Information professionals: connecting by design

The University of Michigan School of Information is the first modern information school, located within one of the world’s premier research universities. We are a spirited community of researchers, educators, and learners who share a commitment to excellence and a desire to make a difference in people’s lives.

At UMSI, our focus is on social engagement information and computing: the study and design of information and its technologies to connect people who are engaged in social interaction.

We design and develop innovative systems, digital services, and future technologies to improve people’s work, health, learning, and everyday life. In our research we address exciting and pressing questions about the impact of information and digital technology at various levels including individuals, communities, regions and cultures. We examine how people and communities can perform better, learn better, solve problems better, make decisions better, live better and connect with other people better, as a result of information and technology.

Our graduates are user-experience researchers, interaction designers, librarians, archivists, digitization project managers, software engineers, web developers, data analysts, information architects, entrepreneurs, consultants, and information professionals.

We prepare students for leadership roles in business and non-profits, public service, research, and education, in the midst of one of the most exciting and promising technological transformations the world has ever seen.

If you are intrigued and excited by the idea of improving people’s lives through information and technology, if you want your life’s work to have a positive impact on the world around you, you’ve come to the right place.

Sincerely,

Soo Young Rieh, Associate Professor
Director, Master of Science in Information Program
The Master of Science in Information (MSI) is a professional graduate degree that prepares students for emerging careers that meet the information-management needs of an increasingly interconnected world.

As businesses and society grapple with the challenges and opportunities of the digital age, information professionals play a crucial role in analyzing, organizing and evaluating the massive resources generated by the digital revolution.

At Michigan, we train students to be leaders and agents of change in a field that is evolving at extraordinary speed.

With a degree in information, you could find yourself working at a major technology firm such as Microsoft or Hewlett-Packard; at a university or medical center; at a social media company like Google or Facebook; or at a consulting firm or national library. You may be developing software applications to encourage healthy lifestyles, preserving our nation’s history in digital archives at the Smithsonian, or joining an entrepreneurial tech startup.

Of one thing you can be sure. Once you complete the intensive two-year program, you will be highly sought after by employers in both the public and private sectors. Within a year of receiving their degree, 99 percent of our MSI graduates are employed in their chosen profession or pursuing additional education.

ON THE COVER:
Alix Keener (MSI ’14) earned a BA in English and Communication Studies at the University of Michigan before entering the MSI program in 2012. While a student, she co-founded the Digital Humanities Collective student organization and organized the first Digital Scholarship Retreat in 2014. She is now a Digital Scholarship Librarian at the University of Michigan.

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BY THE NUMBERS*
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

The University of Michigan is one of the world’s greatest public universities, located in one of the country’s most livable cities. As one of the largest public research institutions in the country, Michigan has thousands of exciting projects that encourage partnerships between students and faculty. You can work with world-class faculty from day one.

#1
BEST AND MOST COLLABORATIVE LARGE US COLLEGE (2013)
Huffington Post

#3
BEST PUBLIC US UNIVERSITY
Times Higher Education World University Rankings (2014)

#4
TOP PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES (2013)
US News and World Report

#5
TOP PUBLIC COLLEGES (2013)
Forbes

101
GRADUATE PROGRAMS AT U-M RANKED IN THE TOP 10
by US News and World Report, America’s Best Grad Schools (2014)

*OK, we know that rankings can be somewhat arbitrary and biased, but honestly, year after year we make these “best of” lists. Because—frankly—we rock.
AND AS IF THAT’S NOT ENOUGH...
Ann Arbor, Michigan is one of America’s favorite cities for dozens of reasons. Great people, great spirit, a great sense of community. You’ll love living and learning here.

ANN ARBOR

#1 MOST EDUCATED CITY IN AMERICA (2014) Forbes

#2 BEST CITIES FOR YOUNG ADULTS (2013) Kiplinger

#2 TOP TEN COLLEGE TOWNS (2013) Livability.com

#4 MOST WALKABLE CITIES (2013) Governing.com

#5 HAPPIEST CITIES IN AMERICA (2013) The Daily Beast

#6 SMARTEST AMERICAN CITY (2013) VentureBeat

#6 BEST CITIES FOR WELL-BEING (2014) USA Today and Gallup

#7 BEST CITIES FOR NEW COLLEGE GRADS (2014) Livability

SOUTH MAIN STREET
one of “America’s Best Main Streets” (2014) Huffington Post, Fodor’s Travel

BONUS! Michigan has all four seasons!

