

**The University of Michigan
Regents' Communication**

ITEM FOR INFORMATION

Subject: Central Student Government Report

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



Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Proppe
President, Central Student Government

February 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.

Welcoming Mark Schlissel as Michigan's 14th President

- The introduction of Dr. Mark Schlissel as the 14th President of the University of Michigan **excited the student body**, and we look forward to **assisting with his transition**.
- President-Elect Schlissel spent about 30 minutes **meeting with student leaders**, including members of the University Council and the students who served on the committee that assisted the Presidential Search Advisory Committee in September and October. This represents a show of good faith that he **values interaction with students** and will proactively work to connect with us and hear our concerns.
- Touching on themes of **academic excellence, diversity, affordability, and shared governance with students**, President-Elect Schlissel demonstrated he shares the concerns students put forth in our report to the Presidential Search Advisory Committee.

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.**
- A little **over 300 students ride the bus each night**, on average. This works out to about 30 riders per bus per hour, **beating the 20 riders per bus per hour marker** set forth by Parking and Transportation Services as their minimum threshold to continue a route.
- 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. We are working to add the Night Owl to MBus before the end of the semester.

Campus-Wide Entrepreneurship

- The Central Student Government co-hosted a **campus-wide entrepreneurship kickoff event** with Dr. Thomas Zurbuchen, Senior Counselor to the Provost on Entrepreneurship on January 25, 2014.
- The event was **attended by over 60 students** who assisted the CSG leadership and Dr. Zurbuchen in **framing what a campus-wide entrepreneurship program could look like** at Michigan. From this group, Dr. Zurbuchen will **select 10-15 students to form a "think tank" advisory group** that will meet regularly to assist in the formation of the program.
- The students at the event split into groups and **applied an "entrepreneurial framework" to a diverse set of campus issues**, from transportation to publicizing the

arts to access to professors. Many of the ideas put forth were intriguing, and **are being followed up on by CSG leadership** in an attempt to implement them this semester.

Student Football Ticketing Policy

- Following the close of the Michigan Football regular season, the Central Student Government began meeting with Athletics to **review the controversial general admission policy and help design next year's student seating policy.**
- These **meetings have been productive**, with both Athletics and the Central Student Government putting forth proposals that will **maximize student enjoyment of football gamedays and incentivize strong student attendance.**
- The 2014 student seating policy is in the process of being finalized, and **will be jointly announced later this month** by the Central Student Government and Athletics.
- 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.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Proppe
President, Central Student Government

University of Michigan – Dearborn Student Government



February 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 (UM-Dearborn SG).

Greek Life Initiatives: With the beginning of a new semester and New Year, SG is looking to host more collaborative events with Greek Life. In the Winter semester, Greek Life will usually kick off many of their signature fundraising events, and we are looking to help in terms of promotion and attendance with the leadership provided by our Director of Greek Affairs, Samantha Holland. The tendency for student life on campus is for Greek Life to operate as a separate entity from other organizational involvement and we are looking for ways to build connections with existing organizations as well as create new traditions between SG and Greek Life. One of the main issues with Greek Life was the lack of an office space, which has recently been fixed with an office adjacent to ours, but we are looking to have more conversations on how to alleviate some issues they may have on campus.

University Center & Food Service Provider Concerns: One of the most pressing issues that students, and even faculty and staff, seem to be concerned with is the issues that have arose from the transition to our new food vendor, Sodexo. The plan is for Sodexo to have a new “re-launch” of its services, given the many leadership issues they have had their first semester here. Upon evaluation of this re-launch, we will then move into the next phase of lobbying for immediate and effective change for better services, food quality, and pricing for student organizations specifically. As for the University Center amenities, students have requested longer hours for our student union space for quite some time now. With the new Victors Den space closed at 11 pm for UM-Dearborn students, and the library closing at 11:45 pm, students need a space where they are all able to gather and relax, and possibly even study. These requests will be brought up as the search for a new University Center Director begins.

Continued Governmental Document Reform: The Rules and Ethics committee has successfully revised the Election Guidelines for the 2014 Student Government Election and they have now begun taking a look at our Compiled Code as well. There are many possible areas for the code to become more simplified and streamlined when searching within the document and getting rid of redundancies. Also, another area of importance is the Student Judiciary guidelines within our compiled code as well as the internal Student Judiciary guidelines. The upcoming election will be the ultimate test for the success of the Student Judiciary and we are expecting a smooth experience working with the Justices as well as the officiating of the election itself.

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. In addition, thank you for making all students within the University of Michigan system feel important and valued, your diligent work to better our campus experiences is invaluable.

Very Truly Yours,

Wedad Ibrahim 
President, Student Government