## The University of Michigan Regents' Communication

### **ITEM FOR INFORMATION**

Received by the Regents November 21, 2013

Subject: Central Student Government Report

Attached is the November update on the projects and activities of the Central Student Government.



Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Proppe President, Central Student Government

November 11, 2013

# UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN CENTRAL STUDENT GOVERNMENT

### November 2013 Regents' Report

President Coleman, members of the Board of Regents, and Executive Officers of the University, I am pleased and honored to submit the following report to you on behalf of the Central Student Government. Below is a brief update of our activities, operations, and goals as we continue to serve the students of this University.

#### Student Football Tickets

- On April 22, 2013, the Athletic Department released its 2013 U-M Student Football Ticket Policy, which noted that student tickets would now be general admission rather than assigned seats based on credit hours earned at Michigan.
- Following negative reaction from students, CSG passed a resolution calling for student input in future ticketing policy changes.
- On October 8, 2013, CSG sent a survey to all students enrolled at the University to gauge student opinion on the general admission policy after 4 home games. In a little over 24 hours, 5,892 students completed the survey.
- After 4 games, 76% of student season ticketholders indicated they are **not supportive** of the general admission policy, while only 17% were **supportive**.
- The most common reason not to support the policy was "I can't sit with my friends if we don't all arrive at the same time." Many older students, especially Masters and Ph.D. candidates, indicated they did not like being seated near younger students.
- 77% of students said their football experience was more enjoyable in 2012 than 2013, while only 8% said 2013 was more enjoyable. This is despite the 2013 season's strong home schedule and undefeated record at the time the survey was sent out. This poses concerns for future ticket sales and engagement, both as students and as alumni.
- The Athletic Department will hold meetings with members of the Central Student Government in December to review this season's policies and **determine policies for next season**.
- We are excited that Athletics is seeking student input in future ticketing policies, and we will continue to solicit student feedback before entering into our meetings with Athletics in December.

#### 24 Hour Cafe Comes to North Campus

- Since October 21, the **Duderstadt Library's Mujo Cafe and the Shapiro Library's Bert's Cafe are serving students 24 hours per day, Sunday through Wednesday**. The cafes resume normal operating hours the other days of the week.
- The Central Student Government lobbied for 24 hour operations of these cafes for the past several years, and are now working with University Unions Food Services to market the cafes' new operating hours and assess usage and profitability.

# UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN CENTRAL STUDENT GOVERNMENT

November 2013 Regents' Report

Students Connect with Detroit

- Earlier this year, the Central Student Government formed the Commission on Detroit Engagement, whose mission is to enable Michigan students and student organizations who are interested in the city of Detroit to connect with one another, University administrators, and residents of Detroit. Through building these connections, we hope to encourage and create opportunities for students to contributed to and learn from Detroit.
- The commission chair outlined four goals for the commission this year:

1. **Present the student voice** to the University administration on issues pertaining to Detroit.

2. Empower student organizations interested in Detroit to strengthen their own mission as well as collaborate with other student organizations with similar goals.

3. Create a safe space for students to discuss Detroit issues on campus, particularly students originally from the city.

4. Expand the community of students on campus who are knowledgeable and interested in Detroit.

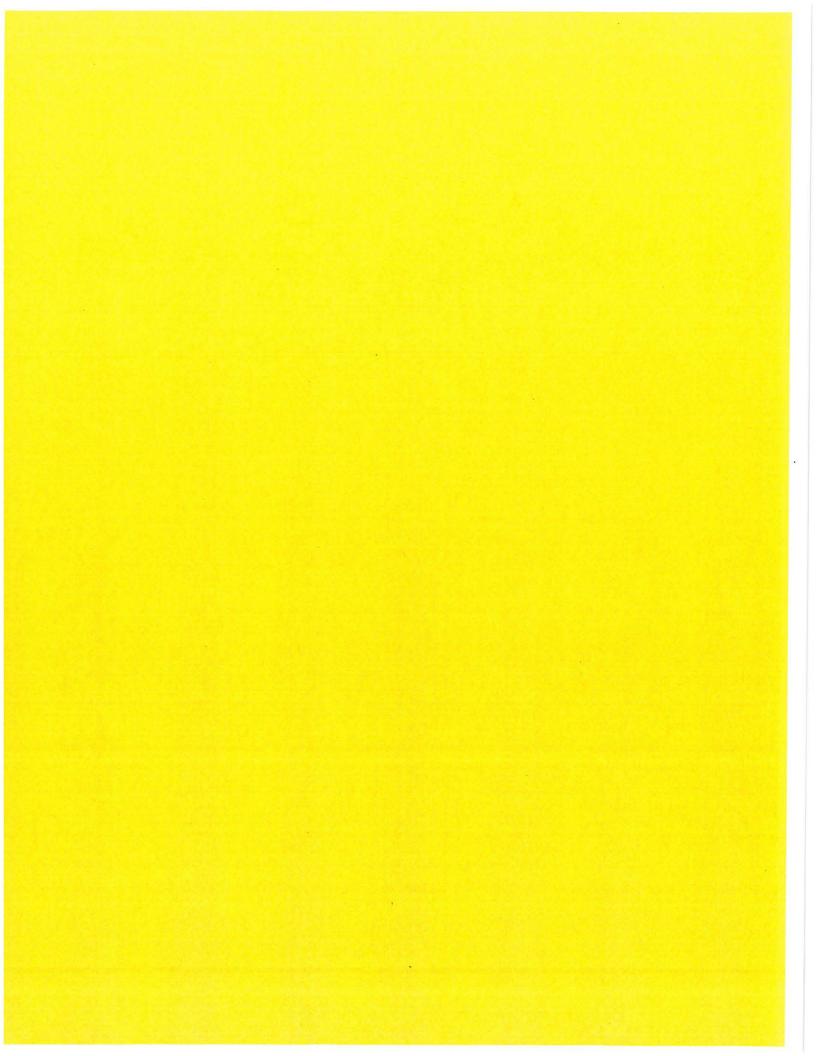
• We look forward to the advancement of these efforts as the University aims to strengthen its connection to Detroit.

