examine the role of public space design in democratic societies, human social relations, and cross cultural communications. A gifted teacher and dedicated mentor, Professor Diamond challenged her students to discover and practice the aesthetic, environmental, and societal elements of landscape design. She combined coursework and community outreach with projects in Detroit's Heidelberg neighborhood and Ann Arbor's Nichols Arboretum. Her courses on the history and theory of landscape design encouraged both landscape architecture students and Program in the Environment students to view design from the perspectives of indigenous peoples, minority and working class populations, and women to understand their own familial landscape heritage.

As we mourn the loss of our beloved colleague, we also extend our heartfelt condolences to her family and friends.

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.

Vice President and Secretary of the University

May 2013