



Council Communique



PRESIDENTS COUNCIL, STATE UNIVERSITIES OF MICHIGAN

October 2009

In This Issue

[Fifth Annual Student Arts in the House](#)

[Promise Scholarship](#)

[MHEC Difficult Dialogue Session](#)

[Capital News Service Reporter Training](#)

[PCSUM Web Site](#)

Fifth Annual Student Art in the House

The 5th Annual Student Art in the House will be unveiled on Thursday, October 15, 2009. The Legislative Arts Caucus will host a reception at 9:30 a.m., 5th Floor South, Anderson House Office Building to honor the students whose work will be shown for 2009-10. All public 4-year institutions were asked to submit artwork. Please join us to celebrate the student artwork.

Arts in the House is a partnership between the Presidents Council and the Michigan House of Representatives to promote art in everyday life.

Upcoming Dates

Financial Aid Directors Meeting
October 13, 2009

State Relations Officers
October 13, 2009

Business Affairs Officers
October 14, 2009

Arts in the House
October 15, 2009
9:30 a.m., Mackinaw Room

Public Information Officers Meeting
October 16, 2009

Board of Directors Meeting
October 21, 2009

Analytical Studies Committee Meeting
October 22, 2009

Academic Affairs Officers Meeting
October 23, 2009

Promise Scholarship -- www.michiganpromisescholarship.com

In the past few weeks, one cannot pick up the paper or watch the local news without hearing about the Promise Scholarship. As of September 30, lawmakers have broken their promise by eliminating funding for the the Michigan Promise Scholarship; several organizations are helping affected students and their families voice their views to lawmakers.

www.michiganpromisescholarship.com provides viewers with information about the scholarship, links to newspaper articles, columns and editorials on the matter, and an opportunity to communicate directly with their legislators, legislative leaders and Gov. Granholm.

MHEC Difficult Dialogue Session

Last November, with the support of Lumina Foundation for Education, through its "Making Opportunity Affordable" initiative, the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC) brought together nearly 200 legislators, higher education leaders, governing board members, faculty, business leaders, and students to hold difficult conversations about the need to produce millions of additional college graduates in order to meet workforce needs and remain economically competitive in the midst of one of the most challenging fiscal environments our nation has ever seen. The initial report of the key themes and list of ideas and strategies generated by the participants can be [downloaded here](#).

Currently, MHEC is traveling to the 12 member states interviewing a diverse group of higher education constituents including legislators, nonprofits, administrators, etc. The data will be used to strengthen the initial report, and the final report will be made available early next year.

Student Affairs Officers Meeting

October 30, 2009

Chief Information Officers Meeting

November 12, 2009

On September 17, MHEC held a follow-up Difficult Dialogue session in Michigan with individuals from the nonprofit world who help students prepare for college. The National Forum on Higher Education for the Public Good at the University of Michigan helped MHEC set up the Difficult Dialogue session in Michigan.

Capital News Service Reporter Training

On September, 21, 2009 Presidents Council's Executive Director Michael Boulus met with Eric Freedman and a group of eight student reporters from Capital News Service. Eric Freedman, associate professor of journalism at Michigan State University, is the director of the Capital News Service. CNS correspondents cover state government and stories of meaning to their member papers throughout Michigan. Michael Boulus shared with the reporters an overview of higher education as well as the benefits and funding of higher education in Michigan. Other topics included Michigan Promise and other financial aid; program/curriculum cuts and tuition/fee increases; competitiveness and student recruitment; and campus innovations and initiatives.

PCSUM Web Site

The PCSUM web site (www.pcsun.org) is updated regularly with news from our 15 public universities and information about the Presidents Councils activities. You can register to have the latest news sent to your Google Reader, etc. -- go to the Current News page and click on the XML icon. In the past few weeks, we have posted articles on the budget, Promise scholarship, and several university happenings. Some of the articles include:

- [Matt Roush's Tech Tours](#) (tour reports includes CMU, MTU, NMU, GVSU, WMU, and MSU) -- week of September 30, 2009/Great Lakes IT Report
- [MSU Sets Example in How to Lead](#) -- Tuesday, September 29, 2009/The Detroit News
- [The Big Mitten gets Dumb, Dumber. How Long to Dumbest?](#) -- Daniel Howes, September 23, 2009/The Detroit News
- [Michigan's URC Rises in Rankings, Economic Impacts Hits \\$14.5 Billion](#) -- September 28, 2009/Great Lakes IT Report