# The University of Michigan Regents' Communication

## **ITEM FOR INFORMATION**

Subject: Central Student Government Report

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



Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Proppe President, Central Student Government

March 10, 2013

President Coleman, members of the Board of Regents, and Executive Officers of the University, I am pleased and honored to submit the following report to you on behalf of the Central Student Government. Below is a brief update of our activities, operations, and goals as we continue to serve the students of this University.

### Student Football Ticketing Policy

- Beginning in the 2014 football season, there will no longer be general admission student seating. In its place, seating will be reserved, with seats assigned based on attendance at games during the previous season.
- In 2014, seats will be assigned based on a combination of seniority and 2013 attendance. The order of seating will be as follows:
  - o Returning students who attended at least 5 games on time in 2013
  - Returning seniors/graduate school students
  - Returning juniors
  - Returning sophomores
  - o Returning freshman
  - New incoming students (freshmen, transfers, and graduate)
- Students will be able to form seating groups ranging from 2-100 people.
- In 2014, groups will be seated based on the average class standing in the group.
- Beginning in 2015, all reserved seating locations will be decided strictly by attendance points. Attendance points are accumulated for each game attended (3 points). Arriving 30 minutes prior to kickoff can earn an additional 3 points, for a total of 6 points.
- Beginning in 2015, groups will be seated based on the average point total in the group.
- The new seating policy corrects most of the concerns students had over the General Admission seating policy, which was opposed by 77% of student season ticketholders. These concerns include
  - "I can't sit with my friends if we don't all arrive at the same time" (cited by 85% of students as a reason they disliked General Admission)
  - o "I do not enjoy waiting in line before the game" (67%)
  - o "I am no longer surrounded by students of similar class standing to me" (54%)
  - o "I have felt unsafe/in danger of being trampled" (33%)
  - "I am upset the system was not grandfathered in" (cited by 72%)
- CSG Vice President Bobby Dishell and I have made solving the general admission seating policy our top priority over the last few months, and owe a debt of gratitude to those who assisted us. This includes the members of the Board of Regents, President Mary Sue Coleman, Vice President for Student Life E. Royster Harper, Athletic Director David Brandon, and Chief Marketing Office for Michigan Athletics Hunter Lochmann, who has proven to be particularly responsive and attentive to student concerns.
- This process can be viewed as an enormous win for the power of the student voice, and represents the beginning of a healthy working relationship between Athletics and the **Central Student Government**. We are optimistic next year's experience will be a significant improvement as a result.

#### Student Basketball Ticketing Review

- In the 2013-14 basketball season, the Athletic Department adopted a new ticketing policy that **required students to "claim" games** they wanted to attend roughly 3 weeks in advance of each game.
- This policy was adopted to cope with **overselling the student section** by about 1,500 seats. The policy was seen as the **most reasonable method** of dealing with this problem, **outside of expanding the student section.**
- As a result of the policy, student attendance at basketball games jumped from 46% in 2012-13 to 82% in 2013-14.
- That said, students have expressed concerns over the policy. In particular, many students feel **the "claim" period takes place too far in advance of games**.
- Other students have expressed dissatisfaction with the number of seats allocated to students in the lower bowl. At 653 seats, Crisler Center has one of the smaller lower bowl student sections in the Big Ten. Some students who arrived at 7:15 AM for the Michigan State game did not get lower bowl seats.
- We will review the policy with the Athletic Department in the coming weeks and plan to assist in the design of survey of basketball season ticketholders, as we did with football.

