

Received by the Regents  
March 21, 2013

**The University of Michigan  
Regents' Communication**

**ITEM FOR INFORMATION**

Subject: Central Student Government Report

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

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Parikh', is positioned above the printed name.

Manish Parikh  
President, Central Student Government

March 2013

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).

Although we only have a few days for our current Administration to end, our team has left no stone unturned to ensure that we've fulfilled every single promise, and that we continue to work on high impact and innovative projects, as part of a reformed CSG. Following are some of the projects we've been working on over the past month, and are continuing to work on through these very last days.

### **March/ April Projects:**

\* ***Fair Play Pledge:*** In order to ensure a clean and fair 2013 election, we've convened the leaders of every campaign team to sign a fair play pledge which commits them to be responsible, act ethically and remember that while winning is important, so is fair play and the values we learn at this University.

\* ***Highest Voter Turnout:*** We've always believed that to make CSG fully relevant we must engage a larger number of our Student Body in our elections. Through the good work of our team, revised election promotion strategies, and a more engaged Student Body, we are excited with the prospect of this election having the highest recorded voter turnout in a student government election in the history of our University.

\* ***Town Hall Debate:*** For the first time ever we've announced a town hall style debate for candidates in the upcoming election. This new format will allow student organization leaders and other students to engage candidates front and center, with important, challenging and diverse questions!

\* ***University Council fireside chat with President Coleman:*** In February University Council leaders (Presidents of the 16 student governments on campus) were thrilled to have an hour-long special fireside chat with our President Mary Sue Coleman. It was a wonderful opportunity for us all, and we're deeply thankful for her time.

\* ***Month of Entrepreneurship:*** Through our Entrepreneurship Commission we created the first ever University wide Month of Entrepreneurship this March. The month has been filled with entrepreneurship events, special projects and educational opportunities. Through this month we've gotten many more students fired up about entrepreneurship, while showcasing student-driven entrepreneurship at Michigan, as the leader in the nation!

\* **Michigan Union Entrepreneurship Hub:** Thanks to the Michigan Union and University Unions, we've been lucky to get a 1000 sq. ft. space in the basement of the Michigan Union as a pilot for this month of April. The project is a collaboration between the Entrepreneurship Commission, University Unions, and MPowered and we're thrilled to bring entrepreneurship to the central node of student activity on campus.

\* **Student Organizations Solutions Commission:** I've been thrilled to work alongside one of our most brilliant CSG Interns- Bryan Frederick- in laying the groundwork for a Student Organizations Solutions Commission, which will cater to the over 1400 student organizations on campus. The Commission's mandate is to improve the experience for every single student organization on campus.

\* **Upstart5:** Another innovative initiative that we've launched is a competition open to our entire student body to launch five highly innovative and creative new student organizations on campus. The winners will receive a \$1000 grant from CSG, and other resources required to make their innovative student organizations a reality here on campus!

\* **Diag Day/ Social Government Campaign:** One of our primary focuses this year has been on making CSG a "Social Government." One of the initiatives through the social government campaign has been a Diag Day- where all Wolverines have the opportunity to engage with CSG leadership front and center in the Diag.

\* **Commencement Speaker Committee:** One of our promises to the student body was that we'd allow them greater participation in the selection of our commencement speaker. We've been lucky to work with President Coleman and Vice President Harper on creating a new special committee of students who'll gauge student interest as well as prepare a report on long term mechanisms to increase student input.

\* **U-M Heroes:** U-M Heroes is an award ceremony which will honor and award outstanding Wolverines who've created great impact and social benefit while here on campus. We'll honor these heroes in an award ceremony that will occur on the 25<sup>th</sup> of March.

\* **International Night:** International Night is a way to celebrate our rich international community on campus, through a cultural show, and performances that celebrate U-M's rich international community. Our Chair of the International Student Affairs Commission- Jeff Kong- has played a tremendous role in making this event a reality.

\* **Big Thank You A2:** The Ann Arbor community has been an amazing neighbor to our University of Michigan, and this year CSG wants to thank them for their kindness. We're hosting a weeklong program of community service events, which will allow U-M students an opportunity to volunteer with and aid Ann Arbor residents.

\* **Report on the Interns:** Of all the work CSG has been involved in this year, none can be more important than grooming the next batch of leaders and best, as they lead our student body and University in the near future. I'm thrilled with the remarkable work these outstanding groups of

freshmen have accomplished. From being candidates in the upcoming CSG election, to creating the Take U-M Abroad scholarship program, the Student Organizations Solutions Commission, leading the Month of Entrepreneurship, among a host of other interdisciplinary projects, the Interns Program has been my proudest accomplishment, and I'm proud to report that for the near future, our University and Central Student Government are in very capable hands!.

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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.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Parikh' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Manish Parikh  
President of the Central Student Government