October 23, 2017

Dear Colleagues:

The purpose of this letter is to request your service on the Chancellor and Provost Committee on Race and Ethnicity (CORE). Gioconda Guerra Pérez, Director of La Casa, and Wallace Southerland, III, Associate Dean of Students, have both graciously agreed to Co-chair the committee. A new Diversity Council will be charged and CORE will have representation there.

Associate Chancellor Assata Zerai will continue to lead a campus effort to develop a comprehensive and actionable campus diversity strategy that includes attention to recruitment, training, education, research, communication, policy, and governance at campus and unit levels. It will be important for CORE to work closely with Associate Chancellor Zerai to help inform and support that very important work. Your charge will be streamlined in this year of transition to our new diversity structure. We ask that you focus work on the following efforts:

a. advising the Office of the Provost and the Academic Senate on the implementation of the U.S. ethnic minority cultures course as a General Education requirement;

b. advising the Office of the Provost on the campus enrollment management efforts, including providing input to the campus strategic plan concerning diverse enrollment and student success;

c. working with La Casa on support for DACA and undocumented students;

d. providing input to the new Summer Bridge Program; and

e. working collaboratively with other diversity committees and stakeholders.

The campus diversity committees will hold a Fall Diversity Summit on October 11, 2017, 12:00 – 2:00pm at the Illini Union, Room 314B. The Fall Diversity Summit will afford each of the committees an opportunity to share information about the issues and initiatives they have been working on.

Thank you in advance for your service on this important Committee. Your work is crucial and valued.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Jones  
Chancellor

John P. Wilkin  
Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost

c: Assata Zerai