US News and World Report Graduate School Rankings [Published 2014]

Important to note: Established ranking systems have not quite caught up with the cutting edge of information study. Thus, ratings do not exist for all programs and areas of expertise offered at UMSI.

Dr. Sanjay Gupta @drsanjaygupta and, I miss my favorite city -- ann arbor. RT @MelissaSue9882: Michigan/UofM loves and misses @drsanjaygupta! ❤️❤️

Angie @mynameisnotandy Sunrise over @mich and @umsi -- Ann Arbor is the BEST city! instagram.com/p/euLssAG6cy/ #TODAYSunrise
When it comes to careers in information, we wrote the book – literally! The New Information Professional: Your Guide to Careers in the Digital Age, published by Neal-Schuman Publishers, Inc., in 2010, was co-authored by UMSI staff: Judy Lawson, assistant dean; Joanna Kroll, director of career development; and Kelly Kowatch, service engagement program manager.

Working exclusively with UMSI students and graduates, our highly specialized and experienced career development office is dedicated to helping you find the right information internships and career. You’ll benefit from workshops on resume-writing, interviewing, and portfolio production, plus dozens of on-campus visits from potential employers and two annual career fairs. With so much support, your transition from student to professional is virtually assured.
## Jobs recently accepted by UMSI grads:

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<th>CAREER AREA</th>
<th>PROFESSIONAL TITLE</th>
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<td>User Experience Research/Design</td>
<td>Experience Designer</td>
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<td>User Experience Designer</td>
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<td>Interaction Experience Designer</td>
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<td>User Experience Architect</td>
<td>Dell</td>
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<td>Interaction Designer</td>
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<td>Interaction Designer</td>
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<td>User Researcher</td>
<td>YouTube</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Product Designer</td>
<td>Citrix Systems</td>
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<td>R&amp;D Developer</td>
<td>Accenture</td>
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<td></td>
<td>High-Tech Anthropologist</td>
<td>Menlo Innovations</td>
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<td></td>
<td>User Experience Professional</td>
<td>Mozilla Foundation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Web Designer/Sr. Administrator</td>
<td>U-M International Center</td>
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<td></td>
<td>User Experience Analyst</td>
<td>KIXEYE</td>
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<th>Libraries/Archives/Preservation/Records Management</th>
<th>PROFESSIONAL TITLE</th>
<th>ORGANIZATION</th>
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<tr>
<td>Librarian and Program Manager</td>
<td>Stanford University</td>
<td>John Marshall Law School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Educational Technology Librarian</td>
<td>Purdue University</td>
<td>Boston College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business Librarian</td>
<td>University of Michigan Library</td>
<td>Brown University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Law Librarian</td>
<td>University of Wyoming</td>
<td>US Geological Survey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information Specialist</td>
<td>OCLC</td>
<td>University of Michigan</td>
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<tr>
<td>East Asian Cataloger</td>
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<td>SUNY-Potsdam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Photo/Archives Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midwest Regional Records Liaison Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Fellow</td>
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<td>Web Content Administrator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discovery Metadata Librarian</td>
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<tr>
<th>Data Analytics/Search Engineering/Informatics</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Product Quality Strategist</td>
<td>Google</td>
<td>Ford</td>
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<td>Product Development Manager</td>
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<td>Yahoo!</td>
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<td>Software Engineer</td>
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<td>Accenture</td>
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<td>Systems Integration Analyst</td>
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<td>The Boeing Company</td>
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<tr>
<td>IT Career Foundations Program</td>
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<td>Amazon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Software Engineer</td>
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<td>Dow Chemical Company</td>
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<tr>
<td>Analyst/Service Manager</td>
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<td>IBM</td>
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<td>Consultant</td>
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<td>Citrix Systems</td>
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<td>Product Designer</td>
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<td>MRM/McCann</td>
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<td>Analyst, Data &amp; Analytics</td>
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<td>DeepField Networks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chief Data Scientist</td>
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<td>Oregon State Police</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operations and Policy Analyst</td>
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**Industries UMSI grads are working in**

