

#### **ITEM FOR INFORMATION**

Subject: Central Student Government (CSG) Report

President Coleman, members of the Board of Regents, and Executive Officers of the University,

We are pleased and honored to submit the following report to you on behalf of CSG:

#### Current Issues, Programs, and Policies that we are addressing:

#### • Felony Hiring Policy

Last Tuesday, Central Student Government passed a resolution calling for to rescind Standard Practice Guide (SPG) 601.38, the "Required Disclosure of Felony Charges and/or Felony Convictions". The fact that Black and Indigenous communities are disproportionately criminalized and surveilled is evident in the ethnographic breakdown of those who report under SPG 601.38. In short, this policy perpetuates institutional racism and further, serves little to no practical purpose. There is no evidence to suggest that policies as such keep our University safer and those who are convicted of violent crimes would be exposed on public records. Over 120 students and organizations on campus have signed on to CSG's resolution and we all recognize this policy for what it is: a way to gatekeep people who have been incarcerated from the University of Michigan. As an institution that values DEI, there is no reason to keep SPG 601.38 in place.

### • Safe Ride Survey Results

Central Student Government implemented a program that reimbursed students for Lyft's and Ubers. In addition to providing reimbursements to students, we simultaneously administered a survey to assess the effectiveness of SafeRide. 165 students filled out the survey and results suggest that many students do not know what SafeRide is, meaning that improvements need to be made in increasing exposure to the program. Additionally, 45% of survey respondents said that an app would make SafeRide more accessible. What's important to note is that SafeRide does have an app, but it has low ratings and has been noted to not be user friendly. We will be working with transportation to improve SafeRide.

#### • Permanent Maize and Blue Cupboard on North Campus

We had the pleasure of meeting with Geoff Chatas a couple of weeks ago to discuss the possibility of a permanent Maize and Blue Cupboard on North Campus. For those who are unfamiliar, Maize and Blue Cupboard is a pantry that provides groceries at no cost to University of Michigan students and staff. Food insecurity impacts greater than 50% of our student community and steps must be taken to increase the availability and accessibility of nutritious foods on campus. We hope that steps will be taken to expand Maize and Blue Cupboard— it is what our community needs.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration.



Warmly, Nithya and Carla CSG President and Vice President

# University of Michigan - Dearborn Student Government



## February 2022 Regent Report

President Coleman, members of the Board of Regents, and Executive Officers of the University, it is my honor to submit the following report to you on behalf of the administration of the University of Michigan-Dearborn Student Government (SG). We look forward to updating you on our initiatives and sharing all that we have worked on.

**Welcome:** President Coleman, the University of Michigan-Dearborn student body thanks you for answering the call to lead our university in light of recent events. We wish you a prosperous and excellent semester and we look forward to working with you moving forward.

**Faculty/Student Government Partnerships:** Under a collaborative effort between my directors and various university departments, we are coordinating campaigns that help reinforce the overall message of student involvement and student success. Currently, we are excited to announce upcoming events such as the staff/faculty appreciation day, the United Student Government Conference, and more.

We have worked with our UM-Dearborn Prevention Team, CAPS, and our Campus-Police Department regarding a self-defense event for this semester and are looking to set a cadence for training every semester. It is the goal of our Student Government, and various organizations, to ensure that students feel welcome, safe and that they have a sense of belonging on campus. This training will highlight tools that students can utilize if they encounter any threat that is contact/non-contact and/or mental/emotional, as well as the proper way to report incidents.

An additional goal we have is to increase our students' awareness of the resources that our university staff provides in order to support the success of our students, as well as building our community while learning of professional experiences via open communication with staff and faculty on campus. One way we plan on achieving this goal is through a Professional Development/Leadership event we plan on hosting in March (Covid Permitting). We are reaching out to wonderful leaders in our campus community, as well as professionals across our state. The goal of this event is to highlight the wisdom that various faculty and administration have on campus by asking them to speak on topics regarding how they navigated into their career, leadership/life lessons, handling success and failures, as well as tips they believe will be helpful for our student body as they continue on their academic and professional journey.

We continue to work with our wonderful administration regarding increased 4+1 programs on campus, additional writing tools that will assist our students--specifically for students where

English is a second language, additional scholarship opportunities, and tax assistance for students—especially our international students.

Lastly, our Student Government would like to voice strong support for our Chancellor and the current administration. The decisions and actions of our administrations illustrate that they are making provisions for the future of UM-Dearborn and the continued evolution of our identity on the national level. We look forward to assisting them in any way possible.

