Central Student Government

Subject: Central Student Government (CSG) Report

February 2023

President Ono, members of the Board of Regents, and Executive Officers of the University, I am honored to submit the following report to you on behalf of the Central Student Government (CSG):

I. Current and Upcoming CSG Programming

- **A. WN23 Initiatives.** Our policy and commission teams have multiple exciting events and initiatives in our pipeline born through our continuous engagement with different student organizations and University departments. Some of our more major upcoming projects include Wellbeing Day, which we thank President Ono for his collaboration with, Movie Night on the Diag, 5k Fundraiser in the Arb, and the upcoming CSG elections. Building off of the successes of our programming from last semester, we anticipate ample student participation in our upcoming plans. We hope to provide a framework for the next CSG administration to build off of.
- **B.** Civic Engagement. We are in the planning phase of a vibrant civic engagement week that will have three major events spread across three days: 'Lattes and Legislators' to speak about student advocacy with legislators that represent Ann Arbor, 'Coaches and Conversations' to talk to athletes and coaches about the importance of civic engagement, and 'Arts and Advocacy' where we will examine the intersection of arts and civic engagement.

II. Notices to the Board of Regents

- **A. Sexual Assault and Misconduct Prevention.** On sexual assault and misconduct prevention, our administration encourages the administration to address the past by forging forward to better empower survivors. While the Audit Office is an actionable start, we still see ample opportunity for further engagement and improvement. This continues to be one of the most pressing issues facing students on campus; we hope that the administration will strive to make our campus a leader in the higher education community on addressing and preventing sexual assault.
- **B. Strategic Visioning and Master Planning.** On strategic visioning and master planning processes, our administration hopes that the administration incorporates a broad theme of sustainability culture and DEI in all initiatives and long-term goals.

As we begin the Winter Semester, we thank you, the Board, President Ono, and the Executive Officers for all the work that you have done. We are excited to continue to work with you and build an even stronger relationship. As representatives of the student body, we hope that you will continue to utilize us as a resource to better engage with the student body. The Central Student Government continues to strive for excellence in representing all students on the Ann Arbor campus. If you have any questions or want to meet with the CSG President and Vice President, please contact csg.president@umich.edu.

The Student Government of the University of Michigan - Dearborn



February 2023 Regents Report

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

January Accomplishments:

Student Government has achieved several notable accomplishments this month. We have sworn in our new E-board and finished speaker elections, which has allowed us to move forward with our plans and initiatives. One of our most successful events was the resource fair we hosted in collaboration with Dearborn Support. The fair featured 20 tables with information and resources for students, including SMART Bus, Ombuds, Wolverine Mentor Collective, Food Supports, and more. This helped students acknowledge the resources that the campus and community have available for them, and the event was a huge success. We have the opportunity to collaborate with Michigan Medicine on their My Part project in hopes of diversifying medicine one sample at a time. They have and will continue to come on campus with the help of Student Government.

Work in Progress:

Currently, we are working on several important projects. One of our main focuses is personal safety, and we are planning an event in collaboration with our campus officers, Title IX coordinators, and a Confidential Support/Violence Prevention advocate. The purpose of this event is to educate students on how to approach these issues and how to correctly report them at our university. In addition to this, we are also planning a Faculty and Staff Appreciation Day. This event is an opportunity for students to show their appreciation for the hardworking faculty and staff members who contribute to the success of our college community.

To Conclude:

Student Government is committed to serving and representing the student body. We have achieved several notable accomplishments and have important projects in the works. We hope to continue our efforts to make the college community a better place for all students.

Forever proud to be Dearborn Wolverines,

Darena Matti Fatima Chehade

Student Body President, University of Student Body Vice President, University of Michigan-Dearborn Student Body Vice President, University of Michigan-Dearborn



President Ono, members of the Board of Regents, and Executive Officers of the University, I am pleased and honored to submit this report on behalf of the University of Michigan-Flint Student Government. Below is an update on Student Government's activity in the previous month.

In the past week our Student Government hosted our second annual open house to invite students, faculty, and staff to relax and refresh while visiting members of the Student Government in our office with lunch and refreshments. We hosted this event to invite new members, potential members, people interested in Student Government, and people who wanted to see what we do or possibly collaborate with us into the office to allow them to be welcomed into the primarily member dominated space. We used this time to remind students and ourselves that the office for Student Government is their office and they are welcome anytime. We also heard many stories about how Student Government advertising and co-sponsoring events helped student organizations with a much more diverse and wide ranging audience to attend their events. We reconnected with faculty members who shared their plans with us and hoped to collaborate with us in the upcoming semester. We appreciated every student who attended that helped remind us who we work tirelessly for day in and day out.

Additionally, Student Government attended and participated in the Annual Student Organization Summit, a former Student Government initiative, that has stood the test of time and functions to inform student organizations about school resources and foster camaraderie and collaboration with student leaders. Along with myself, our amazing Director Louks, and Director Holley were in attendance representing their respective positions as Director of Student Organizations and Partnerships and Director of Financial Affairs. These two along with many other Student Government Representatives in attendance worked to help inform organizations about the recognition process, ways to advertise their events, along with a reminder that all organizations in good standing are eligible to apply for funding from the funding board. We take this event as a reminder that a former officer's initiative can endure the ever changing landscape of the University of Michigan-Flint.

