BIOGRAPHICAL STATEMENT

LAURITA THOMAS

Laurita Thomas is the Associate Vice President for Human Resources at the University of Michigan. She is responsible for human resource policy for all UM campuses and a full range of comprehensive integrated human resource services, products and operations.

Her professional human resources career spans roles in the financial industry, higher education and healthcare. She is a graduate of the University of Michigan in political science and economics. Her graduate work is in guidance and counseling and business administration. Among her many awards are the naming of the Laurita Thomas Diversity Champion Award by the University of Michigan Health System, the Charles D. Moody Award for Highest Achievement of Diversity and Excellence, the Girl Scouts Women of Distinction Award, the University Distinguished Service Award, the University of Michigan Woman of the Year in Leadership, the Washtenaw County ETCSG Leadership Award and the Larry Warren Multicultural Health Achievement Award. She has published articles and book chapters, the most recent of which is Inside the Minds, The Role of Human Resources, Aspatore Books, 2005.

She has served as a leader in many professional organizations including the University Health System Consortium (UHC) Human Resources Officers Council where she served as Chair, Medical Center Employee Relations Association President (MCERA), and in the community through service organizations. She has held civic appointments on the Mayor’s Commission on Increasing Safety for Women; the Executive Committee of the Washtenaw County Workforce Development Board; SOS Community Services Board Director Emeritus; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; President, Ann Arbor Chapter of The Links, Inc. and is the church school superintendent at Bethel A.M.E. Church in Ann Arbor. She is the parent of two adult sons, Lemar and Wesley, and has two grandchildren.