## **University of Michigan - Dearborn Student Government**



## March 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.

State of the University Address and Winter Carnival: On February 10, 2022, Chancellor Grasso delivered a State of the University Address, during which campus unity reached a new high since 2019, due to the pandemic. Our student body was delighted with Chancellor Grasso's message, which addressed not only critical issues and student concerns, but also the future of UM-Dearborn. The Winter Carnival that immediately followed the address was a huge success, with numerous areas of our campus bustling with student activity. Many students were networking, interacting, and simply having a good time. Our University Center and even our ice rink were packed to capacity, while additional students participated in additional activities outside (i.e. bonfires, watching ice sculpting, etc.). Additionally, our university was mindful of COVID precautions and made every effort to ensure a safe and joyful event. As of February 28, the message delivered and subsequent festivities are still circulating and bringing joy to students as we anticipate the future to come.

United Student Government Conference: On February 18 & 19, 2022, Student government leaders from each of Michigan's 15 public universities convened in Flint to discuss various initiatives that would be beneficial to our student body as a whole, as well as issues that student's are facing across the state. I was proud of our University of Michigan system as we have more transparency, clear direction, and a great culture by which many other universities took note. Our Dearborn campus is looking to pass some of the resolutions discussed at the conference—proposed resolutionswill be highlighted in my next Regents Report.

Student Involvement and Student Government Projects: As campus-wide activities continue to transition to an in-person modality, we are placing an emphasis on expanding student engagement on campus and would like to develop a reward system for active engagement in activities. "Wolverine Points", as we are calling it, would be rewarded for attendance at each athletic event, club meeting, campus event, and more. The points earned will offer students a

gift/perk on a monthly or per semester cadence. 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. Student life on our Dearborn campus continues to elevate, and if nurtured correctly, will potentially lead to an increase in enrollment and retention.

In addition, my cabinet and I have a total of 11 active projects we are striving to complete by the end of this semester and upon the conclusion of my presidency. The projects vary in scope and size, such as the vote of resolutions that were inspired from the aforementioned United Student Government Conference, as well as the revision of our own governing documents slated to be completed by the end of this month. In addition we are actively working on Inclusion Week, community involvement, office upgrades, Greek Month, and the co-sponsorship of events such as Global Fest . 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.

**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. As cases are nearly non-existent at Dearborn because of the joint efforts of our campus community, the student body is eager to have the mask mandate amended to optional.

## Faculty/Student Government Partnerships:

We have collaborated with our UM-Dearborn Prevention Team, CAPS, and Campus-Police Department on an active attacker training for this semester and are working on legislation to establish a cadence for training every semester. Our Student Government and various organizations work to ensure that students feel welcome, safe, and connected on campus. This training will cover tools that students can use if they come across an active attacker on campus or a threat that is not physical and/or mental/emotional, as well as the proper way to report incidents.

Additionally, we continue to collaborate with our wonderful administration on expanding 4+1 programs on campus, developing additional writing tools to assist our students—particularly those for whom English is a second language—and providing tax assistance to students—particularly our international students.

Lastly, I am grateful for the invitation to serve on the committee charged with selecting a new provost for our campus. Allowing students to participate in the search demonstrates our administration's high regard for student feedback and the relationship students have with administration.

*Gratitude:* As my term of President is nearing an end with two months to go, it has been an honor and privilege to serve our UM-Dearborn campus community, and to work with the leaders and best. Our campus, student representation, and student engagement have grown

tremendously, and that is largely in part of the excellent faculty, staff, and administration we have in Dearborn. I extend much appreciation to President Coleman and the Board of Regents, for supporting the vision of Dearborn and the trajectory of our future.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns. I look forward to upcoming reports and assisting in any way possible.

Kind Regards,

Ramsey Fakhouri

Student Body President, University of Michigan-Dearborn



March 7, 2022

Dear President Coleman, members of the Board of Regents, and executive officers of the University of Michigan,

My name is Amena Shukairy. I am a senior Secondary Mathematics Teacher's Certificate Program student and I have the privilege of serving as the Student Government Vice-President for the 2021-2022 academic year. I am honored to submit the following report on the activities of Student Government at the University of Michigan-Flint during the month of February.

I want to thank President Coleman and our university leaders for ensuring that student voices continue to be heard during this time of transition, and wish the presidential search committee the best of luck as they appoint a candidate that best fits the needs of all students across our university. We urge our leaders to ensure that our voices continue to be valued by appointing at least one UM-Flint student to the presidential search committee.

During the month of February, the UM-Flint Student Government Senate passed two significant resolutions. First, a resolution in support of Black History Month, sponsored by Senators Lina Azeim, Christian Dunn, and Kelly Parrott. Our Student Government acknowledges the importance of Black History Month and encourages the celebration of Black Americans in our country's history.

Our senate also passed a resolution in support of student health services on our campus, sponsored by our Director of Student Relations Jack Griswold. Last year, the UM-Flint Student Government conducted a campus-wide survey to assess student needs and willingness to pay a student health fee. The results of this survey showed that a significant amount of our students would like additional health services implemented on our campus, and therefore, we are in support of adding an additional \$50 fee increase per semester to better support our peers through various wellness initiatives.

In addition to passing two resolutions, we launched the "Let's Get #UMBoosted" campaign and hosted our first-ever COVID-19 vaccination clinic. I am pleased to report that we were able to administer booster shots to over 30 students and community members. President Todd and I

are incredibly proud of Senator Logan LaPeen for spearheading this movement and for his contributions to keep our community safe.

Lastly but most certainly not least, the UM-Flint Student Government hosted the United Student Government (USG) of Michigan Conference in conjunction with our Dearborn and Ann Arbor counterparts. This conference brought together all of the public universities in the state of Michigan to address the issues post-secondary students across our state are facing. Due to the collective effort between the three University of Michigan student governments, 28 pieces of vital legislation were drafted. I would like to give a special congratulations to President Todd for leading this effort. I would also like to congratulate Directors Timothy Brooks, Shbeib Dabaja, and Jennah Khirfan, and Senators Lina Azeim and Logan LaPeen, and UM-Dearborn and UM-Ann Arbor's student governments for coordinating this event. Because of this great accomplishment, the City of Flint and Mayor Sheldon Neeley proclaimed Saturday, February 19, 2022 as "UM-Flint Student Government Day."

Needless to say, the month of February has been an eventful month on our campus. It is a great honor to write to the newly appointed President Coleman as she leads our university with excellence. We hope that our voices continue to be heard and considered. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Amena Shukairy

Student Government Vice-President

University of Michigan-Flint

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