

**The University of Michigan
Regents' Communication**

**Received by the
Regents
December 19, 2013**

ITEM FOR INFORMATION

Subject: Central Student Government Report

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



Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Proppe
President, Central Student Government

December 9, 2013

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 Solution to Football Seating Issues

- Following the close of the Michigan Football regular season, the Central Student Government began meeting with Athletics to **review the controversial general admission policy** and help **design next year's student seating policy**.
- The policy was implemented with the stated goal of encouraging more students to arrive at kickoff. A review of student attendance numbers—and the swaths of empty seats at the start of most games—indicates **the policy did not achieve its goal**.
- The biggest indicator of student attendance at kickoff is a game's start time. Across games with comparable opponents and start times, **student attendance at kickoff is slightly lower** under general admission student seating than the previous two seasons under reserved student seating.
- Furthermore, **students overwhelmingly do not support the general admission policy**. In an October survey conducted by the Central Student Government with nearly 6,000 responses, 76% of students indicated they do not support the policy.
- In that same survey, only **8% of students** who held season tickets in 2012 and 2013 said **2013 was a more enjoyable football experience**. This result comes despite the team being undefeated at the time and a comparatively stronger 2013 home schedule.
- Only **32% of respondents indicated they plan to purchase 2014 season tickets** at a price of \$280.00 if general admission seating is retained. This number jumps to **68% if reserved seating is re-instated**.
- The Central Student Government is examining the policy from two angles: **student attendance** at kickoff and **student enjoyment** of football gamedays. We hope to design a policy for 2014 and beyond that **maximizes both**.
- The most common reason students cited for not liking the general admission policy is **they cannot sit with their friends if they do not all arrive at the game at the same time**. Under reserved seating, students knew where their seating group will be. Under general admission, the lack of cellular service makes it extremely difficult to find others.
- We have held several **focus groups** with students to identify factors that affect student attendance. Overwhelmingly, **students favored a reserved seat** with their friends near the back of the stadium over a general admission seating without their friends near the front. Some students commented **the inability to find friends prevented them from attending**.
- We have developed **several alternatives and improvements** Athletics can implement for next year. At the time of this report, we have **preliminarily presented one of these plans to Athletics, and they are in the process of vetting that plan**.
- Additionally, we are working with Athletics to design a **joint survey** of student season ticketholders that will aid in the efforts to improve next year's policy.
- Football is the most-watched sport at the University and brings over 100,000 Wolverines to Ann Arbor every weekend. **It is of critical importance to the future of Michigan as a school that today's students enjoy their football experience so that they retain that important connection as alumni**. We are pleased that Athletics is taking student input heavily into account moving forward, and are optimistic next year's experience will be a significant improvement as a result.

MCard Mobile Application

- The MCard is a key component to every Michigan students' life. We use the MCard for sporting events, to get into buildings, swipe into the dining halls, ride airBUS, use them as identification for exams, among other activities we as students participate in. However, remembering to always carry your MCard poses an inconvenience in some instances.
- The MCard is slightly thicker than a credit card and can easily be lost or left behind. Once lost, students have found that many meal swipes or blue bucks were taken from their account by the time they got a new card (which comes with a \$25.00 replacement fee). Many students lose their MCards at the recreational sports buildings, where you need an MCard to get in, or at sporting events.
- We are in the beginning stages of creating a new MCard Mobile Application, or MCard App, that can be used as identification and scanned so that students do not need to carry around their MCards as they enjoy life on campus. The MCard App will display a students picture, UMID number, expiration date, name, and have the ability to display student organization affiliations if the student would like.
- The application will have the ability to display a barcode that can be scanned for various purposes. In later stages the application will be able to link to other facets of MCard use such as the ability to trade student tickets on ones phone, use a meal plan and spend Dining Dollars and Blue Bucks.
- A similar mobile app was piloted at Arizona State University in 2011 and received favorable reviews from students and administrators.
- The app would not replace the MCard, but rather serve as a safe and secure supplement.

Re-Examining the Race and Ethnicity Requirement

- Recent incidents at the University and the "Being Black at the University of Michigan" (#BBUM) awareness campaign have highlighted the need for additional diversity and inclusion initiatives at Michigan.
- Currently, only the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts requires its students to take a "Race and Ethnicity" course in order to be eligible for graduation.
- Many of the courses that fulfill the Race and Ethnicity requirement are large lectures that make it difficult to have meaningful discussions about race and identity. Of the 84 courses offered next semester, only 19 have fewer than 40 students in the class.
- The Program in Intergroup Relations, or IGR courses, are dialogues facilitated by students that focus on identity, and multiculturalism. They receive rave reviews from students and are frequently cited as the best courses to take to gain new perspectives on race and identity. However, they do not fulfill the Race and Ethnicity requirement.
- Members of the Central Student Government are developing proposals to expand the Race and Ethnicity requirement to other schools and colleges, establish IGR courses as fulfilling the Race and Ethnicity requirement, and promote further training of professors and graduate student instructors to bring more IGR-like discussions into more courses.

