

Building Greater Supplier Diversity

The following is summary information related to increased efforts to improve level of expenditures being made with small, woman-owned and minority-owned businesses (SWAMs).

- 0 State-wide initiative to increase participation by SWAM businesses in public sector procurement.
- 0 Disparity study conducted in 2004 highlighted areas of inequity
- 0 Governor's Task Force convened to study process and make recommendations
- 0 Executive Order 29 plus a series of specific directives issued
 - o Change processes and take action to improve results
 - o Expand certification program to include woman-owned and small businesses
 - o Formulate and implement detailed plans at each Institution and Agency
 - o Revamp central agencies to provide increased program support
 - o Quarterly vs. annual reporting requirement
- 0 VT Plan submitted Sept, 2004
 - o Increase awareness and publicize sources
 - o Increase outreach efforts to locate SWAM suppliers
 - o Implement subcontracting plans and reporting in major contracts, including construction
 - o Increased buyer action to attempt to locate a minority or woman-owned source for each procurement valued over \$2,000.
 - o Attempt to increase number of contracts with minority and woman-owned suppliers....increase campus participation in using those contracts
 - o Designate point-of-contact resource to help campus purchasers locate SWAM suppliers: Melissa Dietrich, 231-6675, mdietric@vt.edu