



Council Communique



PRESIDENTS COUNCIL, STATE UNIVERSITIES OF MICHIGAN

April 6, 2009

Upcoming Dates

Academic Affairs Officers Meeting
April 17, 2009

State Relations Officers Meeting
April 21, 2009

The Presidents Council Launches New Website

PCSUM.org is now the place to go for the latest information and news about Michigan's 15 public universities. The revamped recently launched web site brings together information from the universities updated daily, as well background on higher education in Michigan and innovative programs universities are doing such as the Michigan Initiative for Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

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2009 Professor of the Year Award Recipients Announced

The Distinguished Professor of the Year Award selection committee has made their decision and it was an extremely tough choice. The committee, including Gayle Davis of GVSU, Virinder Moudgil of OU, Jack Kay of UM-F, and Tim Greene of WMU, chose the following three professors to receive the award.

Dr. Erik Goodman, Michigan State University

Dr. Erik Goodman, Department of Electrical and Computer engineering, helped establish MSU as a leader in ecological modeling. Dr. Goodman has mentored Rhodes Scholarship winners, Churchill Scholarship winners, and a National Science Foundation graduate fellowship.

He also teaches the senior capstone design course in Electrical and Computer Engineering where he introduced industrial sponsored projects with public presentations at ECE Design Day. Dr. Goodman places emphasis on guiding students into undergraduate research experience, study abroad, and enrollment in graduate classes.



Dr. Eddie Cheng, Oakland University

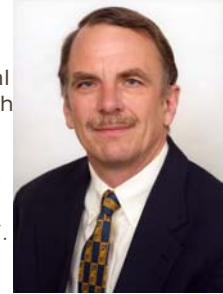


Dr. Eddie Cheng, department of mathematics and statistics, has integrated his research and desire to advance student learning and academic success for graduate, undergraduate, and even high school students. He is the director of the Oakland University Summer Mathematics Institute, a 6 week summer camp for bright high school students from Southeast Michigan.

Dr. Cheng received the Distinguished Teaching Award of the Michigan Section of the Mathematical Association of America in 2007.

Dr. Steven Wright, University of Michigan- Ann Arbor

As a Professor of engineering, Dr. Steven Wright has successfully incorporated engineering ethics and environmental issues into his courses. He effectively involves his own research and studies on sustainable development in Chili into the required first year class as well as upper level seminars. Dr. Wright has won numerous teaching awards from U of M students, the department of civil and environmental engineering, the college of engineering, and the 2006 Arthur F. Thurnau Professorship award: the University's highest level award for undergraduate education.



The Presidents Council would like to thank the selection committee as well as all participating universities for their time and support.

Governor's Education Summit Reminder

Remember to register to attend the Governor's Education Summit. Your participation is crucial to ensure that your input is received on issues such as the State-wide College Access Portal.

The event is on April 28, 2009 at the Causeway Bay Hotel (formerly the Holiday Inn South) in Lansing, Michigan. Click on the link below to register!

[Register Here](#)

Letter to the Legislature: Don't Cut Taxes

The Presidents Council, State Universities of Michigan has joined a coalition with one goal in common: to convince the Legislature to resist tax cuts in the state of Michigan. The coalition wrote a letter to the Michigan Legislature and on March 18th it was presented on the floor of the House.

The letter emphasizes the coalition's opposition to Senate Joint Resolution H and Senate Bill 346. Senate Joint Resolution H would result in a revenue loss of approximately \$253 million in the first year alone. Senate Bill 346 is estimated to reduce state revenue by over \$21 million in its first year. Without new revenue to replace these lost revenues, very painful cuts will have to be made at the state and local level.

To read the article as well as the list of participating organizations click on the link below.

[Letter to the Legislature](#)

Legislative Luncheon a Great Success

The Presidents Council held their annual Legislative Luncheon last month. Mike Boulus gave a presentation, Michigan Economy in the Balance: The Case for Funding Higher Education. Over 100 guests attended and the presentation was extremely well received. To view the full powerpoint presentation, click on the link below.

[Presentation](#)

Intern in Michigan Site Goes Live

The Detroit Regional Chamber and West Michigan Strategic Alliance are kicking off an internship initiative for college students called "Intern in Michigan."

The website for the new program, Intern In Michigan has gone live. The website aims to connect Michigan college students with Michigan employers for mutual benefit.

The Presidents Council supports this effort and will be communicating more information about the site during the next few months.

[Intern In Michigan Website](#)

[Editorial from Business Review Western Michigan](#)

Employer Forum on Internships at Macomb Community College

Sign up to attend "Return on Investment: Internship Staffing Strategies" if you are interested in finding your company's next top talent. The presentation will be an introduction into successful internships and co-ops. The Detroit Chamber is convening a highly informative workshop that will explain how internships can be a successful talent management strategy for your company. The forum is on Thursday, April 30th from 8 to 11:30 a.m. Click on the link below to attend.

[Return on Investment: Internship Staffing Strategies](#)

What's New with the Council Committees

Financial Aid Officers Meeting

3/11/2009

The Financial Aid Officers met to discuss Governor Granholm's FY 2010 financial aid budget as well as summer pell grants, the Indian Tuition Waiver Program and endowed scholarship funding availability.

State Relations Officers Meeting

3/24/2009

The State Relations Officers had a special presentation by Alma Wheeler Smith on proposed bill, Free Public College Tuition. They also discussed State expectations for P-16 Student Data Tracking System and the Federal Stimulus Package.

Analytical Studies Committee Meeting

3/26/2009

The Analytical Studies Committee met to discuss administrative costs according to the House Fiscal Agency, HEIDI updates, as well as the P-16 Student Tracking Study.