Higher education is at a critical juncture. The 21st Century economy requires significant investment in public higher education. New funding models that would enable this investment are being considered across the country. How might these new models affect the quality of, and access to, public higher education? Teresa A. Sullivan, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of Michigan, will explore these concerns looking at the national picture and at UM.

Dr. Teresa A. Sullivan is Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of Michigan. She is also Professor of Sociology in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts. Prior to coming to the University of Michigan, Dr. Sullivan was Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for the University of Texas System. In that role, she was the chief academic officer for the nine academic campuses within the University of Texas System. Her responsibilities included developing tuition-setting procedures, initiating and supporting educational and research collaborations among the various campuses, and developing external collaborations. Dr. Sullivan first joined the University of Texas at Austin in 1975 as an instructor and then assistant professor in the Department of Sociology. From 1977-81, she was a faculty member at the University of Chicago. She returned to Texas in 1981 as a faculty member in Sociology. Dr. Sullivan’s research focuses on labor force demography, with particular emphasis on economic marginality and consumer debt. Dr. Sullivan is the author or co-author of six books and more than 50 scholarly articles, her most recent work explores the question of who files for bankruptcy and why. She has served as chair of the U.S. Census Advisory Committee. Also, she is the past secretary of the American Sociological Association and a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Dr. Sullivan is a graduate of James Madison College at Michigan State University, and received her doctoral degree in sociology from the University of Chicago.

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University of Michigan Alumni and friends who work in and around the State Capitol are welcome to participate in the Wolverine Caucus. Our mission is to provide diverse forums at which University of Michigan friends can meet one another, enjoy fellowship, exchange views, and learn from the world-class talents of the University of Michigan. To receive announcements of upcoming programs, call the UM Lansing Service Center at (517) 372-7801 or email veronicj@umich.edu or amccullu@umich.edu and ask us to add your name or the names of associates.