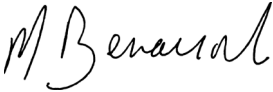




DATE: March 16, 2023

TO: Members of Provost's Council

FROM: Michael Benarroch, Ph.D.
President and Vice-Chancellor 

RE: Robert and Elizabeth Knight Distinguished Visitors Program

This spring marked the first public event supported by the Robert and Elizabeth Knight Distinguished Visitor Program since the visit of Dr. Robin DiAngelo in February 2020. We were honoured to resume the program by welcoming award-winning journalist and best-selling author, Eternity Martis, as a Knight Distinguished Visitor to the university on March 8 and 9, 2023.

The University of Manitoba is now accepting nominations from across the UM community for Knight Distinguished Visitors for the 2023-2024 academic year.

The Knight Distinguished Visitors Program is supported by the R.G. and E.M. Knight Fund (The Knight Fund) to commemorate the lives and achievements of UM alumni Robert Greenwell Knight and Elizabeth Moore Knight, both of whom graduated from our university in the early 1920s. The Knight Fund places emphasis on enhancing the quality of higher education at the University of Manitoba and enriching its academic life by supporting visits from a wide array of outstanding thinkers and innovative leaders. The Knight Fund supports visits to the university by:

- Scholars in a variety of fields, including commerce, finance, economics, political studies, history, and literature;
- Leaders in the areas of commerce, industry, and government; and
- Outstanding achievers from other disciplines who have made distinguished contributions to the advancement of knowledge or to cultural, social, and economic development.

The Knight Fund will defray all costs related to an approved visit. This includes travel, meals and accommodations, an honorarium commensurate with the duration of the visit for the Knight Distinguished Visitor, and the costs associated with the events and activities that are approved elements of the visit. In some circumstances, support for research and administrative assistance may be considered, although normally it is expected that this support will be provided by the nominating unit(s). The duration of visits may vary from a few days to several weeks and a feature of the program is the delivery of a public lecture. In addition, Knight Distinguished Visitors are encouraged to engage in other activities that allow them to interact with the UM community, as well as members of the broader public.

Typically, one visitor would be funded per year, depending on the availability of nominees and the nature of nominations received, though on rare occasions the university has welcomed two Knight Distinguished Visitors within the same academic year. UM faculty and staff are encouraged to consider submitting a nomination and are reminded that they have the option of proposing visits of up to several weeks in length. **Nominations are due on or before May 15, 2023.**

Additional information about the Knight Distinguished Visitors Program, the online nomination form, and a checklist that outlines the nomination information required and how nominations will be evaluated by the Advisory Committee is available here: <https://umanitoba.ca/knight-lecture/nomination-form>.

If you or members of your faculty have questions about the Knight Distinguished Visitors Program or the nomination process, please feel free to contact Kelsey Evans at Kelsey.Evans@umanitoba.ca or 204-430-1846.