



Council Communique



PRESIDENTS COUNCIL, STATE UNIVERSITIES OF MICHIGAN

March 2, 2009

Upcoming Dates

- State Relations Officers Meeting**
Tuesday, March 3, 2009, 1:00 pm
- Financial Aid Officers Meeting**
Wednesday, March 11, 2009, 9:30 am
- Legislative Luncheon**
Tuesday, March 17, 2009, 11:30 am
- State Relations Officers Meeting**
Tuesday, March 24, 2009, 1:00 pm
- Analytical Studies Committee Meeting**
Thursday, March 26, 2009 at 9:30 am
- Governor's Education Summit**
Tuesday, April 28, 2009

The President's Council Releases Report on "Advancing Public Higher Education through Cooperation"

In early January the Presidents Council submitted its report to the executive and legislative branches on the collaborative efforts of Michigan Public Universities. The report illustrates the universities' efforts to work together to reduce costs as well as promote and improve the quality of higher level education in Michigan. "Advancing Public Higher Education through Cooperation" includes partnerships involving the Presidents Council as well as examples of regional partnerships to increase cost savings.

[Link to Full Report](#)

In This Issue

- The President's Council Releases Report on "Advancing Public Higher Education through Cooperation"
- The President's Council Releases Report on "Development of a Student Level Data Tracking System: Context, Opportunities, and Challenges"
- President's Council to Introduce New Website

The President's Council Releases Report on "Development of a Student Level Data Tracking System: Context, Opportunities, and Challenges"

As mandated by Section 216 of PA 213 of 2009, PCSUM submitted to the Legislature, "Development of a Student Level Data Tracking System: Context, Opportunities, and Challenges", exploring the efforts undertaken as a group to evaluate potential opportunities for increased data access, and the challenges associated with the development of a student data tracking system from a postsecondary perspective.

The current economic state of Michigan has forced revenue decreases and budget cuts for state Universities. While education is critical to rebuilding Michigan's economy, we believe a student tracking system should take a lower priority at this time.

[Link to Full Report](#)

Governor's Education Summit to Focus on College Access

"Your Child"...gets Coverage in the Detroit News

Intern in Michigan

Progress Made at Academic Affairs Officers Meeting

The President's Council Released the 2008 Fall Enrollment Report

New Faces at the President's Council

Your Child Coalition gets Coverage in the Detroit News

On Sunday, January 25, The Detroit News and Your Child Coalition issued an editorial spread that included the findings from a Southeast Michigan high school student survey. The results showed that many students have a bleak view of life after graduation. Mike Boulus serves on the Board of Your Child and has been involved throughout the process.

In addition, Your Child Coalition just launched their "Get a Life Michigan" website where there is advice and tools for parents and teachers to talk about college in their homes and classrooms. As the program progresses, Your Child will add content and features including social networking abilities.

[Link to Detroit News Article](#)

[Get a Life Michigan](#)

Governor's Education Summit to Focus on College Access

The Governor's Education Summit will be held on April 28 in Lansing. During the Summit, Governor Granholm will announce the state's focus on college access, which is based on the 2004 Cherry Commission's goal of doubling the number of Michigan residents with a college degree or other valuable credential. Michigan has received a 2-year Challenge Grant to study the possibilities of developing a college access web network/portal. This effort will include the state government, local community foundations, K-12, the Chambers, postsecondary institutions, and non-profit associations. The web network/portal will be easy to use and will prepare students for college, make the application process easier, and provide universities and colleges with pertinent information on students.

To learn more about Michigan's goals for college access or North Carolina's successful efforts, please click on the links below.

[Link to Michigan Article](#)

[Link to North Carolina Presentation](#)

President's Council to Introduce New Website

The Presidents Council, State Universities of Michigan will be introducing a new website. The site is being designed to be more user friendly for all of the committees as well as the general public. It will feature a password protected area for academic program review and a content feed for relevant and innovative news on our campuses. The site should be launched within the next few weeks so keep an eye out!

PCSUM.ORG

Intern in Michigan

The Detroit Regional Chamber and West Michigan Strategic Alliance are kicking off an internship initiative across the state for college students called "Intern in Michigan." Meetings are being held to introduce employers to higher education institutions, and to promote internship opportunities amongst Michigan employers. The initiative will feature a web portal for employers, institutions and students. The portal will be tested in February and should be available to the public in late March or early April. The Presidents Council supports this effort and will be communicating more information about the site during the next few months.

[Link to Site](#)

Progress Made at Academic Affairs Officers Meeting

The Academic Affairs Officers met on Friday, January 23 and covered the following: the academic program review, revenue and budget, the development of a state-wide access portal, and the Distinguished Professor of the Year Award.

At the meeting, the review committee for the Annual Professor of the Year Award was chosen. The committee consists of Gayle Davis of Grand Valley State University, Jack Kay of University of Michigan Flint, Virinder Moudgil of Oakland University, and Tim Greene of Western Michigan University.

The Academic Affairs Officers also agreed to collectively purchase a two page advertisement in the EduGuide. The advertisement will feature all 15 universities and each university agreed not to buy individual space.

The President's Council Released the 2008 Fall Enrollment Report

A brief summary of 2008 fall enrollment is below.

- The total headcount for the Fall 2008 year increased by .18%, or 515 students
- The total first-time Freshmen enrollment for Fall 2008 increased 2.13%, or 862 students
- The total undergraduate student headcount for Fall 2008 increased .40%, or 896 students
- The total graduate student headcount for Fall 2008 decreased .54%, or 369 students
- The Fiscal Year Equated Students for 2007-08 increased .50%, or 1,292 students

[Link to Full Report](#)

New Faces at the President's Council

The President's Council would like to welcome two new employees:

Patricia Farrell has joined the President's Council as the Director of University Relations and Policy Research. She received her Ph.D in Higher, Adult, and Lifelong Education from Michigan State University. Prior to the President's Council, she was the Executive Director for the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE), which was housed in the College of Education at MSU.

Laura DePotter has joined the President's Council as a student intern. Laura will be working closely with Patricia on University Relations, Outreach, and Communications. Laura is currently a senior at Michigan State University majoring in advertising with a specialization in public relations.