

The Student Government of
the University of Michigan - Dearborn



June 2022 Regents 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 Student Government of the University of Michigan-Dearborn (SG). We look forward to updating you on our initiatives and sharing all on which we have worked.

Brief Introductions:

- **President Ezra Houghtby (he/him):** I will begin my fourth year at the University of Michigan-Dearborn this Fall. I am currently pursuing a major in English through the College of Arts, Sciences, & Letters, as well as minors in History, Human Services, and Management. Within SG, I have served as the Environmental Sustainability Committee Chair, Secretary, and Director of Athletics. I also served on the special task force utilized in the Winter 2021 Semester, which completely revised the Statutes (our SG'S governing documents). I am excited about the challenges this role presents, and I look forward to updating you on the successes of this administration throughout the upcoming year.
- **Vice President Darena Matti (she/her):** I will begin my senior year at the University of Michigan-Dearborn this Fall. I am currently pursuing a major in Behavioral and Biological Sciences through the College of Arts, Sciences, & Letters, as well as a minor in Psychology. Within SG, I have served as the Director of Inclusion for over a year. In this role, I was proud to be a voice for overlooked student organizations on campus. I am honored to step into the role of Vice President and to continue amplifying student voices.

Beginning of the Houghtby-Matti Administration:

As we begin our term, Darena and I are excited to step into our new roles. We are honored that our peers at the University of Michigan-Dearborn (UM-Dearborn) believe in our capabilities to serve them. Darena and I are excited to continue the Fakhouri-Joz Administration's work to encourage dedicated membership and greater accessibility. I am proud to inform you that the Houghtby-Matti Administration is hard at work to achieve our goals as outlined below.

A More Accessible Student Government:

With the help of our Directors and Secretaries, Darena and I are looking at ways to increase SG's membership in both numbers and diversity. Recognizing that SG has been seen as a student

organization that is almost exclusively for students within the College of Arts, Sciences, & Letters over the last two years — especially during our return to in-person learning — members of our Executive Board are working to revamp our reserved seat system for incoming senators. Darena and I hope to increase student representation from our other three colleges (College of Engineering & Computer Sciences, College of Education, Health, & Human Services, and College of Business) with a system that adapts to the yearly student population within each college, and also increases graduate student access to Senate Seats. Darena and I are confident that students at UM-Dearborn will feel more confident in SG's willingness to address their concerns with a revised seating system in place. We are also looking to redesign our logo to demonstrate that SG is open to any student at UM-Dearborn, regardless of their assigned college. If our proposal for a new logo is approved, we hope that it will present SG in a more relatable and approachable light to the student body and increase the likelihood of engagement. I look forward to updating you on the positive impacts of these changes in the future.

A More Responsible Budget:

My Financial Secretary, Cody McCain (they/them), has undertaken the incredible task of analyzing the previous ten fiscal years of financial information belonging to SG in order to make a comprehensive budget. They have also added follow-up forms to our appropriations process, which will ensure the money we provide is going to exactly what it was requested for. This new budget — coupled with our revamped, more secure appropriation process — will keep us much more fiscally responsible than we have been in years past.

Re-Imagining Our Digital Data Storage:

Secretaries Kelly Quinlan (she/her), Zahra Patni (she/her), and Cody McCain (they/them) have been working rigorously to move digital SG files housed in Google Drive from 2015 to 2022. Kelly, Zahra, and Cody have opted to move the files into a shared drive rather than a shared folder, for sake of security and storage space. I could not be more grateful that they have taken on such a daunting task.

Students of Michigan:

As SG prepares to chair Students of Michigan, I am pleased to inform you that our primary and secondary delegates are named. I named Cody McCain our Primary Delegate at our May 13, 2022, meeting; Cody unilaterally appointed Muskan Ahmad (she/her) as Secondary Delegate in the following week. Cody has prior experience chairing Students of Michigan, and I am excited for them to step back into this role. I am also excited for Muskan to step in as Secondary Delegate. I have no doubt that both will continue to do very well while furthering their leadership skills.

To Conclude:

With our term now underway, Darena and I could not be more excited for what lies ahead. If you would ever like to reach out to learn more about us, or if you need our help in any way, we would be honored to meet with you. We look forward to working with Chancellor Domenico Grasso, Provost Scarlatta, their administrative team, faculty, and staff over the coming academic year. We are excited to advance the mission of UM-Dearborn and to contribute to the successes of our university, as well as the success of the entire University of Michigan System.

Forever proud to be Dearborn Wolverines,

Ezra J. Houghtby

Ezra J. Houghtby
Student Body President, University of Michigan-Dearborn

Darena I. Matti

Darena I. Matti
Student Body Vice President, University of Michigan-Dearborn



STUDENT GOVERNMENT

President Coleman, 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.

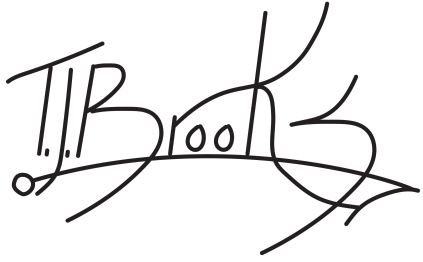
Addressing current events we have drafted presidential memorandums condemning the leaked draft of Supreme court justice Alito's plan to repeal Roe V. Wade. In our statement we addressed that the precedent does not bear solely on the pro-life, pro choice debate but also sets a precedent for the right to privacy, an important and much less addressed precedent in the discussion of the aforementioned draft. We additionally released a statement about the recent horrific acts of gun violence that occurred in Texas, New York, and California. We spoke about the lack of actions from lawmakers and regulatory agencies that have stood back in the wake of these atrocities to remain idle to the tragedies that occur solely upon American soil.

We are continuing community initiatives: These initiatives began in the previous administration and we are extending these opportunities this year. Our incredible Director of Foreign Outreach, Logan LaPeen, is continuing to help organize COVID-19 vaccination clinics for students and community members at large. These are still incredibly needed with COVID infections hitting close to home recently. Additionally, we are working on fortifying connections to other institutions in the local area. These connections are vital in bringing unity to an incredibly low income area that houses three separate choices for higher education. These initiatives along with other community building activities are on the forefront of this administration.

This brings us to the final point of my update: Over the course of the past month and a half, I, along with my Vice President, and Chief of Staff, began meeting with faculty and staff from all over campus. A take away that has become glaringly obvious is that the University of Michigan-Flint is under extreme financial duress due to both the pandemic and other aforementioned scourges. Echoing the sentiments of my predecessor, the University of Michigan and the Board of Regents need to make an equitable investment in the future of their satellite campuses. I am once again bringing to light the Tri-Campus resolution that was passed only twelve months ago, calling for a budget appropriation of \$20 Million from a centrally endowed fund to be split evenly between the Flint and Dearborn campuses and to make a further commitment of investing this amount annually over the next 5 years totaling \$100 Million by FY 2027. The retention and recruitment of students is informed by the ability of the faculty to teach as well as the ability for students to have a fulfilling college experience. These attributes are

being infringed upon due to the deficiency of funding for faculty and student life. The ability to provide an affordable four-year education in the Flint area is paramount to the impoverished population of predominantly marginalized groups. For this population the University of Michigan-Flint is a beacon of hope and prosperity for a brighter future, a beacon that will not remain lit if future support is not secured.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "T.J. Brooks". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping "B" and a long, horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Timothy J. Brooks
Student Body President
University of Michigan - Flint