#### Night Owl Off-Campus Bus Route

- The new Night Owl off-campus bus route, designed and funded by the Central Student Government and the Interfraternity Council, **began running in January**.
- The route serves some of the most high-density student neighborhoods on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights between 10 P.M and 3 A.M.
- Prior to this year, 84% of incidents resulting in a campus-wide crime alert occurred late at night. 64% took place while the victim was walking alone.
- Through six weeks of the service, the route has serviced a total of 3,480 riders. This represents 3,480 fewer times students have walked home late at night on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights. Since the route's implementation, no crime alerts for off-campus incidents have been issued.
- While the route is **popular with students**, its numbers are weakened because **the route is not currently on the MBus tracker**, which shows students how many minutes will pass before a bus arrives at their stop. Unfortunately, the University no longer owns the MBus software and the **route cannot be added until next year**.
- The Central Student Government and the Interfraternity Council do not have sufficient funds to continue funding the route beyond the Winter 2014 semester. We are preparing a proposal for the **University to fund the route into next year** and **expand the route to run all seven nights during the school year**.
- A previous Regents' report indicated the route services roughly 300 students per night. This was a miscalculation. The route serves roughly 175 students per night. I regret and take responsibility for the error.

#### Support for the #BBUM Movement

- The Central Student Government Assembly passed a resolution to support the #BBUM (Being Black at the University of Michigan) movement in February.
- One of the issues noted in the resolution is the lack of transportation to and from campus for students living in Ypsilanti. The last bus to Ypsilanti stops on campus at 6:30 PM during the week. This inhibits students living in Ypsilanti's ability to fully engage in campus life, especially given most student organizations meet in the evening.
- The Central Student Government is reviewing options to **support expansion of transportation to and from Ypsilanti** and other far off-campus student neighborhoods to allow for more students to engage in campus life.
- Additionally, the resolution expresses continued support for the discussions between the University administration and the leaders of the Black Student Union. The Central Student Government recognizes the leaders of the Black Student Union and the #BBUM movement as important voices in the continued efforts to increase campus diversity.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Proppe (/ President, Central Student Government

## University of Michigan – Dearborn Student Government



## March 2014 Regents' Report

President Coleman, members of the Board of Regents, and Executive Officers of the University, it is my pleasure and honor to submit the following report to you on behalf of the University of Michigan – Dearborn Student Government (SG). We greatly appreciate this opportunity to update you on the initiatives our new administration has accomplished as well as ongoing feats.

**Priority Scheduling:** Upon discussions with student government fellows, who are involved in our ROTC program, we have realized that early registration is a luxury that would greatly aid our students involved in this program. Due to their scheduling restraints – early conditioning and limited military science courses – students are then struggling to elect required courses for their respective studies thus inhibiting their ease of progression. I, along with committee members, have voiced this concern to administration and am hoping for it to take effect before the registration of the summer and fall semesters of this year. Our athletes, and campus honors students, are given this privilege and we believe our ROTC students that have apparent scheduling conflicts should also be given this opportunity as well.

*The Union at Dearborn Survey*: This past week SG has partnered up with our EMSL office to bring forward a new survey for UM-Dearborn students living at The Union. The goals of this survey is to logically and quantitatively document student living experiences as well as provide University administration a clearer image when discussing policies affecting our students with the developers as well as management. We were asked by students to provide an avenue for feedback to the management company and this thorough survey does the job.

*Inclusion Week:* On the second week of February Student Government hosted the inaugural Inclusion Week on campus. This week involved various events on campus that showcased our campus community's commitment to inclusion, and also allowed for students to continue to engage in these important conversations. Our hallmark event was the Fourth Annual Chancellor's Town Hall Meeting where Chancellor Little engages with students over lunch and hosts a talk about the evolving nature of our campus. Alongside the Town Hall, we hosted a wide array of events including a SG sponsored basketball game; a Special Olympics Fundraiser, a LGBTQ Anti-Valentine Poetry Slam, and a food drive for our very own campus Food Pantry. We hope for this week to become a longstanding tradition where SG partners up with various organizations on campus to continue to put forward inclusive initiatives.

**Commitment to Athletics:** This past year with our newly created position, Director of Athletics we have taken great strides to help our campus transition to the echelon that is "Wolverine Athletics." We have recently allocated SG funding to two new projects within the field house: new flooring for our guest locker room showers and new signage for our scorekeepers table.

As always, I thank you for taking the time to read this report, as we appreciate the opportunity to share our initiatives with you all, your diligent work to better our campus experiences is invaluable.

Very Truly Yours,

Wedad Ibrahim President, Student Government