

Received by the Regents
February 17, 2011

**The University of Michigan
Regents' Communication**

ITEM FOR INFORMATION

Subject: Michigan Student Assembly Report

Attached is a report with an update of the projects and initiatives of the Michigan Student Assembly.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris Armstrong".

Christopher H. Armstrong
President, Michigan Student Assembly

February 2011

MICHIGAN STUDENT ASSEMBLY
3909 Michigan Union – 530 S. State Street
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1349
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President Coleman, Regents, and Executive Officers,

Thank you for the opportunity to address you today. Here are a few items that the Michigan Student Assembly has been working on in the past month.

Open Housing Report The Open Housing Initiative, a student collective made up of representatives from the Michigan Student Assembly, Residence Halls Association, the College Democrats, ACLU – U of M Chapter, and others, has completed its proposal for an Open Housing proposal at the University. The Initiative has been working closely with Vice President Harper, Dean of Student Laura Blake Jones, and Housing to figure out an effective way to implement the proposal and satisfy the demand of students for a policy change. Students will be having a meeting with relevant administrators to discuss this process within the next month.

Anti-Bullying Event The Michigan Student Assembly, along with the LGBT Caucus of the Michigan Democratic Party, will be hosting an event on February 19th to kick-off a statewide campaign in Michigan against bullying. This event will emphasize the importance of keeping our schools safe in Michigan for all students against the threats of bullying. Speakers at the event include former state representative Alma Wheeler-Smith, Washtenaw Prosecuting Attorney Brian Mackie, Washtenaw Sheriff Jerry Clayton, and Student Body President at the University of Michigan Christopher Armstrong. MSA will be busing students from Ann Arbor to the Ypsilanti Library for the event.

Intellectual Minds Making A Difference On February 11th, Next Level, a joint program created by the MSA Minority Affairs Commission (MAC) and Intellectual Minds Making a Difference (IMMAD), will bring 60 students from Southfield-Lathrup High School's Medical Academy in order to introduce them to the University of Michigan's Ann Arbor campus. This one-day field trip is intended to expose minority students to the benefits of a path to higher education. Hosted by fifteen student leaders of various minority student organizations and academic disciplines, Next Level will allow high school students to be immersed in a day in the life of a college student. These students will be attending classes, touring campus, eating in a Residence Hall cafeteria, and attending a panel discussion of current students.

Transportation for Student Organizations Recently, the Ginsberg Center stopped its service to provide cars for student organizations that need transportation for service projects. Many of these student organizations have had to make due with carpooling or renting, which can be costly and inefficient for those groups that organize large service projects or service days. The Michigan Student Assembly is proud to announce that it will be re-establishing this service to student organizations, through collaboration with Parking and Transportation Services, so that service organization can reserve cars for their projects. This service will be run through the MSA Front Office, and any community service student organization will be able to use it.

What to Fix Campaign This past month, the Michigan Student Assembly launched its What to Fix (WTF) Campaign, a campus-wide campaign to solicit ideas from student on how to improve campus. This campaign will be out in the Residence Halls and classrooms to gather ideas from students on what would make their experience at Michigan better. Many projects for MSA have

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emerged from this campaign, and it is MSA's most effective tool to find what is on students' minds.

Student Voting Experience At Michigan The Michigan Student Assembly's Voice Your Vote Commission is currently distributing a survey