

# Central Student Government

Subject: Central Student Government (CSG) Report

March 2023

President Ono, members of the Board of Regents, and Executive Officers of the University, I am honored to submit the following report to you on behalf of the Central Student Government (CSG):

### I. Current and Upcoming CSG Programming

- **A. Wellbeing Day.** CSG is excited to host our Wellbeing Day event on Saturday, March 25th, from 3-6 PM on the Diag. This event will have live music, food and drinks, games, and dogs while you explore wellbeing resources on campus! There will be performances by local campus bands Joe and the Ruckus and Kingfisher. Additionally, over 14 University Departments and 6 student organizations will be participating in tabling and providing student resources.
- **B. Grad Gowns.** Students at the University of Michigan deserve to celebrate their achievements without the barrier of often exorbitant graduation costs. For many students, these costs are unaffordable and foster inequitable graduation experiences among students. As part of a CSG initiative started in 2018 and continued by the current Programming Team, students will have the opportunity to receive free graduation gowns.
- C. **End of Term Events.** Other events are being planned for the end of the year by the CSG team, including DEI Discussion Forum, Sunset Cinema on the Diag, Wolverines on the Run 5k Fundraiser for the Leadership Engagement Scholarship, Women's History Month Art Expo, Adaptive Sports Event, and more.
- **D. CSG Elections.** The ballots for student government elections will be open on March 29 and 30! All students, regardless of college or year, can vote in one or more elections. Ballots can be cast at vote.umich.edu. Voting closes on March 30 at 11:59 PM. Our administration is working to increase election turnout as much as possible; higher turnout means more students feel duly represented by their student body representatives.

## **II.** Notices to the Board of Regents

- **A. Strategic Visioning and Master Planning.** On strategic visioning and master planning processes, we want to note the importance of including a broad student audience while engaging in these processes. Finally, a notable omission of the Strategic Visioning website is the mention of holistic wellbeing or accessibility as focal areas. We highly urge President Ono and the EVPs to include these as primary focus areas for students, faculty, and staff.
- **B. Student Legal Services.** CSG urges that the University expand Student Legal Services (SLS) to the Flint and Dearborn campuses to provide critical legal support to all students across the University of Michigan system.
- **C. Campus Safety.** In the wake of MSU, we need to bolster efforts such as making buildings MCard only (following MSU's model) and exploring other options to make students feel safer without explicitly increasing police presence on campus.

As our administration comes to a close, we thank you, the Board, President Ono, and the Executive Officers for all the work that you have done. We are proud of the term that we have served as student body representatives. Our programming has enjoyed record student attendance, we have advanced multiple critical initiatives aimed at serving the student body, and enhanced campus life through our support of a wide variety of student organizations, bolstering a thriving campus environment after years of COVID-19 related impediments to student safety, learning, and community. We are incredibly proud to have worked so closely with the administration toward a collective goal of serving the Wolverine community. Thank you once again.

Sincerely,

Noah B Zimmerman Noah Zimmerman

Student Body President

# The Student Government of the University of Michigan - Dearborn



#### **March 2023 Regents Report**

President Ono, Members of the Board of Regents, and Executive Officers of the University, it is our honor to submit the following report to you on behalf of the administration of University of Michigan-Dearborn's Student Government (SG). We look forward to updating you on our initiatives and sharing all on which we have worked.

#### Response to MSU Shooting:

Student Government has been actively engaged with our students to provide support and resources during this difficult time. We organized a grief/response to trauma event with CAPS and will host a run, fight, and hide event with campus officers. My Vice President and I met with Chief Gorski to review the protocol for a school shooting. We also hosted a vigil on the Dearborn campus and joined Ann Arbor for their vigil while passing out candles to attendees.

#### February Success:

Student Government hosted a successful faculty/staff appreciation day with over 100 staff and faculty members attending. The Student Academic Affairs Committee is currently working on a syllabi drive that, once completed, will be shared with all students. The purpose of this drive is to provide students with a better understanding of what their classes will look like and to help them familiarize themselves with the structure of their courses before they sign up. Student Government held our first fundraiser and raised \$300 to donate to the Environmental Interpretive Center on campus for environmental day.

#### Campus Beautification:

Student Government is working with facilities to plant a tree to honor Chancellor Grasso and show how he has helped students blossom. We are also working with facilities to find a location on the Dearborn campus for President Ono's inauguration gift.

