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The University of Michigan Regents' Communication

ITEM FOR INFORMATION

Subject: Central Student Government Report

Attached is the February update on the projects and activities of the Central Student Government.

Respectfully Submitted,



Manish Parikh
President, Central Student Government

February 2013

President Coleman, members of the Board of Regents, and Executive Officers of the University, it is my privilege and honor to submit the following report to you on behalf of the Central Student Government (CSG).

This year at CSG, we've been lucky to have a phenomenal team who've spared no effort in making this a transformative year for our Student Government, by focusing on high impact, and innovative initiatives that impact students across campus!

Our top achievements through February:

- * ***Entrepreneurship Commission:*** This year CSG launched an Entrepreneurship Commission, which brings together the Presidents of all the entrepreneurship organizations on campus with the goal of "making U-M number one for student driven entrepreneurship anywhere in the nation."
- * ***1 Stop Entrepreneurship Resource:*** Through our Entrepreneurship Commission and working with MPowered, we've been able to create a 1-stop entrepreneurship resource, which collates all the fragmented entrepreneurship campus resources and information under a single platform.
- * ***Let's Change U-M Campaign:*** This year CSG announced a unique partnership with the entrepreneurship organization M-Powered. CSG is working with M-Powered to make some of the top ideas from the 1000 pitches competition a reality here on campus. We're currently working with three student teams to help make their visions a reality!
- * ***Take U-M Abroad:*** A unique and innovative study abroad grant, which awards students \$1000 grants for taking an aspect of U of M with them while they study abroad, and using this to creating impact in global communities.
- * ***Michigan International Student's Society:*** We helped create the Michigan International Student Society, which is the first pan-international organization on campus which students from abroad can call their second home. MISS currently has members from 30 different nationalities!
- * ***CSG Interns Program:*** We've been lucky to groom the next batch of "leaders and best" through the newly launched Interns Program whose mission is "to give highly motivated students the leadership and execution skills required to effect great change at the University of Michigan."

* ***Celebrating Minority Holidays/ Cultural Calendar:*** To make our minority communities feel more welcome on campus, we've created a cultural calendar through which we extend our greetings to campus communities on the religious and cultural holidays which are important to them. This has generated a lot of excitement, and we're so happy we've taken a step to make UM more welcoming for all students!

* ***24-Hour Café:*** Students should be able to grab coffee or a snack safely at any time of the day, even when other restaurants and businesses on campus are closed. This is important especially so that student remain well nourished especially during finals. We've worked with UUnions and Bert's Café to make this a reality, and as of this semester they've announced a pilot program where Bert's Café at the Shapiro Library will be open 24/7 on the four busiest days of the week.

* ***Fresh Faces and transformation of organization:*** One of our biggest promises was that we'd give any student on campus the opportunity to serve in CSG no matter what their prior experience. We're proud to announce that close to 60% of all appointments to CSG this year have been students who bring a fresh perspective and have had no prior experience with our organization.

* ***Social Media:*** We're striving to make CSG the most followed (on twitter) and most liked (on facebook) student government in the nation. We've still got some catching up to do, but we'll meet this goal by the end of the year. We call it the #SocialGovernment campaign

* ***Election Code Revision:*** We've been able to rewrite an election code, which was riddled with errors and inconsistencies. This new code will ensure that all future elections are more fair and equitable.

* ***Supporting Blue Bike Program:*** We've been lucky to play a small supporting role in the Blue Bikes program on campus- promoting it to the Student Body, and even providing funding for a limited number of bikes that will be reserved exclusively for Michigan students.

* ***Farmer's Market:*** This year the Farmer's Market organized by our Health Issues Commission was attended by close to two thousand people, and is perhaps the most successful farmer's market in recent history.

* ***Statement Review:*** We've worked with the Office of Student Conflict Resolutions, to make changes to the Statement of Student's Rights and Responsibilities; including, among other things, provisions that supplement the recent Medical Amnesty Law.

* ***Music Matters Concert:*** CSG has also partnered with a student organization on campus, Music Matters, to create a capstone event for the University of Michigan community that features a major concert on campus. As an organization with philanthropic roots, Music Matters donates the proceeds of the concert to a cause within the University of Michigan.

* **Office Hours>>Coffee Chats:** In an effort to engage more directly with our Student Body, our entire leadership team has eliminated Office Hours, and converted this time to Coffee Chats, at Bert's Café at the Shapiro Library.

* **Outreach to all Student Organization Presidents:** Finally we've launched an ambitious "Outreach Team" who's mandate it is to meet the Presidents of every single student organization on campus through the course of the year, and ask them front and center, how CSG can aid them.

Our top priorities February through March:

* **Month Of Entrepreneurship:** We're working, through our Entrepreneurship Commission, to create the first of its kind University wide Month of Entrepreneurship anywhere in the nation, this March.

* **Flipped Semester:** Another upcoming project through our Entrepreneurship Commission is the potential creation of an innovative, action-based educational program that allows University of Michigan students to design their own curriculum for one semester.

* **Student Entrepreneur Funding Vehicle (SEFV):** Our Entrepreneurship Commission is also working with the Center For Entrepreneurship to create the first student driven and student led grant funding vehicle for student entrepreneurs, anywhere in the nation.

* **UM.Speaks:** UM.Speaks is a simple web platform that displays all the prominent speakers who're visiting campus on a single page. This will ensure that more students can more easily be informed and thus attend the educational and guest lectures that occur on campus.

* **Big Thank You A2:** The Ann Arbor community has been an amazing neighbor to our University of Michigan, and this year CSG wants to thank them for their kindness. We're hosting a weeklong program of community service events, which will allow U-M students an opportunity to volunteer with and aid Ann Arbor residents.

* **Meet Your Athletes Day:** We're hosting a day on the Diag where Wolverines across campus get a chance to meet and interact with their favorite student athletes, as well as an opportunity to honor and salute the hard work and singular determination of all our athletes on campus.

* **U-M Heroes:** U-M Heroes is an award ceremony which will honor and award outstanding students on campus, who've created great impact and social benefit, through their extracurricular efforts while at our University.

* **International Night:** International Night is a way to celebrate our rich international community on campus, through a cultural show, and performances that celebrate U-M's rich international community.

* ***St. Patrick's Day Tailgate***: Another event, which is among our top priorities, is hosting an alcohol free environment during St. Patrick's Day weekend, where we will provide food and water, and other attractions to keep Wolverines across campus safe, hydrated, nourished and entertained.

* ***Town Hall Debate***: From this year on, the CSG Presidential elections will be marked with a Town Hall style debate, so that common students can ask their potential leaders questions in an open and transparent forum.

* ***30% Voter Turnout***: Through the course of this year, we've focused on reengaging our student body; we certainly hope that through our good efforts this year, our March voting turnout will be the highest in the 106 year history of our organization.

Once again I thank you for taking the time to read this report, for creating a campus environment that fosters and nurtures students across campus, and for your tireless dedication to all our students on campus.

Respectfully submitted,



Manish Parikh
President of the Central Student Government