

# **BOARD OF REGENTS**

## **EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY RECOMMENDATION**

SECTION: 17

DATE:

October 20, 2017

### **COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER AND HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT**

#### **ACTION REQUESTED**

It is recommended that the Board of Regents approve Ms. JoAnn Chavez, J.D., Vice President, Legal and Chief Tax Officer, DTE Energy, as Commencement Speaker at the Saturday, December 16, 2017, commencement ceremony. In addition, it is recommended that the Board award an honorary Doctor of Commerce degree (Com. D.) to Ms. Chavez.

#### **SUMMARY**

Biography for Ms. JoAnn Chavez follows.

#### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

None

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION**

The proposed Board action has been reviewed and it is recommended for Board approval.

  
University Executive Officer

10/3/17  
Date

## **Biography for Ms. JoAnn Chavez, J.D., Vice President & Chief Tax Officer, DTE Energy**

JoAnn Chavez is vice president, legal and chief tax officer for DTE Energy (NYSE: DTE), a Detroit-based diversified energy company involved in the development and management of energy-related businesses and services nationwide. Its operating units include an electric utility serving 2.1 million customers in Southeastern Michigan and a natural gas utility serving 1.2 million customers in Michigan. The DTE Energy portfolio includes non-utility energy businesses focused on power and industrial projects, natural gas pipelines, gathering and storage, and energy marketing and trading. As one of Michigan's leading corporate citizens, DTE Energy is a force for growth and prosperity in the 450 Michigan communities it serves in a variety of ways, including philanthropy, volunteerism and economic progress.

Chavez is responsible for overseeing the organization's tax strategy, policy and compliance, including Federal, state and local income, sales and use, and property taxes.

Previously, Chavez served as a tax partner in KPMG LLP's Detroit Business Unit serving large multinational clients. Chavez earned a bachelor of business administration degree and a juris doctorate degree from the University of Notre Dame.

Chavez currently serves on the DTE Energy Foundation Board, the Inforum Center for Leadership Board, the Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Board and was appointed by Governor Rick Snyder to the Michigan Hispanic/Latino Commission. She also serves as the Executive Sponsor of the DTE Energy Women of Finance, the DTE Energy Women's Leadership Forum, and DTE SER, Finance Committee Member of Detroit Cristo Rey High School, and Advisory Member of the University of Michigan-Dearborn College of Business Board of Advisors. She is a past member of the Detroit Urban League Board and University of Notre Dame Law School Advisory Board. Chavez was recently recognized by the Latino Who's Who for her achievements in advancing the culture of the Latino American business community.