

**The University of Michigan
Regents' Communication**

ITEM FOR INFORMATION

Received by the Regents
June 21, 2007

Subject: Michigan Student Assembly Report

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

Respectfully Submitted,



Zack Yost
MSA President

Mohammad Dar
MSA Vice President

June, 2007

President Coleman, Regents, and Executive Officers,

Since last month's meeting, the Michigan Student Assembly has been actively preparing for the fall and has been making significant progress on some of our major agenda items. Below are some of our month's highlights.

Activities Update:

Summer Funding – The Summer Student Assembly, MSA's summer funding body, has already allocated over \$15,000 to the numerous student groups that remain active over the summer months. Using updated applications and clear funding guidelines, we have been able ensure that both representatives and student group members are aware of funding policies and regulations before problems arise.

Textbooks – As previously mentioned, MSA members have been involved with the Textbooks Taskforce originating from Vice Provost Lester Monts's office. After making rounds with members of the University administration, this project appears to have garnered a great deal of support with many key stakeholders in the University. MSA is extremely proud to have worked with the University to reduce textbook prices for students and ease bureaucratic burdens on faculty.

Recreational Sports Hours – This month, we met with Vice President Harper and Vice Provost Monts and this was among our agenda items. We have decided to explore different avenues for keeping at least one (either the Central Campus Recreation Building or the Intramural Sports Building) of the Recreational Sports facilities open later than 11:00 PM. We are now in the search for the \$45,000 necessary to achieve this goal. Any advice or guidance on this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Diversity – Following some advice from Vice President Krislov, one of MSA's angles for addressing diversity at the University of Michigan will be to focus on recruitment, retention, and employment. What we mean by that is to assist the University in recruiting qualified and diverse applicants, helping to create a campus that makes people want to stay, and ensuring that all of our graduates have excellent shots at employment in their field of choice. Last week most of the MSA Executive Board and an MSA Representative met with Ted Spencer, Chris Lucier, Feodies Shipp, and Tyrone Winfrey from the Office of Undergraduate Admissions to discuss how MSA can help with recruitment. Some wonderful ideas came out of this meeting, including having MSA send a letter to all admitted students reaffirming MSA's commitment to diversity and building a welcoming campus community. MSA will also work hard to find students willing to volunteer their time to sell the University of Michigan to prospective students.

State Budget – MSA understands the financial constraints of the University of Michigan as a result of alterations in the state budget. That's why MSA has been scheduling meetings to talk with state senators and representatives to see if we can use a student's perspective to impact their votes and secure more funding for the University.