

**The University of Michigan  
Regents' Communication**

ITEM FOR INFORMATION

Subject: Central Student Government Report

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



Respectfully submitted,

David Schafer  
President, Central Student Government

February 06, 2017

President Schlissel, 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 (CSG). Below is a brief update of our activities, operations, and goals as we continue to serve the students of this University.

### **Student Support**

- CSG affirms its unwavering support for international students, refugee students, and Muslim students in this uncertain time. Let us never forget that their presence enriches our campus community. On this note, we'd like to thank President Schlissel for his prompt statement, in which he reiterated his firm commitment to ensuring for the safety and security of all U-M students. His leadership has not gone unnoticed, and we thank him for representing the highest ideals of "this Michigan of Ours."

### **Leadership Engagement Scholarship**

- CSG has continued to engage the student body, administration, U-M Development, and alumni in its work to grow the Leadership Engagement Scholarship, which aims to remove the cost barriers to extracurricular involvement and leadership by providing emerging and established student leaders with demonstrated need with scholarship funding. This scholarship remains one of our proudest accomplishments, and we thank everyone for their indispensable and continuing support.

### **Mental Health**

- The first-ever CSG Mental Health Taskforce held two town halls in January, one each on Central and North Campuses, to engage students in discussions on how best to strengthen the mental health climate on campus and improve students' access to invaluable resources.
- The Taskforce has finished analyzing the results from the surveys that were sent out to the student body and faculty back in October. It has now started drafting recommendations based on the survey results and feedback from students gathered at the town halls on how best to improve the climate around mental health and ways in which access to resources, both on- and off-campus, can be enhanced. The final report, which should be finished by early March, will be disseminated to the Regents, President, and Executive Officers.

### **Cross-Student Government Collaboration/Conference**

- During the weekend of February 3-5, CSG sent 5 delegates to the bi-annual Association of Big Ten Students (ABTS) Conference at Ohio State University. Alongside delegations from the 13 other Big Ten institutions, we engaged in discussions on pressing campus issues, including mental health, off-campus safety, sustainability, and textbook

affordability. We cherish the opportunity to come together and collaborate with our colleagues across the Big Ten Conference.

### **Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness**

- This semester, CSG introduced a pilot funding policy, in which organizations that apply for, and seek to claim, more than \$1,000 from the Student Organization Funding Commission (SOFC) must send at least two authorized signers to one Bystander Intervention training facilitated by the Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness Center (SAPAC) Bystander Intervention and Community Engagement (BICE) program and Wolverine Wellness. The trainings center on best practices around the mitigation of alcohol and other drug misuse and sexual misconduct. This program has been incredibly successful, with **216** students from **100+** student organizations having already attended a Bystander Intervention training session.
- The purpose of these trainings is to provide student leaders with the ability to:
  - Identify examples of --and components that are consistent with-- harmful behavior and high-risk situations
  - Compare and contrast effective and ineffective methods and types of intervention in high-risk circumstances
  - Relay the skills you learned to the rest of your student organization
  - Apply your newfound knowledge, skills, and awareness to improve the climate both inside and outside of your student organization

### **Provost Search**

- We'd like to thank President Schlissel for including a student representative on the search advisory committee for the next University Provost. We look forward to working with President Schlissel and the rest of the committee to elevate an even broader cross-section of student voice throughout this search process.

### **Student Advisory Council**

- To elevate student voice at the city level, CSG, in partnership with the Ann Arbor Public School (AAPS) system, and with help from U-M Community Relations Director Jim Kosteva, worked with the Ann Arbor City Council to establish the Student Advisory Council in January 2017. The Council's purpose is to promote dialogue and increased collaboration among University and AAPS students and the City on policies, programs, and actions that affect all stakeholders.

### **Grocery Shuttle**

- We recognized the longstanding demand for a grocery store near the University campus to serve the food needs of students at an accessible location. Survey results taught us that scarcity, inaccessibility, and unaffordability of grocery options on campus were the

biggest obstacles facing students. To address and mitigate these obstacles, CSG has introduced a Grocery Store Shuttle initiative. We are excited to present transportation to affordable, healthy grocery options to Michigan students.