Campus-Wide Entrepreneurship

- We are partnering with Senior Counselor to the Provost, Dr. Thomas Zurbuchen, in his efforts to develop a **campus-wide and integrated entrepreneurship program** that will be open to students of all majors.
- This effort will take advantage of the combination of the University's **top academic programs**, Michigan's **engaged and passionate students** focused on execution and results, and the energy in the University's **student organizations**.
- For this to be a success, Dr. Zurbuchen and the Central Student Government agree there needs to be **significant student input in the design of the program**. This will begin with a mass meeting for students interested in playing a role in late January.
- We will work to engage a **diverse group of student leaders** with a passion for improving and empowering the campus community and beyond. This means expanding the conversation around entrepreneurship beyond just tech startups. We seek to engage social justice organizations, grass-roots organizers, performance groups, etc., in addition to the traditional innovation-focused groups.
- Following the initial meeting in January, Dr. Zurbuchen **will form a "think tank" advisory group of 10-15 students** who will meet regularly to aid in the design of the program.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Proppe
President, Central Student Government

The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that every entry, no matter how small, should be recorded to ensure the integrity of the financial data. This includes not only sales and purchases but also expenses and income. The document provides a detailed list of items that should be tracked, such as inventory levels, accounts payable, and accounts receivable.

In the second section, the author outlines the various methods used to collect and analyze financial data. This includes the use of spreadsheets, databases, and specialized software. The document explains how these tools can be used to identify trends, forecast future performance, and make informed decisions. It also discusses the importance of regular audits and reconciliations to catch any errors or discrepancies early on.

The third part of the document focuses on the role of management in overseeing the financial operations. It highlights the need for clear communication and collaboration between different departments. The author provides several examples of how management can effectively monitor and control costs, improve efficiency, and maximize profitability. This includes setting budgets, establishing key performance indicators (KPIs), and implementing strict controls over spending.

Finally, the document concludes with a summary of the key points discussed. It reiterates the importance of transparency, accuracy, and proactive management in achieving financial success. The author encourages readers to take the lessons learned from this document and apply them to their own organizations.

University of Michigan – Dearborn Student Government



December 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).

Winter Town Hall: The Student and Academic Affairs Committee have begun the planning process for our inaugural winter town hall designed to give students, yet again, another opportunity to interact with their representatives and voice their concerns. We are looking to have this event attract students who normally do not voice concerns on campus and gauge their experiences here. The event will be a relaxed environment with representatives from different committees of the various colleges looking to answer questions and figure out how to utilize commentary in new initiatives. We are hoping for this event to become an annual event SG hosts since it can serve as the launching point for ideas when it comes to the work that will be conducted in the Winter semester.

Fairlane Center Connection: One of UM-Dearborn's campus norms is for the professional schools within the Fairlane Center to be more disconnected from central campus activities. One of my platform points when running for SG president was to establish a connection between the Fairlane Center and central campus. As a result, relationships have been formed with the newly recognized student organization the "College of Business Student Advisory Board." This organization encompasses the eight business organizations in the College of Business; they serve as an advisory board for all organizations, and now as the central liaison between the Fairlane Center and Student Government. We are looking to have this connection allow more business and education representatives within SG and allow for a greater presence and representation within the assembly.

Diversity Council & Inclusion Initiatives: SG's Director of Inclusion along with an ad hoc committee has begun the planning phases for our Fourth Annual Chancellor's Inclusion Town Hall. This signature event launches our administration into its last semester. The event is a chance for Chancellor Daniel Little to have direct contact with students and give a talk about inclusion on our campus; this is a great discussion since the main aspect regarding inclusion is that it is forever changing and dynamic, especially on our campus. Along this event, our members are planning an inclusion week with the Office for Student Engagement and Dr. Ann Lampkin-Williams. Our Director also serves on the newly founded Diversity Council comprised of our campus' most prominent cultural organizations. This council offers a chance for campus leaders from these organizations to voice concerns regarding inclusion initiatives and issues they may have within their internal organizations.

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,

Wedad Ibrahim
President, Student Government

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Wedad Ibrahim'.