

**SPECIAL MEETING**  
**May 29, 2002**

*The University of Michigan*  
*Ann Arbor*  
*Thursday, May 29, 2002*

The Regents convened at 9:10 a.m. in the Kuenzel Room at the Michigan Union. Present were Interim President White and Regents Brandon, Deitch, Horning, McGowan, Newman, Taylor, and White. Regent Maynard participated by telephone.

Interim President White called the meeting to order, and announced that the purpose of the meeting was to elect the University's 13th president. He welcomed special guests who were seated in the audience, and turned the proceedings over to Regent Deitch, chair of the Board of Regents.

Regent Deitch made the following comments:

As chair of the Presidential Search Committee and the Board of Regents, I am pleased to announce that we have completed the search process, have identified one finalist, and I am prepared, in a few minutes, to nominate that finalist for election as the 13<sup>th</sup> president of the University of Michigan. However, before I do that, I would like to go over the chronology of events that has led us to this day and offer my appreciation to a number of people who have contributed to the success of this process.

On October 8, 2001, Lee Bollinger was appointed president of Columbia University. On October 19, 2001, the Regents appointed B. Joseph White as interim president of the University, effective January 1, 2002. On November 15, 2001, we outlined the search process for the community. I was elected chair of the Presidential Search Committee; Regent Dan Horning was elected vice chair. We created a 16 person Presidential Search Advisory Committee. Its function was to review nominations and develop a pool of candidates for consideration by the Regents sitting as the Presidential Search Committee. The advisory committee was conceived of as a broad based group of committed and wise University citizens...and that it was. Including its chair, 10 of its 16 members are faculty in Ann Arbor, Flint and Dearborn. The other members represent students, staff and alumni. Also, on November 15, the Regents named Dr. Earl Lewis, dean of the Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies, as chair of the advisory committee. On November 30, 2001, the Presidential Search Committee selected Shelly Weiss Storbeck of A.T.

Kearney as our search consultant. On December 13, 2001, the Regents announced the members of the advisory committee. They are, in addition to Dean Lewis:

Patricia Gurin;  
Nicholas del Banco;  
William Roush;  
Susan Alcock;  
Larry Root;  
John Greden;  
Tressa Pollock;  
Paulette Cebulski;  
Rashmi Luthra;  
Lisa Jackson;  
Matt Nolan;  
Ted Spencer;  
Anocha Cornell;  
Saul Green; and  
Michael Jandernoa

On January 9, 2002, the advisory committee held its first meeting. On January 17, 2002, the advisory committee met with the Regents to receive its charge. In the ensuing 5 months, the advisory committee met formally 15 times and put in countless additional hours of research and study...a truly extraordinary commitment by 16 people with very busy lives. Dean Lewis met individually with the Regents on 4 occasions. Dean Lewis and I had innumerable telephone conversations. In fact, it's fair to say that we were in constant contact. The Regents, sitting as the Presidential Search Committee, also had many meetings and devoted many additional hours of study to this task.

We believe that our search was focused, thorough and thoughtful. The work was, in my judgment, done in a professional and dispassionate way. The pool of candidates was superb. In my judgment, that fact is reflective of both Michigan's unique place in higher education and the efficient and highly confidential process which we put in place. I can, today, confidently assert, based on empirical evidence, that every person involved was motivated by only one goal: namely, to find and recruit the very best person available to lead this great University. Each of the Regents will, I hope, speak individually. Speaking as one person, I can tell you that we took this enormous responsibility as seriously as one can undertake any endeavor. By the Michigan Constitution, the job of electing the president ultimately belongs to the Regents alone. Bar none, this is the Regents' most important responsibility. I say that because the University is owned by the people of Michigan and we 8 elected Regents are their proxy. Given that fact, this is the one moment when we most definitively act on our commitment to be good stewards for the University's future. As you will see shortly, I am very proud to say that we 8 very diverse people acted cohesively and well in making this choice.

Now, before I nominate our next president, some thank yous are in order, as I said at the beginning of my remarks.

First and foremost, I want to thank the University's interim president, Joe White. I also want to thank Joe's spouse, Mary D. White. Both Joe and Mary are great citizens of this University and esteemed longtime members of the Ann Arbor community. From the date that we asked Joe to assume the presidency on an interim basis, he and Mary have poured their hearts and souls into the myriad responsibilities that are the president's job. Joe not only kept the University running but enabled it to move forward with impressive momentum. He has been a wise counselor to me as the Board's first chair and I am grateful for that. For the rest of my life, when I think of Joe White, I will think of the old expression "You can never go wrong by doing the right thing." Joe's instincts have always been to do the right thing for the University. Joe dedicated his service as interim president to the 17 Michigan alumni who died at the World Trade Center on September 11. Joe, you did them proud. We are in your debt. [Standing Ovation] Prior to the completion of his tenure, we will offer more formal recognition to Joe and Mary White.

