

**University Recognition of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

In February 1998, cognizant of the advice of the University Committee on Academic Policy, the MSU Board of Trustees approved the following recommendation.

It was recommended that the University honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in a manner that reflects the universality of the King legacy for all people. The Board directs the Provost to adjust the academic calendar for spring semester by canceling the regular class schedule on the designated national holiday and adjusting the academic calendar so that the number of class days is maintained. Further, the University administration should promote programs designed to explore the origins and the applications of the legacy for the entire University community.

This recommendation was endorsed with the understanding that there would be an evaluation of participation in and the impact of the celebration, based on its purpose, at the end of 2001 (the third year).

With regard to future recognition of Dr. King's legacy, President Peter McPherson assumes that the current program, including the cancellation of classes, will continue in the 2001-02 academic year. Further, the presumption is that the program would continue in the future, with the understanding that the challenge of maintaining the momentum, energy and commitment to memorializing Dr. King's legacy would be addressed successfully by the University community.

Based on that presumption and as consistent with University practice with academic programs and other activities, a review of experience and the success in achievement of its purposes will occur at five year intervals.

Consistent with the Board's action, the experience of the last three years will be reviewed as a source of base line data for both evaluation and a reference for continuing documentation of program experience.

Consultation will occur with the University Committee on Academic Policy regarding the continued adjustment in class schedules necessitated by the recognition of Dr. Martin Luther King Day.

A dialogue will occur with community groups to achieve commitments to and ideas on maintaining intensity, increased participation and improved programming in honor of Dr. King's legacy.

Working together the hope is that the MSU community can generate continuing excitement and enthusiasm in the University's recognition of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.