- Healthcare
- Technology
- Startup
- Public Library
- Non-profit
- Academic Library
- Museum/Historical Society
- University/College
- Government
- Financial services
- Entertainment
- Consumer goods
- Consulting
- Automotive
- Digital/Interactive agency

School of Information | 7
At UMSI, our students come from over 30 countries and 100 different undergraduate majors, reflecting the diversity and the highly interdisciplinary nature of the program. Our students come from a wide variety of backgrounds and different stages of life. They include students coming directly from their undergraduate studies, non-traditional students, career changers, people returning from military service and the Peace Corps, and those applying from overseas.

Whether your background is technical or humanities-based, whether you have come straight from college or from many years in the workplace, you will find classes and fellow students that stretch you in new and unexpected directions. UMSI values diversity in all its forms and believes that the diversity of students, faculty and staff in our community enriches the learning environment for all.
Your goals and aspirations are unique. Here at UMSI, you will have the opportunity to shape your curriculum and participate in activities that best enable you to achieve your career goals.

Here are the paths some recent grads have followed to employment.

**Jarrett Drake**
MSI ’13

**EDUCATION:** BA, HISTORY, YALE
Prepared for his desired career as a digital archivist by taking classes in archives and records management; worked at the Bentley Historical Library and the Hatcher Graduate Library. Presented at several conferences during his program, including the National Council for Black Studies, the ALA Spectrum Leadership Institute and Society of American Archivists. As a volunteer, built a local history archive for a Los Angeles community art center.

**TODAY:** Digital Archivist, Princeton University

**Nikki Roda**
MSI ’13

**EDUCATION:** BA, ECONOMICS, BARNARD
Took courses in human-computer interaction and information analysis and retrieval. Spent spring break volunteering at the Smithsonian, followed by a summer internship at VMWare in Palo Alto, California. During her first year, organized the A2 Data Dive to help local non-profits; served as executive officer of two student group organizations. Attended the Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing Conference.

**TODAY:** Technology Analyst, Goldman Sachs

**Gierad Laput**
MSI ’13

**EDUCATION:** BSE ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, BSE COMPUTER ENGINEERING, MICHIGAN
Took courses in human-computer interaction; worked an independent study with Assistant Professor Eytan Adar on adapting Photoshop to respond to voice commands; presented at 2012 Symposium on User Interface Software and Technology. Summer internship at Adobe Advanced Technology Labs. Applied to and was accepted by eight doctoral programs.

**TODAY:** Doctoral Student, Carnegie Mellon University
Omid Farivar
MSI ’13
EDUCATION: BS, COGNITIVE SCIENCE, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO
Took classes in human-computer interaction; executive officer of SOCHI (Student Organization for Computer-Human Interaction); UMSI service day volunteer; organized social activities for fellow UMSI students; worked as web developer for MPublishing while a student; after graduation was the first user experience analyst hired at video game producer KIXEYE and turned his job into a unit of the company.
TODAY: UX researcher, Facebook

Sarah Wingo
MSI ’13
EDUCATION: BA, THEATRE HISTORY, ALBION COLLEGE; MA, ENGLISH, UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM
Took courses in archives and records management and preservation of information; spent Alternative Spring Break at the Folger Library, guest blogged for the Folger; spent internships at the U-M library developing workshops for students and faculty and working as assistant to the curator of special collections.
TODAY: Literature/Humanities Liaison Team Leader, Falvey Library, Villanova University

Miriely Guerrero
MSI ’13
EDUCATION: BA, ANTHROPOLOGY AND COMPUTER SCIENCE, FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
Took classes in graphic design, information gathering, records management, information architecture, interviewing; held a summer internship at Bentley Historical Library; member of student chapters of Society of American Archivists, Special Libraries Association and ALA; member of Multi-Ethnic Information Exchange.
TODAY: Information Management Consultant, Access Sciences Corporation
While certain core courses are a requisite of the master’s program and provide a solid foundation for all information study, the program itself is highly interdisciplinary and flexible. Your program can be tailored to meet your unique interests and goals. You may also choose to take courses outside the School of Information, at one of the other 18 top-ranked schools and colleges at the University of Michigan.