**Student Government Projects:** My cabinet and I have a total of 14 active projects we are striving to complete this semester. The projects vary in scope and size, such as the revision of our governing documents, DEI initiatives, co-sponsorship of events, campus upgrades, community involvement, as well the events mentioned above. Each project on our agenda will have a benefit to stakeholders of our University and will ensure that various sectors of our campus community are highlighted.

Student Involvement: As campus-wide activities are beginning for the winter semester, we are placing an emphasis on expanding student engagement on campus via in-person events. This semester my administration is laying the groundwork for "Wolverine-Points" to build student engagement on campus. In essence, for each athletic event, club meeting, or campus event that a student attends, they would receive points. The points earned will offer them a gift/perk concluding the semester. It is the mission of our Student Government to engage students and connect them with clubs and organizations on campus, as well as additional on-campus events. It is also our mission to grow the "commuter experience" on campus while promoting the benefit of student involvement after their courses for the day are complete. Last semester we disbursed "Final's Study Bags" to the student body to help alleviate the pressures that final's week often brings— it was an enormous success and one that we plan on continuing this semester. Student life on Dearborn continues to elevate, and if nurtured correctly, will potentially lead to an increase in enrollment and retention.

COVID-19 Mandates: We, as a Student Government, continue to acknowledge and support the direction of our Chancellor and his staff as we continue to navigate out of the pandemic. While there was quite a tumultuous response to being in-person, we firmly believe that our university team heard the concerns of students and answered questions as they arose. We also applaud the open communication to students advising them of requirements, resources, and even going as far as hosting a town hall meeting. While all things are variable, I feel that our administration is equipped and prepared to handle any changes as they come. Because of the continued leadership of our chancellor, our administration, and our faculty we have high vaccination rates on campus and are eager to move into more student engagement on campus.

I look forward to upcoming reports and assisting in any way possible.

Thank you,

Ramsey Fakhouri

Student Body President, University of Michigan-Dearborn



#### February 1, 2022

President Coleman, members of the Board of Regents, and Executive Officers of the University, I am honored to submit before you the following report on behalf of the University of Michigan-Flint Student Government. Below is an update on Student Government's activity throughout the month of January.

On behalf of the University of Michigan-Flint student body, I welcome Dr. Mary Sue Coleman back to the University of Michigan community. Students at UM-Flint are excited to work with you and help bring our university community together.

Student Government had the pleasure of welcoming students back to campus for the winter semester. During the first week of class, the Senate of the Student Body drafted legislation urging the University of Michigan-Flint to alter in-person instruction for the first two weeks of class due to the spike in COVID-19 cases. The Re-Opening Committee recommended that faculty use flexibility with course instruction until February 4, 2022, to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Student Government also called on the Re-opening Committee to make KN-95 masks available to all students. Student Government is thankful for the quick action taken by the committee to help ensure the safety of all students.

With the recent increase of COVID-19 and booster hesitancy among students, Student Government is preparing to launch the "Let's Get Boosted Campaign". This social media campaign will focus on the importance of getting boosted and ensure students have accurate information surrounding the booster shot. Student Government will also host its first COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic this month. Senator Logan LaPeen is championing this booster campaign.

I am excited to announce to the Board of Regents that the University of Michigan will host the United Student Government (USG) of Michigan Conference on February 18 & 19 on the University of Michigan-Flint campus. The USG Conference will bring together all 15 public universities in Michigan to discuss our generation's issues. This is the first time the 15 Student Governments will gather together since 2019. It is an honor to host this event under the umbrella of the Students of Michigan Committee, an external committee composed of all three University of Michigan Student Governments. A big thank you to President Nithya Aruna (Ann Arbor) and President Ramsey

Fakhouri (Dearborn) for making this event possible. I would like to extend the invitation to any member of the Board of Regents who would like to attend this event.

Lastly, I would like to give a round of applause to Vice-President Amena Shukairy, who introduced Governor Gretchen Whitmer at the Post State of the State Road Show in Flint, Michigan, on January 27, 2022. Amena gave her testimony on why she wanted to be a teacher and her experiences from UM-Flint. She represented the University of Michigan and the State of Michigan well, and we are very proud of her.

God Bless & Go Blue

Respectfully Submitted,

Levi Nathaniel Todd

Student Body President

University of Michigan-Flint

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