

**The University of Michigan  
Regents' Communication**

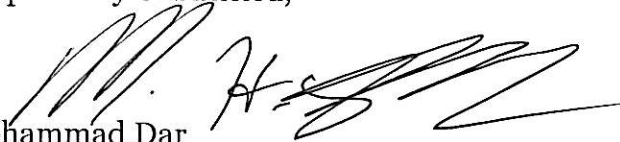
**ITEM FOR INFORMATION**

Received by the Regents  
March 20, 2008

Subject: Michigan Student Assembly Report

Attached is the March update on the projects and activities of the Michigan Student Assembly.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Mohammad Dar  
President, Michigan Student Assembly

March, 2008

Dear President Coleman, Regents, and Executive Officers,

I would like to thank each of you for all of these opportunities we have had to share our work with you over the last year. Even with less than a month left before our organization's major turnover, we've been hard at work on a variety of issues:

*Student Health Insurance*— MSA recently voted to support a re-evaluation of the current student health insurance plan. The price of the premium for the plan has grown enormously over the last few years and we would like the University to look into re-evaluating the current plan. In doing this, we also request that the University consider the merits of setting a mandatory level of insurance for all students. We are working with UHS officials on this issue and I will provide more information on this in person.

*Financial Aid and Students* – Over the last year, we've seen a strong desire among our constituency and amongst our MSA representatives to improve student interactions with the financial aid office. Obviously, the office has a difficult job to fulfill, especially with limited resources, but we would like to do what we can to help improve the information flow between the office and students.

One idea that has been extremely popular among students is the ability for students to be able to schedule appointments directly with financial aid advisors who they have met with in the past so that they may continue to meet with those who understand their individual cases the best.

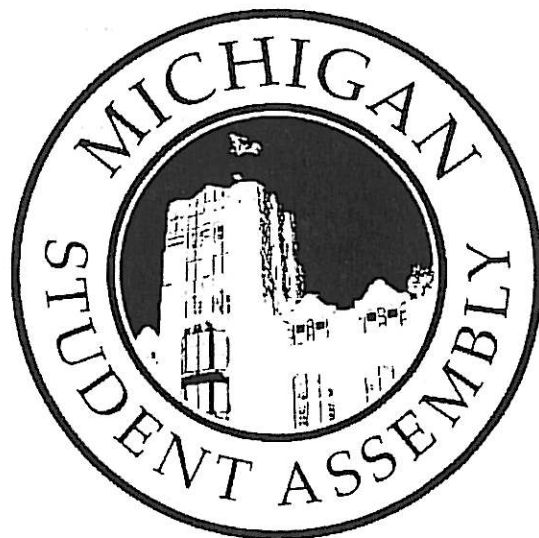
*Strong Committees* – Our committees and commissions are continuing their great work. A few examples include the following: our funding bodies are seeing record turnout and requests from student groups; our Environmental Issues Commission has an incredible Earth Week planned for late March with a full week of events that will have each day featuring different issues; and our Minority Affairs Commission recently examined community issues by hosting a State of Black America event.

*Increasing Transparency* – MSA recently revised its operating procedures to collect the goals of our individual representatives and committees and commissions. Additionally, we will be putting these online for students to see and we have also institutionalized monthly Representative reports in addition to the weekly Committee/Commission reports so that students can view the progress of those goals.

*Student Alcohol Issues and Emergency Situations* – We do understand and empathize with the desire to keep underage students from engaging in unlawful behavior. However, our members would like to work towards making sure in case of alcohol overdose, students are able to seek medical attention in the most effective way possible. We have come to the understanding that the DPS and AAPD operate according to state laws on this matter and so we are advocating to our legislators to see if we can work towards a good Samaritan policy when it comes to notifying the authorities of a medical emergency where underage drinking is involved.

*Logo* – MSA also recently changed its logos to present a more professional look. The new logo and word mark are below;

**M**UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
MICHIGAN STUDENT ASSEMBLY



*MSA Elections* – The MSA election campaign period is underway. There are two tickets for the Presidential and Vice-Presidential positions. In addition, there are 43 registered candidates running for the various other seats on MSA.

We will be welcoming the new MSA President at the next Regents' meeting. I will deliver my final report in writing and verbally then and will then have the new President address the board.

As always, thank you for your time.