The University of Michigan
Regents’ Communication

ITEM FOR INFORMATION

Subject: Central Student Government Report

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Proppe
President, Central Student Government

September 9, 2013
President Coleman, members of the Board of Regents, and Executive Officers of the University, I am both 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.

**Student Involvement in the Presidential Search**

- At the September 9 meeting of the University Council, the Central Student Government will announce the formation of a student committee that will be tasked with soliciting student input on the qualities Michigan students desire in their next President. This input will be consolidated in a report to be presented to the Presidential Search Advisory Committee at the public forum on the presidential search to be held on Tuesday, September 26.
- The committee will continue to meet as needed throughout the search process and will work closely with the next University of Michigan President, once selected, to provide a student perspective during the transition period.
- We recognize that the responsibility to hire the next President belongs to the Regents and the Regents alone. We also stand by our letter to the Board, mailed on June 6, 2013, which asserts that meaningful student involvement will lead to a more thorough, comprehensive, and rewarding search. We offer this student committee as a resource to be utilized by the Board of Regents throughout the process of hiring the 14th President of the University of Michigan.

**Late Night, Off-Campus Bus Route**

- As noted in previous reports, since June 2010, 84% of incidents that resulted in campus-wide crime alerts occurred late at night. 67% of crime alert incidents took place off-campus. And 64% of crime alert incidents took place while the victim was walking.
- To combat these factors in campus crime, in consultation with dozens of students, the Department of Parking and Transportation Services, the Ann Arbor Area Transit Authority, and the Division of Student Affairs’ Beyond the Diag Program, we developed a proposal for a one semester pilot route that serves students living in nearby, off-campus neighborhoods.
- The route costs approximately $30,000 to run for one semester. We are building a coalition of student groups to help fund the pilot route, set to begin running in January 2014.
- Following implementation of the route, we will assess usage and work to find a permanent funding source for future semesters.

**Under the Lights Tailgate**

- The Central Student Government partnered with the Division of Student Affairs, the Athletic Department, and the Department of Recreational Sports to host a tailgate on Ebel Field from 12:00-5:00 PM on Saturday, September 7 before the night game against Notre Dame.
- The tailgate was modeled after the enormous success of the 2011 Under the Lights Tailgate. It includes free pizza, water, student performances, inflatables, games, giveaways, and was attended by thousands of students.
Zero Based Budgeting of Commissions

- We are **drastically reducing spending** by CSG’s Executive Branch this semester and **employing zero-based budgeting** of Executive Commissions. Executive Branch spending in Fall 2013 is budgeted at only **48%** of Fall 2012’s **Executive budget**, and will significantly reduce the CSG deficit without forcing cuts to student organization funding.

- As noted in the June 2012 Central Student Government finance report, over the last three semesters, Central Student Government’s **expenses exceeded its revenues by approximately $220,000**, depleting over 80% of its carry forward since January 2012.

- As noted in previous reports, these deficits can be largely attributed to a decision in January 2012 to change the **student organization funding process to a rolling funding system**. The new system provides weekly opportunities for student organizations to apply for and be granted CSG funding. The new model resulted in a **dramatic increase in the number of student organizations applying for and being awarded funding**. CSG decided to **utilize carry forward funds** from prior years to support student organizations, with the understanding future funding would need to be reduced.

- We recognize the **current spending patterns are unsustainable**, but we do not wish to **eliminate or sharply reduce funding** for the overwhelmingly popular rolling funding system that student organizations have enjoyed the last three semesters.

- We believe this new Executive funding structure will force **more efficient use of funds**, and do not anticipate it severely harming the functions of the CSG Executive Branch.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Propp
President, Central Student Government
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 (SG). We greatly appreciate this opportunity to update you on the initiatives our new administration has accomplished as well as ongoing feats.

**Constitution Day Event:** Student Government members are currently in the process of planning our annual Constitution Day event. Although we are required by law to host an event, it has become our signature Fall special to kick off the school year. This year we are revolving the concept around citizenship and the constitution. The committee is planning the event to answer questions such as what it means to be a citizen, how one becomes a citizen, and how we can, as students, pledge to have good habits of citizenship in the community. Chancellor Little as well as the students, will be pledging for an institutional and personal commitment to good habits of citizenship: volunteerism, civic engagement, voter registration, etc. We are partnering with TurboVote, various community officials, and student organizations to make this event a success!

**The Union at Dearborn:** Student Government this year acknowledges the exciting new prospects on-campus housing will be bring to our university. The buzz around the Union was well noted at the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony where I spoke on behalf of the students as well as the Open House that was held for all university staff, faculty, and students. Student Government members alongside Greek Life members will be aiding residents with their move-in on September 1st.

**Safety Walk Program:** The initiative of creating a safe-walk option for students will now be a reality this Fall. Student Government members met with officials from the Office of Business Affairs, as well as Public Safety officials, to review a proposal created by our senators and it was highly praised and approved. Student Government along with Public Safety has created a simple program where students can call Public Safety and will be able to have two walkers from our program escort a person to their apartment or car. These walkers will have the opportunity to log hours with UM-Dearborn’s The CIVIC (Community Involvement & Volunteering Center.)

**Inclusion Initiatives:** The Director of Inclusion is doing research regarding the ease of handicap experiences on campus. She will be looking into the lack of a ramp to the elevator for the parking structure as well as handicap signage outside all bathrooms. In addition, the availability for a unisex restroom in each building is a matter she is working on with the office of Building & Operations.

As always, I thank you for taking the time to read this report, as we appreciate the opportunity to share our ongoing initiatives and accomplishments 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