In fact, as you acquire new knowledge and become exposed to the many facets of information study, you may find yourself pursuing a different path than the one you originally intended. And that’s a good thing. In an information career, you must be willing to adapt and readjust to meet the demands of a rapidly changing information environment.

Classes include

- Web Archiving
- Information Visualization
- Exploratory Data Analysis
- Design of Complex Websites
- Digital Preservation
- Information Architecture
- Technology and Accessibility
- Digital Archives and Libraries
- Pervasive Interaction Design
- Graphic Design
- Data Mining
- Choice Architecture
- Entrepreneurship in the Information Industry
- Natural Language Processing

Explore these and many other course offerings by viewing the complete catalog at si.umich.edu/programs/coursecatalog

Our top-ranked faculty are uniquely qualified to prepare you for a leadership role as an information professional. They are leaders in their fields, and come from a broad range of disciplines, from applied mathematics to health informatics, from social sciences to computer science. Together, they have crafted a richly interdisciplinary curriculum that incorporates both hard and soft skills in management, research, technology, design and practice.

At UMSI, course offerings are both cutting edge and continually evolving, reflecting the ever-changing roles and realities of information in our modern world. Few other schools come close to offering the strength and breadth of courses here at UMSI.

Ashlee Chism @alchism15
I can confirm that what I’m learning at @UMSI is directly & definitely connected to real world archives and records management situations

Justin DeLay, MSI ’12
Co-founder and CMO, TempoIQ

Tailored & Flexible:
A CURRICULUM THAT’S CUSTOM-MADE
Information for IMPACT

A key component of the MSI is practical engagement. From your very first day at UMSI, you will be working on finding solutions to real-world issues in real-world settings.

Before graduating, you will complete a minimum of six credits of field work, generally earned during spring and summer internships. Additionally, many classes feature practical components, where you will work in groups or individually to help local clients solve real-world information problems.

Initiative for Information Impact

The Initiative for Information Impact is a service and action-based learning program housed at UMSI and open to undergraduate and graduate students across the university. Here are some of the hands-on projects where you can have an impact.

- **Citizen Interaction Design**
  Interested in local government? As part of UMSI’s three-year partnership with the city of Jackson, Michigan, you could be designing interfaces that facilitate communication between the city and its citizens.

- **Global Information Engagement Program**
  Make a difference in the developing world. Spend one semester in the classroom, working remotely on information projects with partner organizations, then travel to the host country to spend several weeks in the field, putting theory into practice. In 2016, the destination is South Africa.

- **Michigan Makers**
  Make a difference closer to home with Michigan Makers. Help spark the interest of at-risk elementary and middle school students in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) by organizing after-school programs with maker-type activities like 3-D printing, squishy circuits and Raspberry Pi.
Alternative Spring Break
This could be your big break! Volunteer for a week in Chicago, DC or Detroit, working at an organization like the Smithsonian, the Field Museum of Natural History, or the National Archives. Make connections that could lead to a rewarding internship or even future employment.

A2 Data Dive
Each year, UMSI sponsors a weekend during which dozens of data-minded scientists and interested students dig into the data of select non-profits to help them understand how to better serve their clientele. You don’t need to be a data geek to participate; everyone’s welcome to pitch in and learn while helping some very cool local organizations.

Peace Corps Fellowships
If extended overseas international development service appeals to you, our International Master’s Program incorporates Peace Corps service with coursework to earn an MSI. We also offer Coverdell Fellowships for returned Peace Corps volunteers.

University Record @UnivRecord
19 U-M students will travel to India to work on Global Information Engagement projects @umsi @Global-Michigan bit.ly/1muo4pj

Peace Corps Midwest @PeaceCorps_MW
New @UMSI Master’s International, Coverdell Fellows programs expand grad school offerings for @PeaceCorps vol @umich.bit.ly/1oJL4Vr

Derek Dobies @VoteDobies
@umsi students to unveil 10 projects aimed at helping city of #JacksonMI mlive.com/news/jackson...

City of Jackson, MI @CityOfJacksonMi
Open Data has been APPROVED! Citizen Interaction Design is in full force @umsi #opendata #jacksonmi #leadersandbest tinyurl.com/m66s67n
At UMSI, we recognize that graduate education requires a significant financial investment and we work hard to lighten your economic burden as much as possible.

