

Office of Boston City Councillor Tito Jackson
Contact: Mrs. Vatsady Sivongxay
Phone: (617) 635-3510
Email: vatsady.sivongxay@boston.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



COUNCILLOR JACKSON CHAIRS HEARINGS ON DIVERSITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Tuesday, December 16, 2014—This Friday, December 19th, Councillor Tito Jackson will convene the first of a series of hearings to inquire on the state of diversity and inclusion in area colleges and universities. The hearings will begin with testimony from Boston University, the largest higher education institution in Boston, the third largest employer in the city, and the alma mater of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Diversity in higher education is crucial to create a pipeline for local communities, future leaders and our workforce to be competitive nationally and globally.

Boston University President Robert Brown will offer testimony on behalf of the university.

“I’m looking forward to gaining a better understanding of the challenges of diversity in higher education,” said Councillor Tito Jackson, “If we don’t pay serious attention to all aspects of diversity—faculty, students, campus culture, governing boards, administrators, staff, policy and practice—and other factors that can contribute or hinder substantial progress towards diversity, then we are not looking out for our communities and Boston’s future.”

The hearing order calling for these series of hearings was introduced by Councillor Jackson at a formal Boston City Council meeting in April 2014. This first hearing will take place this Friday, December 19th at 1:30pm in the Christopher Iannella Chamber of Boston City Hall. The public is encouraged to attend and offer public testimony.

###