- On each Sunday of operation two Michigan buses transport students from various campus locations to Meijer and back from 12:00pm to 4:30pm. We are proud to have launched this initiative with our first Sunday of operation on February 5<sup>th</sup>. With great motivation and excitement, we are eager to continue to promote and support healthy and convenient resources to the Michigan community.

### **“200 for 200” Campaign**

- In honor of the University of Michigan’s Bicentennial, CSG has been featuring 200 of Michigan's most involved and accomplished undergraduate, graduate, and professional students in a new series, "200 for 200." This year-long series, which has been very well received by students, will serve as a reflection of Michigan's diverse student body and prestige as a national research university. Thus far, **30** students from a variety of different backgrounds and types of organizational involvement have been showcased.

### **Emergency Meal Fund**

- CSG recently launched the Emergency Meal Fund, the purpose of which is to provide immediate aid to food-insecure students on campus by giving them a one-time amount of 6 dining swipes that they would be able to use at the dining hall of their choice. The program is run in partnership with the Dean of Students Office and Michigan Dining. As part of the initiative, students who access the fund will fill out an anonymous and confidential survey to assess the causes of food insecurity and help craft future programs to address the issue.

Respectfully submitted,

David Schafer  
President, Central Student Government



## University of Michigan-Dearborn Student Government

### February 2017 Regents' Report

President Schlissel, 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 truly appreciate this opportunity to inform you on all the initiatives Student Government is working on throughout the year.

***Post-Elections Reporting Concerns:*** Over these past few weeks, Student Government has been working to increase transparency and seek clarity in various reporting procedures on campus. We collaborated with an ad hoc group of faculty members to address unclear protocol regarding initial points of contact, investigative procedures, and structural follow-up and supportive measures for students who experience or witness sexual misconduct, harassment, bias, and hate incidents. After thorough investigation, we wrote a letter of concern addressed to senior leadership to encourage reexamination of current practices to ensure students' needs are being met. SG leadership will be meeting with the Chancellor in coming weeks to have our issues addressed and be updated on potential restructuring occurring. We are constantly building relationships with faculty and administrative partners so that we can build a better safety net for students to fall back on in these difficult times.

***Continued work around Sexual Assault:*** The Sexual Assault and Public Safety Committee has continued its efforts to change campus culture around sexual misconduct. We have released the data collected from our sexual assault survey to senior leadership so we may all have a better understanding of where our work should be concentrated in the next few months. Administration has informed us that UM-Dearborn will be conducting a campus sexual assault survey, similar to ones conducted on the Ann Arbor campus, in upcoming months. We look forward to aiding in its implementation and encouraging maximum response rates. We will also continue collaborating with the Office of Institutional Equity to create more informational material around the soon-to-be released Sexual Assault Policy. Additionally, Wayne County (WC) SAFE has committed to work with student leaders on campus to develop a curriculum for in-class presentations around consent and bystander intervention. We already have several faculty members who have shown interest in inviting us to conduct such training during class sessions this semester. We look forward to initiating transformative change

***Environmental Sustainability:*** Our Environmental Sustainability Committee has helped establish a direct link between the McKinley Cafe and the student food pantry at UM-Dearborn. Since the committee began the food recovery project in mid-January, with help from the Food Recovery Network, we have retrieved and supplied over 30 pounds of food to the pantry. We also have received a response from Senator Gary Peters regarding the #NoDAPL letter we delivered last term. Senator Peters relayed his appreciation for our efforts on this issue and stated he would monitor developments to "support the right of all Americans to express their opinions peaceful" and protect our environment and economy. We anticipate planning

further actions in upcoming months to continue promoting environmentally and socially conscious projects in the state of Michigan, and the greater Nation.

Thank you for taking the time to read this update regarding the work done by the UM-Dearborn Student Government, and thank you for your commitment to the University of Michigan System and its students.

Best Regards,

Fiana Arbab

President, UM-Dearborn Student Government