I also want to thank Earl Lewis and the advisory committee. Earl is a notably effective leader. Calm. Thoughtful. Strategic. Unflappable. The Regents knew that we wanted a dean to chair the advisory committee. As we all know, we as a university benefit from wise and competent decanal leadership across the board and picking that one leader from a group of extraordinary people was difficult. The advisory committee's performance was excellent and proved that we made both a wise and fortuitous choice. Thank you, Dr. Lewis.

I also want to thank the various members of the advisory committee. Around here, people often glibly speak of their "love" for the institution. These 16 men and women proved it by their self-sacrifice and dispassionate, thoughtful, wise counsel. Similar thanks go to our talented and dedicated staff without whom we could not have completed our work in such exemplary fashion. First among these people is Barbara Wagner. Thank you, Barbara.

Now, with that prelude complete, I have the honor of informing you that Dr. Mary Sue Coleman is the finalist in the Presidential Search Committee's search to appoint the next president of the University of Michigan.

Currently, Dr. Coleman is president, professor of biochemistry and professor of biological sciences at the University of Iowa. She has served with distinction as president of that great public research university since 1995. We believe she will prove to be one of the great leaders in Michigan's history. She was quite simply the best candidate in an extraordinary field and we will be fortunate to have her. We are very impressed with her breadth of experience and superb credentials and trust that the community will be, as well.

Dr. Coleman is a distinguished scientist. As a cancer researcher, her work focused on the immune system and malignancies. Her laboratories were continuously funded by the National Institutes of Health for over 20 years. Dr. Coleman is a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

She is a national leader in higher education. Please allow me to give you just a few examples:

- She co-chairs the Institute of Medicine's Committee on the Consequences of Uninsurance
- She serves on the board of trustees of the Universities Research Association, as well as on:
- the American Counsel on Education Board of Directors, Task Force on Teacher Education and the Commission on Minorities in Higher Education;
- the board of trustees of Grinnell College;
- the Association of American Universities Executive Committee and the Task Force on Research Accountability;
- the President's Leadership Group of the Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention; and
- the NCAA board of directors. Previously, she served on the Knight Commission.

After earning her bachelor's degree in chemistry from Grinnell College and her Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of North Carolina, she conducted postdoctoral work at North Carolina and at the University of Texas, Austin. She is married to Dr. Kenneth Coleman, a political scientist specializing in Latin America. They have one son, Jonathan, who is a portfolio manager for the Janus Capital Corporation in Denver, Colorado. Ken and Jonathan are here with us today to join in this happy occasion. Unfortunately, Jonathan's new wife, of a little over 2 weeks, couldn't be with us today. We welcome the entire Coleman family to our extended University of Michigan family.

I could go on and on. However, my friend, Regent Taylor, will want me to stop now. Therefore, it is my privilege to offer the following resolution:

### **Nomination of President**

I present the finalist and hereby nominate, Dr. Mary Sue Coleman, for the position of thirteenth president of the University of Michigan.

I propose that Dr. Coleman be appointed for a term of five years effective August 1, 2002. She will assume all the duties and responsibilities of the presidency and will receive all the usual and customary benefits associated with the office. I further propose that her salary be \$475,000 for the upcoming academic year. In addition, I propose that she be provided with deferred compensation of \$75,000 per year fully vesting at the end of five years and a retention bonus of \$500,000 if she is still president of the University of Michigan at the end of her initial five-year term.

We have discussed these terms preliminarily with Dr. Coleman and I now seek the Board's approval of this formal offer to her. Subject to the Board's

approval at the June Regents' meeting, we will finalize a complete contract with Dr. Coleman.

Regent Newman seconded the motion.

Regent McGowan made the following comments:

So many people who cherish this university have helped it -- and us -- over these many months.

For members of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee, theirs, too, was a labor of love. But they had the responsibility of providing the Board of Regents with a thorough and frank assessment of the University's options. Their efforts in fulfilling this responsibility were truly magnificent. They brought representative democracy, together with their collective sagacity, to show a full understanding of how the University of Michigan graces public higher education morally, intellectually, and through its leadership. The contributions of the people of this committee will be reflected in our every success ahead.

Our own conversations with President-designate Coleman have been exciting, forward-looking and yet, somehow, reassuringly familiar. She will talk to you, too, about why it is critical that one of the great research universities be a public university, about what defines an educated person. She will express her commitment to building diverse intellectual communities as one practiced in the effort, convinced of its rightness, and proud, as president of another Big Ten university, of this University's strong defense of its admissions policies. And shortly, she'll speak for herself. She will be a strong, creative, experienced, thoughtful and successful president of the University of Michigan. The job of this Board now becomes one of supporting her as she leads in extending the University's reach through advancements in many fields of knowledge.

And let it be said again and again! -- Girls can do math and science!

We all look forward to welcoming the Colemans to Ann Arbor, to Michigan, and to this University on August 1.

Joe and Mary White stepped nimbly into the interim leadership of this community on January 1; Joe's able leadership enabled each of us to be free to pursue our own responsibilities at Michigan during what could have been an awkward period. I admire them greatly for how they have met the challenges of leadership.