#### Conclusion:

Student Government is committed to positively impacting the campus and providing support and resources for our students and faculty. We will continue to make the University of Michigan-Dearborn an excellent place for everyone and we look forward to your support and alliance.

Forever proud to be Dearborn Wolverines,

Darena Matti Fatima Chehade

Student Body President, University of Student Body Vice President, University of Michigan-Dearborn Student Body Vice President, University of Michigan-Dearborn



President Ono, members of the Board of Regents, and Executive Officers of the University, I am pleased and honored to submit this report on behalf of the University of Michigan-Flint Student Government. Below is an update on Student Government's activity in the previous month.

This past month we attended the second annual United Student Government of Michigan Conference, which was a restarted initiative since the pandemic held by the three Universities of Michigan hosted on Flint's campus. I am incredibly proud to say that for all the feedback we received from our hosting efforts, the tradition was continued this year as hosted on Central Michigan's campus by their wonderful Student Government. We were joined by eleven of the fifteen public institutions in the state, who provided incredibly bright delegates that made for quick friends. We discussed best practices, structure, campus safety, and inequality in leadership among many other fascinating and exciting topics. Our campus brought some veteran members along with many new and excited faces that had the opportunity to build connections and a network of friendly students who every member can reach out to and help strengthen the ties between students within student governance across the state. We greatly appreciate this opportunity from CMU and are hopeful that the tradition continues into the future.

All conference attendees of the conference were excited for all the possible collaboration in the future, but the first element of collaboration that was done was a press release. This press release was released just days before the conference took place and was a joint statement from all fifteen public institution's student body presidents. It was a joint statement to mourn the loss of students and stand together with Michigan State University after the tragic shooting. I know all of the students here at the Flint campus were horrified to hear about the events of that day and we would like to give our thoughts and prayers to the family and friends of the lost students.

An additional statement made over the past month by UM-Flint's Student Government has been our statement of support for in person classes which echoes the sentiments I have personally heard along with many members of student government that we are advocating for more in person class options. With more freshmen and sophomores coming to college and wanting to experience some of what they had missed out on in high school. The in person teaching experience and the personal touch of instructors is one of the great opportunities found at UM-Flint and a tragic missed opportunity for students who desire this hands on and high context communication style. Vice President Azeim conducted a survey sent out to all students where we received a modest but highly representative sample size that supported the sentiments we have been hearing on campus my whole term. The statement was distributed to campus leadership and will hopefully influence the fall 2023 course modality options in the interest of the

students. I appreciate the hard work faculty has done in the classroom and look forward to the ability to experience it firsthand once again without the aid of a digital screen.

the Student Government is excited to announce that we will play a pivotal role in the second phase of the transformation project which has been tasked to our amazing Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, Dr. Gioridano. A man who is as kind as he is amicable, from our initial meetings and talks he has already created a robust structure that we all feel will suit this project incredibly well. The process is expected to run into early April and I am incredibly hopeful for this more structured approach that I voiced my vehement desire for in the initial phase of the transformation project. Student Government's role is to serve as one of four teams creating change proposals that, if selected, would be implemented over the course of the next couple of years to create a vibrant and profitable campus. We appreciate the opportunity and look forward to the work ahead.

I personally had the opportunity to attend the inauguration ceremony of our amazing new President, Dr. Santa J. Ono. I brought along with me Vice President Azeim and Director of Foreign Outreach LaPeen. All in attendance voiced their appreciation of the ceremony and treasure the opportunity to carry the UM-Flint campus mantle to the big house. After much deliberation on a gift between UM-Flint's Student Government, Central Student Government, UM-Dearborn's Student Government, and Rackham Graduate School's student Government; the decision was made to invoke unity between the tri-campuses and install a quote on the walls of UM-Flint's, UM-Dearborn's, and Ann Arbor's campuses respectively. We chose a poignant quote from Aristotle for the occasion and I am personally hopeful that it will be honored by the newly installed president's trademark selfie, to truly dedicate the piece. We were all honored and humbled to contribute our time and our ideas to this historic event.

In closing it has been an eventful month for student government and the university at large. We hope to continue our support of the students and continue to make progress towards creating a better student experience by amplifying the voice of students.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy J. Brooks

Student Body President

University of Michigan - Flint