



Council Communique



PRESIDENTS COUNCIL, STATE UNIVERSITIES OF MICHIGAN

September 2009

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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. in the Mackinac Room of the House building to honor the students whose work will be shown for 2009-10. All public 4-year institutions were asked to submit artwork.

Michigan College Access Network (MCAN)

The Michigan College Access Network (MCAN) Steering Committee is working on several key tasks including forming a permanent governance structure, setting the goals of MCAN, and identifying areas of need for the network. The Presidents Council will keep everyone updated on MCAN's discussions, decisions, and events.

Upcoming Dates

Financial Aid Directors Meeting
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

Student Affairs Officers

We have two updates: 1) Michigan College Access Portal (MiCAP) RFP and 2) e-transcriptive initiative. First, MiCAP has formed a joint committee, composed of several state agencies, to evaluate proposals to develop a web portal. Their expectation is to select a vendor this month and by September 2010, the Portal will be live. The Portal is for K-12 students to use to learn about careers and higher education institutions, and to apply for college.

The other announcement is that the State of Michigan Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) has selected Docufide, Inc. to deliver an electronic transcript exchange system to school districts, colleges and universities throughout the state. The electronic transfer service, provided by Docufide, Inc., allows students to send transcripts and other supporting admission documents from their high schools or colleges to over 4,000 other colleges and universities nationwide, as well as to 3rd party destinations, electronically or on security paper mailed by Docufide. The system will also create a transcript repository across all participating grades, allowing for student performance analysis statewide.

The Michigan participation agreement follows the award of the Midwest Higher Education Compact (MHEC) Electronic Transcript Initiative (ETI). Twelve states make up the MHEC region and include: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Seven of these states have already selected Docufide, five are under contract, and several others are currently considering joining the initiative.

Several presentations on Docufide will be made to constituents across the state during the fall. PCSUM has asked Tom Howell from CEPI to present to several PCSUM Committees and to inform us of other venues where he will talk about the e-transcript initiative. We will notify you of these events,

Meeting
October 30, 2009

especially those who are involved in Admissions and Registrar's offices.

What You Don't Know can Hurt: 11 Facts Michigan Citizens Need to Know About Michigan's Fiscal Crisis

[Michigan Fiscal Responsibility Project](#) has updated their fact sheet on Michigan's fiscal crisis. A few of the 11 facts are (1) Michigan has cut its general fund budget by 15 percent since 2000, (3) Michigan is not a high-tax state, (5) College education = prosperity, (8) Michigan's budget problems are largely due to tax cuts, and (11) We're spending more on prisons than universities. To read the document, [click here](#). To obtain copies, please contact Robyn at rcline@pcsum.org or 517-482-1563.

Speaker Dillon's Public Sector Health Care Reform Proposal

House Speaker Andy Dillon (D-Redford Township) has introduced a proposal to reform public sector health care. The bill draft includes higher education in the definition of public employer and also includes an employee retired from employment with a public employer. This would presumably include the MPSERS 7 along with any other retirement health plan offered by our institutions.

A committee has been formed to review Dillon's proposal, and is chaired by Speaker Pro Tempore Pam Byrnes (D-Chelsea). Speaker Dillon's plan calls for a 13-member board, mainly appointed by the governor, to create four to six health insurance options that would be made available to public employees across all forms of government.

The Presidents Council will be working closely with the government relations staff at each institution on this effort.

Senate Bill: Carrying Concealed Weapons on Campus

On August 25, Michael Boulus spoke on the Steve Courtney WJR radio show about Senator Randy Richardville's (R-Frenchtown Township) Bill 747 allowing individuals who have concealed weapons permits to carry them onto college campuses. "We [colleges and universities] prefer our campuses to be gun free. Allowing guns on campus does not stop tragedies like the one at Virginia Tech ... Lost in the national debate is the fact that our nation's colleges and universities are some of the safest places in our country in large part because our campuses have remained gun free and the results can be contributed largely to the strict policies." [Click here](#) to listen to the interview.

Michigan JumpStart

Because of the large volume of projects, programs and grants funded under the Recovery Act of 2009 in Michigan, additional staffing resources may be required to ensure that all funds are appropriately applied for and managed and that receiving entities are held accountable for corresponding project oversight and program audits.

MI JumpStart is a new streamlined program that will provide professional consultants hired from a pre-registered list of vendors that have signed up to provide certain skill sets (i.e. grant writers, environmental specialists, auditors, accountants, IT specialists for broadband, wireless, telecommunications, etc.) for successful and efficient implementation of the

Act. This program will require registered vendors to provide services to all State Agencies, Local Units of Government and schools (K-12 and Higher Education) across the State of Michigan.

To view program documents outlining the MI JumpStart program, please visit <http://www.michigan.gov/buymichiganfirst/0,1607,7-225--207729--00.html> or contact Jacque Kuch at 517-241-0239.

Motivate Michigan

In the August Communiqué we introduced the [Motivate Michigan](#) initiative, which is seeking creative ideas to improve Michigan's economy. In January 2010 students can submit their ideas, and ten ideas will be selected for the public to vote for the best idea. The winning student's idea will undergo a feasibility analysis and implementation plan, and the student will present the idea to a corporate sponsor. Students enrolled in Michigan colleges and universities are eligible to compete, and have the opportunity to receive up to \$50,000 in scholarships, and internships.

Motivate Michigan asks that you spread the word on your campuses, identify a leader with your institution as the contact, and identify a student ambassador to help promote the initiative.

To obtain a Motivate Michigan flyer from the PCSUM web site, [click here](#).

PCSUM Web Site

The PCSUM web site (www.pcsumorg) 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:

- [EMU President: Budgetary Stability Critical](#) -- Tuesday, August 11, 2009/Gongwer News
- [Boulus: Budget mess is product of state's tax decisions](#) -- Monday, August 9, 2009/Lansing State Journal
- [Bauer: Scholarship cuts will weaken Michigan](#) -- Sunday, August 30, 2009/Lansing State Journal
- [TechTown Center of \\$2.4B Battery Investment from Feds that could Create 6,800 Jobs in Next 18 Months](#) -- August 11, 2009/Model D