

Katrice Albert named new VP for Equity and Diversity

Written by

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University of Minnesota President Eric Kaler has announced that Dr. Katrice Albert will be the university's new vice president for Equity and Diversity, effective June 28, 2013, pending approval by the Board of Regents.

"I am delighted to welcome Dr. Albert to the U," said Kaler. "She is a visionary leader who brings a wealth of experience working with underserved and diverse communities, a deep understanding of the land-grant mission and a strong focus on assessment and accountability. She also has a strong commitment to the role of K-12 outreach in supporting access to the University of Minnesota system."

Albert comes from Louisiana State University (LSU), where she has served since 2005 as the institution's chief diversity officer. In that role, she developed and implemented strategic initiatives and policies aimed at cultivating a campus environment that embraces individual difference, sustains inclusion and enhances institutional access and equity.

As a member of the senior leadership group, Albert will lead the university's access, equity and diverse multicultural resources and programs, and play an important role in advancing excellence at the University of Minnesota. She will also work collaboratively with diverse Minnesota communities and uphold educational and employment equity as core values of the university.

"It is a great honor to join the University of Minnesota system," said Albert. "The U of M has ambitious diversity goals and, moving forward, I am thrilled to provide leadership to its ongoing work. I look forward to working collaboratively with the Board of Regents and the strong leadership teams on all five campuses to continue building upon a solid commitment to excellence through inclusiveness."

Previously, Albert served in leadership positions in the Office of Multicultural Affairs at LSU from 2001-2004, as a pre-doctoral intern/fellow in the Center for Multicultural Training in Psychology at the Boston University School of Medicine from 2000-2001, and as program coordinator for the Office of Multicultural Affairs at Auburn University from 1999-2000.

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Albert holds a Ph.D. in counseling psychology. Her teaching experience includes serving as an adjunct professor in LSU's College of Education, where she taught a graduate course on multicultural counseling. She also wrote, presented and consulted on issues of cultural competence, corporate social responsibility, educational and workforce diversity, gender and dynamics of power, the complexities of diverse populations, educational access, community university partnerships, and the application of psychological knowledge to ethnic minorities and other underserved populations.

Albert has also demonstrated a strong commitment to and engagement in her local community, and has been the recipient of several women's leadership awards, including being recognized by the National Diversity Council as one of Louisiana's Most Powerful and Influential Women in 2010.

Associate Vice President for Equity and Diversity Kris Lockhart provided interim leadership during the search process and will serve in that role until Albert's appointment commences in June.

University of Minnesota Duluth Chancellor Lynn Black and College of Education and Human Development Dean Jean Quam co-chaired the search committee for this position.