# The University of Michigan Regents' Communication

### ITEM FOR INFORMATION

Subject: Central Student Government Report

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Manish Parikh

President, Central Student Government

November 2012



## November 2012 Regents' Report

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).

#### Thanking and Honoring Regents Maynard and Taylor

Regents Maynard and Taylor have dedicated 16 distinguished years of service to our University in their capacity as Regents. They have always been champions of the students and supported some historic initiatives important to students over the past 16 years, including but not limited to: student housing, and campus safety, diversity and minority enrolment, environmental issues and sustainability, cutting edge research, innovation and long term stability of our University's endowment. On behalf of the Central Student Government and our entire Student Body we would like to honor their tremendous work by presenting them with a resolution passed by our Student Assembly.

#### **Entrepreneurship Commission**

Last month we announced the launch of an Entrepreneurship Commission within CSG, this month we'd like to share some of our progress and planned activities:

- The Entrepreneurship Commission now includes the leaders of 18 out of 21 entrepreneurship organizations on campus
- We've been working closely with the Center for Entrepreneurship to work on campus wide solutions to promoting entrepreneurship
- We're planning a "Giant Entrepreneurial Event" on campus, which would occur over a
  weekend and showcase and bring together every entrepreneurship organization on
  campus
- We're fostering campus wide collaboration and coordination to ensure all entrepreneurial groups are working closely together, and are cross collaborating on each others projects and activities

#### Michigan International Students Society & Ambassador's Board

We are proud to announce that CSG has played a very active role in supporting and helping create the 1<sup>st</sup> pan-international student organization on campus: Michigan International Students Society. This organization currently has members from over 30 different nationalities, and will serve as a powerful advocate for all international students on campus. In conjunction with MISS, CSG has also formed an Ambassador's Board, consisting of 20 Presidents of International Student Organizations on campus, who will come together bi-weekly to advise CSG on making campus even more welcoming and perfect for all international students

#### Port Huron Statement

The Port Huron Statement was conceived at our University, at Central Student Government was extremely proud to support the 50 year anniversary of this movement "A New Insurgency: The Port Huron Statement in its Time and Ours." The event was a huge success, and was widely attended by members of our Student Body.

#### **Building a Better Michigan**

Central Student Government supports the tremendous work undertaken by the student coalition Building a Better Michigan (BBM). We support they're requests for new and modern buildings and facilities on campus, and will continue to work with our University Administration to play a part in advancing our collective goals of modernizing our University facilities, and making campus more appealing to prospective students.

#### **Greeting Campus Communities**

This month we were very proud to continue our minority outreach and celebrating the days, which are important to members of our University family. Two of the days we've celebrated so far this day include Eid- the most important day on the calendar for our Muslim community, and Diwali- the festival of lights! The month of November is also "Native American and Latin Heritage Month" and we're very proud to celebrate this month with these respective communities.

#### **New Election Code**

Our prior CSG Election Code was filled with errors, inconsistencies and contradictions, which led to numerous problems and issues in our previous elections. Thanks to the hard work of our

Rules Committee and many representatives on our Assembly we've written and adopted a new 15-page election code, which clears the inconsistencies and contradictions, and among other things regulates campaign finance. We feel this election code will serve as a model for many other colleges, and we're certain it will lead to more fair, consistent and regular elections at our University.

#### Making Syllabi available to students

One of CSG's biggest initiatives in the academic affairs front is working with the Provost to ensure that students have access to course syllabi before they select classes. This is one of our student body's forefront issues, and CSG hopes to close the information gap, such that students are enrolling in classes, which they are genuinely more passionate about. We know this will lead to fewer dropped classes, and will lead to greater efficiency and transparency with course selection at our University. We are working closely with Provost Hanlon on this issue.

#### **CSG-MPowered Partnership**

This year CSG and MPowered (host of the 1000 Pitches competition, which is the largest student run entrepreneurship competition in the world) are teaming up to ensure that some of the great ideas pitched at the 1000 pitches competition, especially in the "MProvements category" (Applies to ideas for tangible improvements to the UofM infrastructure and campus community) are supported and made a reality at our University.

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.

My Best Wishes,

Respectfully submitted,

Manish Parikh

President of the Central Student Government