

Day 31: Did you know how CMU has addressed its role in a multicultural society?

HLC Criterion 1.C.1. The institution addresses its role in a multicultural society.

Encouraging diversity is not only part of CMU's mission statement, it is also one of its core values. The mission statement states that "By celebrating exceptional teaching, academic excellence, scholarly and creative activities, and by encouraging diversity, critical thinking, and social responsibility, CMU advances the common good of Colorado and beyond." The importance of diversity is also demonstrated by the following:

- Two values highlight CMU's commitment to diversity and inclusion: (1) "A vibrant and varied campus setting that values diversity and diverse activities. . . ." and, (2) "A diversity of students, faculty, [and] staff that promotes a balanced exchange of ideas." Similarly, the vision statement declares that CMU will be an institution that " . . . prepares students from diverse backgrounds for lives of career and service anywhere in the world" and that CMU " . . . will be respected as a learning community that embraces diversity of students, faculty, staff, ideas, and degree levels. . . ."
- The Trustees' commitment to diversity is shown in its 2013 statement that was updated in 2016 following a discussion on campus diversity and inclusion. The statement reads, in part, that CMU " . . . embraces its role as the cultural hub of Western Colorado, bringing together individuals from diverse backgrounds and interests to participate, foster, and promote a balanced exchange of civil dialogue."
- A statement adopted by CMU faculty members promoting respect for diversity is found in the *Catalog*:

Colorado Mesa University is a community of scholars in the liberal arts tradition. As faculty we believe that all people, regardless of age, race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation, have something worthwhile to contribute and that these contributions benefit us all. Therefore, we intend that within our academic community all cultural differences will be treated with equal respect and tolerance. We desire that our students have the opportunity to appreciate the diversity of our modern world, and we encourage them to partake of the resources available within our community. As faculty we pledge ourselves to provide as many divergent cultural experiences for our students as the resources of the college and the needs of our disciplines allow.

- The student-led Cultural Diversity Board serves as the educational liaison to Colorado Mesa University campuses and the regional community regarding culturally diverse issues and sponsors Unityfest each year.

To learn more, click here to [read](#) the full criterion text and CMU's Assurance Argument and Evidence. Links to supporting evidence are identified by underlined words but are not available through the PDF version.

HLC Assurance Review Steering Committee

Morgan, Bridge, Professor of Business, Chair

Jeremy Brown, Vice President for Information Technology

Carol Futhey, Provost

Jeremy Hawkins, Associate Professor of Kinesiology; Chair, Criterion 2 Committee

John Marshall, Vice President for Student Services

Heather McKim, Senior Research Analyst

Randy Phillis, Professor of English; Chair, Criterion 1 Committee

Joe Richards, Professor of Chemistry; Chair, Criterion 5 Committee

Bryan Rooks, Co-Director of Athletics

Bette Schans, Professor of Radiologic Technology and Director of Assessment of Student Learning; Chair, Criterion 4 Committee

Steve Werman, Professor of Biology; Chair, Criterion 3 Committee