We offer substantial, yet highly selective merit scholarships for entering MSI students and provide information about external sources of funding, such as scholarships, fellowships and assistantships.

The admissions staff will advise you about various options for funding your study. Part-time jobs are plentiful on and around campus. Nearly all UMSI students seeking part-time positions find jobs before or within the first few weeks of the term they enroll.

We offer direct assistance to incoming and current students to find relevant part-time employment within UMSI, on campus, or in the local community.

HOW TO APPLY
For your convenience, the School of Information uses online applications. See umsi.info/apply for details.

APPLICATION DEADLINES
- January 15: Early deadline for first consideration for UMSI scholarships
- May 1: General deadline

ADMISSIONS QUALIFICATIONS
- Bachelor’s degree from accredited institution.
- Grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0 on 4.0 scale preferred; our average entering student has a GPA of 3.5.
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test score from within past five years. We have no minimum GRE score; average entering students’ scores are GREV: 158; GREQ: 158; GREAW: 4.5.
- International applicants: TOEFL score of at least 100 (Web exam) earned within past two years.

APPLYING FOR NEED-BASED AID
If applying for need-based aid and loans, send a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to the Federal Processor with University of Michigan code 002325. For details, contact the U-M Office of Financial Aid at (734) 763-6600 or financial.aid@umich.edu. You may also complete the FAFSA form online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. This process is separate from UMSI’s merit-based tuition awards for which all applicants are considered.

Kelly Davenport, MSI ‘13
As a University Library Associate, Kelly Davenport (MSI ’13) was able to study full-time for a master’s degree while working part-time at the university library and receive free tuition and a salary. “It’s the only program like it in the country,” she says. Learn more at umsi.info/ula.

School of Information Admissions
University of Michigan
3360 North Quad, 105 S. State St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1285

Voice (734) 763-2285
Fax (734) 615-3587
umsi.info/msi
umsi.admissions@umich.edu

Kyle Donnellon @ksdonnellon
It’s been an intense, hectic, & life-changing 2 yrs. Graduating from @umsi tomorrow & ready to hit the ground running, wherever I end up.
LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Value of Diversity

Welcome to the University of Michigan, one of our country’s great public universities.

Ours is a university with a long-standing commitment to diversity. Through the contributions of thousands of faculty and hundreds of thousands of students over nearly two centuries, we have built a university that is known for a diversity of people, heritage, academic disciplines, and scholarly pursuits.

This impressive range of individuals and intellectual activity is the very core of our academic excellence. From our 19 schools and colleges and our nationally recognized health system in Ann Arbor to our regional campuses in Dearborn and Flint, the range of disciplines and their interrelationships throughout our institution are a mirror of the world we serve as a public university.

To meet society’s needs, the University of Michigan must draw upon the many and varied perspectives of faculty, students and staff from around our state, our nation, and our world.

We cannot be excellent without being diverse. The more varied the perspectives represented, the richer our education. Our differences—whether they be the academic questions that engage us, political views, age, economic background, sexual orientation, or race, to name just a few—help create the intellectual vitality that makes Michigan internationally distinguished.

We must be vigilant about recruiting and retaining the best students and staff and the finest faculty—individuals of all backgrounds and experiences—so that they may further enrich the fabric of this university.

We should be equally steadfast in providing an inclusive, welcoming environment where all members of our community can engage fully in the pursuit of new knowledge.

The Senate Assembly, the governing body representing faculty from the Ann Arbor, Flint and Dearborn campuses, has voiced its “commitment to the value of diversity and urges that all members of the University—faculty, students, staff, and administration—work together to develop new approaches to maintain diversity as a critical component of student education, research and service at the University of Michigan.”

This is important work. I invite you to join our remarkable community and its appreciation of the viewpoints, experiences and contributions of others.

Sincerely,

Mark S. Schlissel
President
Marlon Phillips, MSI ’14
Citizen Interaction Design & Global Information Engagement Program participant, interned in web development and user experience at GE Aviation and GE Capital. BS in urban and regional planning from Michigan State University.

TODAY: User experience designer, DigitasLBi North America

“At UMSI, I experienced a hands-on and collaborative education, profited from unforgettable project experiences and forged lifelong relationships.”