

HOWARD UNIVERSITY

October 4, 2006

Janet Weiss, Ph.D.
Dean, Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies and
Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
University of Michigan
915 E. Washington Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48109

Dear Dean Weiss:

We are pleased to welcome the University of Michigan Rackham Graduate School to the Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society as an inaugural chapter. In addition to the founding chapters at Howard University and Yale University, the Bouchet Society installed inaugural chapters at Georgetown University, Cornell University, the University of Michigan, the University of Washington, and Washington University in St. Louis during the Bouchet Forum at Howard University on September 15, 2006.

The Mission of the Bouchet Society is to recognize outstanding scholarly achievement and promote leadership, diversity and excellence in doctoral education and the professoriate. In an effort to develop a network of research scholars, the Bouchet Society seeks to induct exemplars at several levels of membership: 1) doctoral student; 2) postdoctoral fellow; 3) faculty; 4) alumni; and 5) honorary. Doctoral students and postdoctoral fellows must apply for membership; however, alumni, faculty and honorary members are *nominated by each institution* based on their commitment to cultivating leadership in the academy commensurate with the goals of the Bouchet Society.

Doctoral students are invited to apply from all disciplines. These scholars must be enrolled in high academic standing as defined by the institution, advanced to candidacy, and nominated by their primary research advisor. As discussed during the *Bouchet Graduate Honor Society's National Steering Committee Meeting held at Howard University on September 15th*, the nomination outreach strategy should aggressively engage graduate faculty members. This engagement will serve to enhance the tradition and reputation of the Bouchet Society on your campus.

Currently, there are two overarching traditions affirmed by the Bouchet Society's Charter. First, all new members *shall be formally* recognized and inducted at Dr. Bouchet's alma mater, Yale University. And second, a new chapter or the Bouchet Graduate Honor Society National Steering Committee Meeting *may only* be convened at Yale University *or by the gavel* of a Bouchet Graduate Honor Society Founding Member who at the time of the founding was or represented the Dean of the Graduate School.



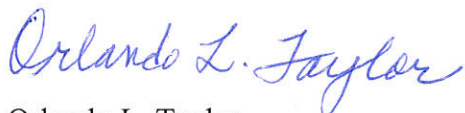
The induction ceremony for new members will be held during the Bouchet Diversity Conference at Yale University on March 30 and 31, 2007. Dr. Liza Cariaga-Lo, Assistant Dean, Yale Graduate School, is the coordinator for this important event. We ask that your membership selection process be complete by **February 1, 2007** to enable conference planning with students poised for induction into the Bouchet Society. Dr. Cariaga-Lo will communicate with your chapter's institutional representative regarding the conference and induction ceremony.

The annual Bouchet Diversity Conference held at Yale and the Bouchet Forum held at Howard are key professional development opportunities. If you have any questions regarding the installation of your new chapter or the recent Bouchet Graduate Honor Society National Steering Committee Meeting, please contact Dr. Chontrese Doswell, Assistant Dean, Howard University Graduate School via email at cdoswell@howard.edu or phone at (202) 806 – 6800.

We will continue working with you to launch the membership intake process and infrastructure to enhance your newly formed chapter. To this end, the **Bouchet Society invites you and/or your designee to lunch during the CGS Meeting in Washington, DC on Wednesday, December 6, 2006 from 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. at the Avenue Grill in the J.W. Marriott Hotel.**

Again, I wish to welcome the University of Michigan to the Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society!

Sincerely,



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