

President Ono, members of the Board of Regents, and Executive Officers of the University:

As always, and most importantly, the conditions in Gaza have continued to deteriorate directly as a result of the Zionist entity's continued attacks on Palestinian life and society. The UN's independent investigator on the right to food, Michael Fakhri, has found that Israel has carried out a campaign of starvation against the Palestinian people since the beginning of the genocide. Fakhri makes clear that the degree of starvation in Gaza is both unprecedented and catastrophic, with Gazans making up 80% of the people in the world experiencing famine. The World Food Programme (WFP) further evidences that, as the genocide enters its 12th month, 2.2 million Palestinians are in urgent need of food and livelihood assistance. Your continued insistence on remaining invested in the Zionist entity means that the University of Michigan has a hand in the starvation and potential death of every man, woman, and child in Gaza. Additionally, the UN Special Representative on sexual violence reports that Palestinian men and women are being subjected to "widespread sexual slurs and threats of rape and gang rape, repeated and humiliating strip searches and prolonged forced nudity, beatings and electrocution of genitals and anus, insertion of objects into detainees' anuses, inappropriate touching of women by both male and female soldiers, and photographing or filming of naked or partially undressed detainees in humiliating positions." This amounts to the use of sexualized torture in the IOF's prison camps.

As we write today, Israel's American-funded war machine sets its eyes on the West Bank as it aims to advance its settler colonial project. Since the beginning of its attack on the Jenin governorate, Tubas, and the al-Faraa refugee camp, 36 Palestinians have been murdered, and untold infrastructure devastation has been left in its wake. As we return to school here at the University of Michigan, we must remind you that there is no return to school for the 630,000 children of Gaza. In an attempt to destroy the very fabric of Palestinian life, the Zionist entity has destroyed every university in Gaza and rendered all 200 UNRWA-run schools inoperable. Every child has a right to education. Given the University's continued investment in the Israeli terror machine, must the luxury of education here at the University of Michigan come at the cost of that same right for Gaza's children? As time goes on, it becomes clear that you, the Regents and President Ono, are proud of your legacy of violence both here on campus and abroad in the West Bank and Gaza. As the new year begins, we will not forget that the University unjustly and illegally canceled a student referendum on divestment last November and has wholly neglected SACUA's resolution to investigate the ethics of Israeli investments, passed last January. We won't forget that a 2021

Worker Rights Consortium report found that garment workers at Hong Seng Knitting, a U-M supplier factory through our \$173.8 million Nike contract, had \$800,000 worth of wages stolen from them, yet your commitment to the Nike contract remains ironclad.

Your ability to performatively advocate for democracy is called further into question as you issue top-down directives that ignore faculty expertise and student input, holding the University's

‘values’ hostage to the influence of politicians and donors. We are appalled that you unilaterally passed an amendment to The Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities, which entirely undercuts the purpose of OSCR. The conflict resolution process is intended to be a genuine fact-finding endeavor, bringing just and equitable solutions to concerned students, not a disciplinary division where the amorphous institution of “The University” can act as a dictator and enact punishments without due process against dissenting activists. We find this especially hypocritical amidst your proclaimed “Year of Democracy, Civic Empowerment, and Global Engagement”. Dissent and protest is a form of civic empowerment and your repression of that dissent is in violation of your so-called university ‘values’. The University’s hire of Omar Torres of Grand River Solutions—who has jumped from university to university in a crusade to prosecute students advocating for divestment—proved to be a disastrous investment, as he evidently was not intent on resolving conflict or undoing harm but was concentrated on carrying out carceral punishment. Furthermore, the disruptive action policy that was opposed by a litany of faculty and student organizations is now being discreetly enforced. The University has entirely disregarded community concerns criticizing DAP, as recent official University communications intimidate faculty into withholding “polarizing viewpoints” and encourage students to “call 911” on protesters—an egregious misuse of emergency lines. Additionally, University-directed DPPS continues to enforce brutal police violence against the campus community, rather than address dissent through representative means that make space for the hundreds of student organizations to voice their collective demand for divestment.