I had the immeasurable pleasure of being a platform participant to our December graduation festivities taking place right before our holiday break. I was personally honored and had the opportunity to be in attendance on the stage at the venerated ceremony. It makes me proud to bear witness to a new class of Doctorate, masters, and bachelors students to be minted, along with a new collection of UM-Flint Wolverines to have the opportunity to acknowledge their great success at overcoming the adversities faced to them in the past few years and finally

bask in the glory of becoming a Wolverine alumni. It was a great honor to watch many of my friends and classmates take their final steps within the university as undergraduates. I also had the opportunity to hear all of our Maize and Blue Scholars speeches and listen to their firsthand account of the prominent obstacles they overcame to succeed into the future. I wish all the recent graduates the best of luck at their future endeavors, and wherever the future may take them.

I am additionally disheartened to notify you that my previous Vice President and running mate had the honor of passing on through that very same venerable graduation ceremony. I am pleased to announce that we held a midterm election with the victor becoming my newly elected Vice President, Lina Azeim. Both candidates ran a strong campaign and through the electorate process the student body made their voice heard by an incredibly close margin, with the end result being our new Vice President Azeim. I have worked with Ms. Azeim for the past two years as a Senator, Vice-Chair, and most recently our Chief of Staff. She is a strong and caring leader who will undoubtedly go on to do great things in her career and I cherish the opportunity to have her in this position. Her strong leadership with the Senate has already produced positive results. We have recently sworn in our newest Senator and graduate student Rehan Kodil who has a great and promising future with our senate in the upcoming semester. We are looking at an incredibly bright semester from a newly revitalized student government and have many more events and advocacy planned for the future.

As I stated in my last update, I have had the spectacular opportunity to be appointed to the Innovative Transformational Advisory Council and an almost improbable opportunity to be elected by great margin as the Chairperson of this council. We have been meeting regularly and I have heard many incredible ideas from every corner of campus and have been congealing these ideas into some incredible implementable ideas that have been presented to the consulting group and the Chancellor. We have been the mouthpiece for the students, faculty, and staff; a charge that I can personally attest that each and every member of my council takes very seriously. Unfortunately, the transformation project has become somewhat opaque in its framework. We have heard much discussion upon its implementation being hasty and immediate as a so-called silver bullet for "Robust Transformation" on the Flint campus. Yet it seems that the scope of the transformation project has widened then narrowed in recent months from any innovative and transformative ideas at town halls and group meetings into a purely academic restructuring using addition and subtraction of programming. I am humbly asking the Regents to consider expanding the scope of the so called first phase to three more elements: marketing, campus beautification, and community involvement investment. These essential elements are what could prove to be vital to UM-Flint from many of the perspectives I've heard.

• Marketing, but not in the sense of dumping large amounts of funding into the Marketing and Communications department but a strategic marketing plan as well as careful implementation. Throughout all my tenure at UM-Flint I have

been accosted with the phrase 'hidden gem' being lauded as a victory by faculty, alumni, and employers alike who have discovered the amazing ability of my school to craft a well-rounded pupil who is not saddled with incredible student debt. The low cost and capability of instructors here at this campus are what initially drew me to Flint. I previously heard about the College from its small block M logos speckled around my downtown area, almost imperceivable to the layman but it caused me to look into the educational opportunity I had so close to home. This is why I believe that an academic change without marketing is not only infeasible but additionally a misstep towards a financially viable campus.

- Campus beautification cannot be understated. Many students who are from Gennesee county or the surrounding counties know Flint for its reputation. A reputation of crime has been perpetuated over the years, yet according to FBI crime statistics released this fall, Flint's violent crime rate fell below that of Detroit, Saginaw, Kalamazoo, and Lansing in 2021 all of these cities containing prominent Michigan colleges. We cannot have a campus that has no funding for repairs, no scheduled maintenance plan, or upgrade plan due to lack of available funds. Walking the halls of the school during a rainstorm will likely bring you to a bucket collecting rainwater or a broken window seal that has fogged the pane of glass to make it nearly impossible to see out of. A transformation that can bring students to campus will not keep them if the campus cannot be held up to the same scrutiny and options that decisive scholars will use to decide their forever campus.
- The third and final element to the Flint campus's success is to strengthen our commitment to investment in the community. I have heard multiple times that these faults we are observing are in direct correlation to the school's lack of community involvement and activity in the city. The pipeline that is trying to be forged by the School of Education and Human Services from Flint High Schools to a feasible college experience for these low income students is essential for community support and part of becoming the backbone of the city of Flint. Summer for UM-Flint should not be looked at as a season of low enrolled spring and summer classes, but as an advertising opportunity to reach out to community members and potential students through sponsorship of this city's many thriving summertime activities. We need the city to not only accept us as it has done, but embrace having a college full of bright minds upon its historic city streets.

These three elements are essential not only to moving forward but to meet and exceed objectives placed by the Regents, the Flint campus needs the ability to expand the scope of its

transformational plan. The only additional feedback I have for President Ono, The Regents, The Chancellor, and officials reading this address is that we all would like to see a solid structure built and outlined for implementation of this plan with solid, immovable deadlines. This structured framework should be explained thoroughly from the beginning of the project. I have personally witnessed the plans shift and agendas move without notice or reason, this constant moving target of a plan leads students, faculty, staff, and residents of the city of Flint to uncertainty and fear. As the Chancellor himself Recalled in his speech at the December graduation ceremony when referencing a neuroscience researcher,

"That our brains register uncertainty in the same way that they register errors."

We can no longer bare to hear the catchphrase,

"No decisions have been made."

This phrase leads not only to uncertainty but to anxiety. We need, at the very least, a well-defined skeleton of the transformation plan with due dates and defined expectations from both the Board of Regents and defined execution plans locally in Flint. I am still undoubtedly hopeful that this transformation, with adequate scope, can help cement the Flint campus to become a viable engine for social and economic change.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy J. Brooks

Student Body President

University of Michigan - Flint