Subject: Michigan Student Assembly Report

Attached is the May update on the projects and activities of the Michigan Student Assembly.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jesse Levine
President, Michigan Student Assembly

May, 2005
President Coleman, Regents, and Executive Officers,

The Michigan Student Assembly finished up the winter semester strong, taking steps to be good stewards of our funds, while at the same time working to engage campus, and improve student life.

Activity Update:

Funding History Analysis- We are currently analyzing our funding history over the past five years, and will have an update on that for the May meeting.

Summer Semester Funding- Our Summer Assembly is poised to begin meeting and funding student organizations. We are committed to allocating and distributing funds from our budget in a fair and equitable way.

New Funding Code Amendment- To streamline our funding processes, we rewrote sections of our code, and passed them unanimously through the Assembly. The new code amendments have provided our two funding bodies with processes for holding members accountable and clear guidelines for making funding decisions in a way that does not advantage one group over another.

Saving Students Money- We take our role as distributors of student funds seriously, and are committed to being good stewards of those funds. We are currently looking at innovative ways to save money. Working with Student Activities and Leadership, we will be taking an active role in encouraging organization collaboration. When student organizations work together, larger and more effective events and activities happen at a reduced cost to students.

Leadership Connection- During the first week of May, MSA's leadership team went to Camp Michigan for a four day leadership retreat along with other student organization leaders and committed members of the Division of Student Affairs. I'd like to thank Vice President Harper for her dedication to helping student organizations thrive at the University of Michigan. We networked with other organizations, received invaluable feedback on future programming, and clearly defined our mission for the future. We are dedicated to engaging the campus community through organizing events and activities, and by creating a space that allows students to be effectively heard.

Fall Diversity Programming Update- The University of Michigan has a strong commitment to diversity, and MSA wholeheartedly supports that commitment. MSA, Student Activities and Leadership, and numerous other organizations on campus are currently working collectively on a conference for the fall entitled,
CHANGE: Creating a Healthy and New Generation of Equality. This conference will feature guest speakers, intergroup dialogues, and service opportunities all focused on social justice. This event will be a kickoff point for the year, encouraging students to participate and become active in future events and activities that focus on social justice.

Extended Hours at the “Grad” for Finals Week- Due to effective and open communication between MSA and representatives from the Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library, the operating hours of the building were extended for finals week. This provided students with a welcoming environment conducive to effective studying even later at night.