Student Safety

- Recently, student concern for their safety has increased. These heightened concerns
  partially stem from some high-profile incidents, including but not limited to one
  shooting incident and one stabbing incident in near, off-campus venues.
- The Central Student Government has already worked to implement several proactive measures to address student safety, including a late-night, off-campus bus route that we hope to begin running in January 2014.
- CSG's Commission on Campus Safety and Security is **examining SafeRide's effectiveness and identifying opportunities to improve that late-night transportation** service. The Commission has identified several other immediate steps the University can take to improve campus safety, both in perception and in fact, and we will be sharing these findings with the Department of Public Safety and Security this month.

Respectfully\_submitted,

Michael Proppe / President, Central Student Government



#### University of Michigan – Dearborn Student Government



#### November 2013 Regents' Report

President Coleman, members of the Board of Regents, and Executive Officers of the University, it is my pleasure and honor to submit the following report to you on behalf of the University of Michigan – Dearborn Student Government (UM-Dearborn SG).

Student Outreach: Our Public Relations (PR) committee within the Senate has officially launched its coffee hour and mobile office hour campaign. As our legislators in Lansing do, we host weekly coffee hours where students are able to directly contact their representatives with any growing issues or concerns. This campaign is campus wide, with coffee hours being hosted on Central campus, Fairlane Center, as well as the Victors Den. Our PR committee continues to discuss outreach techniques including promotional events during finals week and various partnerships with other organizations. In addition, our social media campaign has gained a great amount of traffic with students "tweeting" questions and inquiries to our Twitter page and "liking" our Facebook page for constant updates. Our goal is to find innovative ways to reach out to students and these two campaigns have deemed successful.

Athletics Commitment: This past summer our administration felt it necessary to make a greater commitment to the student athletes on campus and as a result created an Executive Board position, Director of Athletics. This positions obligation is to serve as the chief liaison to administration regarding the Department of Athletics and as the connection to our student athletes. With this position we have promoted athletic games and attended many as an organization as well as create a promotional magnet piece with the Fall game schedule to pass out to students and residents at The Union. Our hope and goal is to create a student life movement revolved around athlete's games, and our next plan is to have SG sponsored games where we pass out promotional pieces and free food to encourage attendance.

*Fall Break:* The students at UM-Dearborn do not have an official "Fall Break," but a Thanksgiving Break at the end of November and with every administration, the request for a Fall Break is made. Currently, midterm exams are held midway through the Fall semester. Because Thanksgiving Break is placed so close to the end of the semester, many students begin to feel fatigued, stressed, and even disinterested in their classes. It is our intent to provide students with a break midway through the Fall semester. Doing so will undoubtedly contribute to lower levels of stress amongst students and less of a "burn-out" by the end of the semester, while bringing the policies of both Universities of Michigan in alignment. The conversation has begun with administration and faculty, but we are hoping to have these discussions ultimately allow for The Regents to support the policy and for it to be implemented by the end of this year.

As always, I thank you for taking the time to read this report, as we appreciate the opportunity to share our initiatives with you all. In addition, thank you for making all students within the University of Michigan system feel important and valued, your diligent work to better our campus experiences is invaluable.

Very Truly Yours,

Wedael Ibrohi

Wedad Ibrahim President, Student Government