With an \$18 billion+ endowment, no Michigan student should ever be housing insecure, hungry, or forced to choose between doing their homework or clocking in for another underpaid student job to buy basic necessities. Every investment is political; every policy crafted at your discretion is conceptualized to safeguard the status quo. In a year of so-called ‘democracy and civic engagement,’ we unequivocally rebuke you and the suit-and-tie systemic loyalists in University administration who consistently show their true colors as dictators of our campus, pledging allegiance to profits while turning their backs on the people. These people are the heart of the Michigan community—students, faculty, staff, workers, and community members—and deserve the power to shape the University's direction and build a future that reflects and supports their needs.

We know the only way you can repress the divestment movement is to jail and surveil dissenters or foster division among organizers, hoping the movement self-destructs. Your efforts will prove futile; your evils will forever stain this University, and we will remain resolute in our mission to support the global struggle against imperialism and spearhead the demilitarization, decolonization, and liberation of our campus.

In Solidarity,
Alifa Chowdhury & Elias Atkinson
CSG President & Vice President

The Student Government of
the University of Michigan - Dearborn



September 2024 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 the University of Michigan-Dearborn's Student Government (SG). We look forward to updating you on our initiatives and sharing all we have worked on.

Accomplishments:

We successfully organized a Defense Safety Workshop, providing students with critical knowledge on responding in an active shooter scenario. Additionally, we facilitated a President's Round Table, bringing together leaders from all campus organizations to discuss their concerns and collaborate on shared goals. To foster cultural exchange and help new students settle in, we partnered with the Union to host a welcoming BBQ for French exchange students and organized the Union's Block Party.

Ongoing initiatives:

We are excited to continue our work on several key projects. As part of our commitment to civic education, we are preparing for Constitution Day. This event aims to engage our student body in discussions about the Constitution's significance, historical context, and relevance in contemporary society. We are in the works of organizing a comprehensive Mock Exam Week, offering practice exams and workshops for LSAT, DAT, MCAT, and other critical exams to better prepare our students. Additionally, we are launching a new initiative to host monthly coffee hours meetings where students can directly discuss their concerns with the Student Government. In line with our commitment to environmental sustainability, we are collaborating with the Environmental Sustainability Office to certify all Student Government Senators as Planet Blue Ambassadors.

To Conclude:

Student Government is steadfast in serving and representing the student body. Our accomplishments thus far are just the beginning, and we are committed to continuing our efforts to make our college community a better place for all.

GO BLUE! GO DEARBORN!

Rupinder Singh

Zahra Patni

Rupinder Singh

Zahra Patni

Student Body President, University of
Michigan-Dearborn

Student Body Vice President, University of
Michigan-Dearborn



STUDENT GOVERNMENT

President Ono, members of the Board of Regents, and Executive Officers of the University, I am pleased to submit the following report on behalf of the University of Michigan-Flint Student Government. This report serves as an update from the LaPeen-Dabaja Administration.

Welcome Back:

Student Government was thrilled to welcome our student body back to the university and was actively involved in a variety of welcome-back events. We volunteered at Housing Move-In, served as Wolverine Welcome group leaders, staffed tables at the Intercultural Center Cookout and Management Fair, spoke at both New Student Convocation and Academic Convocation, and led and encouraged participation in Wolverine Homecoming Week..

Democratic Engagement:

With the LaPeen-Dabaja administration putting democratic engagement at the forefront of our core values this academic year, we have been honored to serve on the UM-Flint Coalition for Democratic Education and Civic Engagement. Some of our upcoming initiatives, in collaboration with the coalition, include the Presidential Debate Watch, Constitution Day Carnival, Voter Registration Tables, Student Organization Phone Banking Events, and Democratic Engagement Forums and Discussions.

Growing Interest and Membership:

Student Government held its first General Assembly of the semester on September 4, 2024, with record student attendance. During this meeting, we successfully passed Senate Resolution 2024-001, which reduces the signature requirement for senators from 75 to 50 for the month of September. Vice President Dabaja has been actively involved in recruitment, and this new resolution has already led to increased interest in the Senate. With growing enrollment, Student Government will appoint an additional Senator this year, raising our capacity to 12 Senators, or one Senator per 500 students.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Logan LaPeen".

Logan LaPeen
Student Body President
University of Michigan - Flint