Regent Horning stated that he associated himself with Regent Deitch's and Regent McGowan's comments and said to Interim President White, "Joe, I can't thank you enough for the way you've handled the leadership and stewardship of this university these past few months. You and Mary have been and will always be integral parts of the Michigan family and the Michigan puzzle, and from the bottom of my heart, I can't thank you enough." To the Coleman

family, he said, “Welcome to Ann Arbor. It is a remarkable, special place--the world’s greatest public institution--and I can only think that your arrival here today will make it greater.” He also thanked the search advisory committee, commenting, “It worked. People said it couldn’t be done and it was done.”

Regent Taylor thanked Joe and Mary White, noting that being an interim president “is no easy job.” “You did a magnificent job, Joe,” he stated, “and to you and Mary we will always be indebted.” Regarding the search advisory committee, he commented that they had done an amazing job, putting in many hours of work. He observed that Dean Lewis had said that the advisory committee’s job was “to make our job hard, and they did that.” He also expressed the University’s gratitude for the advisory committee’s efforts.

Regent Taylor observed that the search process had been “fun” and “exciting,” and that the Regents had met “a whole host of magnificent people.” “In President Coleman,” he concluded, “I think we’ve hit a home run.” He congratulated her and her family and said he looked forward to their moving to Ann Arbor.

Regent Brandon thanked everyone involved in the process and observed that he had learned a lot. “I need to say today,” he commented, “that the only job that may be more challenging than that of president of the University of Michigan is to be interim president of the University of Michigan. Joe did a fantastic job, and I am personally grateful for all that you did.” He said he was excited by Dr. Coleman’s imminent arrival and welcomed her and her family. “You are the best of the best,” he noted, “and we’re pleased that you’re here.”

Regent Brandon also commented out that the whole process had been well run, effective, and efficient, and that the confidentiality that was so important to attracting a terrific group of

candidates had been maintained. He thanked Regent Deitch for his efforts and commitment to advancing the process and seeing that it concluded ahead of schedule.

Regent Maynard commented that “we can all be proud of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee and of the Regents acting as the Presidential Search Committee.” She thanked Regents Deitch and Horning for the extra time and effort they had expended on the search effort.

She commented, “It is with great enthusiasm that I support the election of Dr. Mary Sue Coleman to the presidency of the University of Michigan. She will bring wise and energetic leadership to this great public institution, and I look forward to serving as a Regent during her presidency.” Regent Maynard also thanked Interim President Joe White and his wife, Mary, “for their outstanding contributions to the University over the past six months, noting that “Joe’s commitment and his dedication to Michigan has inspired all of us. So now I join with all of you as we commit ourselves to moving the University of Michigan to its next step of greatness.”

Regent White recognized “the extraordinary commitment President White and Mary White have had to the University over the years,” and thanked them for their devoted service. She also thanked Dean Lewis and the search advisory committee for having come up with such “phenomenal” candidates for the Regents’ consideration. Finally, she welcomed Dr. Coleman and her family to the University of Michigan. She noted how fortunate the University is to have her here and said that she looked forward very much to working with her.

Regent Newman associated herself with the other Regents’ remarks, thanked Joe and Mary White for their service, and welcomed the Coleman family to Michigan.

The vote was then taken on Regent Deitch's motion nominating Mary Sue Coleman as president, and it was approved unanimously. Regent Deitch then introduced Dr. Coleman to the assembly, and there was a standing ovation.

Dr. Coleman observed that "this is the thrill of a lifetime." She noted that her 88-year-old mother, who had cried when she learned the news, had understood what it meant to be named president of the University of Michigan -- "one of the very greatest public universities in the country."

Dr. Coleman thanked Interim President White for his offer of help and counsel during the transition period. She thanked Dean Lewis and the Presidential Search Advisory Committee, observing what an exciting experience it had been to meet with such an "intellectually challenging and alive group" with whom she felt immediately at home.

Dr. Coleman commented that her first meeting with the Board of Regents had also been exciting because they were "a group of very intellectually combative people" who don't always agree on everything. But she noted that they were unanimous in their love of Michigan, and commented that "it warms the heart of a potential president to know that the Regents are there to defend the University of Michigan over all else. I'll tell you, it means everything. And it particularly means everything in a great public university. I'm passionate about public university education, and that's why it is such a great thrill for me to be at the best public university in the country."

Dr. Coleman displayed some gifts she had been given to illustrate cultural and corporate icons associated with the state of Michigan, including Sanders dessert topping, a toy automobile, Vernors soda, a Motown CD, and a novel by Detroit native Elmore Leonard. She again stated how thrilled she was. "This is going to be the experience of a lifetime. It is going to be a

wonderful journey, and I'm going to need all of you at the University to help us make the University better. I look forward to your wise counsel and your advice, and I'm thrilled as can be to be part of this wonderful community. Thank you very much."

A standing ovation followed.

Regent Deitch thanked Vice President Tedesco for her counsel and assistance during the search process. "I think what is called for as I call to adjourn the meeting now are hugs, congratulations, more happiness and laughter, as we go forward into the future with our new president. Thank you all for being here."

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m. A press conference ensued from 10:15 - 11:15 a.m.