

## Higher Ed Committee Request

*October 5, 2017*

Central Michigan University is deeply committed to the educational needs of Michigan residents and beyond. Central's reach across Michigan includes 14 service centers within the State, serving diverse counties including Wayne, Saginaw, Ingham, and Genesee. CMU's efforts have been very intentional and deliberate in promoting early awareness, providing transitional and sustained support throughout their higher education experience. In each of these stages, CMU delivers impactful programs that drive lasting student success.

### Early outreach

Promoting college access begins early in Michigan communities. Over CMU's 125-year history, these programs have evolved to meet the changing needs of historically disadvantaged individuals by delivering impactful college preparation programs. The University's Office of Institutional Diversity facilitates the recruitment of historically underrepresented students through several pre-college programs, including Pathways, GEAR UP, and Upward Bound. The University also:

- Serves as an active member of the Michigan College Access Network (MCAN) and supports the Advise-MI program.
- Emphasizes strong multicultural outreach strategies to attract first-generation and underrepresented groups.
- Engages with local community youth through several programs, including Lunch Buddies Mentoring and America Counts and Reads, by providing at-risk students support and positive college role models.

### Transitional support

Following admission, CMU continues to facilitate students' successful transition to college life with key college program offerings—IMPACT and Leadership Safari. These programs connect students, assisting them with developing leadership skills, and nurturing their sense of belonging within the larger CMU community.

### Sustained support

Once students arrive on campus and begin their academic career, CMU provides essential resources to support their higher education experience and student success.

- **Office of Student Success** – In 2013, the University created the Office of Student Success to provide personalized coaching for students in need of support with their college transition and progression. The program is available to all undergraduates with a focus on early outreach to new first-generation, Pell-eligible, and underrepresented students. The Office has positively impacted student retention and graduation efforts.
- **Financial aid** – The University continues to strategically and thoughtfully invest financial support in recognition of academic achievement and opportunity, diversity, and financial need. Over the past four years, CMU has increased institutional aid support by almost 51 percent.