



**Report to the Board of Regents
University System of Maryland Student Council
April 10, 2015**

The council will meet next on April 19th 2015 at the University of Baltimore.

Financial Literacy

At our last meeting at the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore, the student council discussed financial literacy. The consensus that we came to was that there should not be a mandated financial literacy course, but rather, there should be a MOOC that utilizes a multi-touch point model that is accessible and promoted to students regularly. There should also be financial coaches available on each campus that would offer meetings in person both before taking out a loan or at any time. The presence of these financial coaches should be made known widely throughout each campus. We reached this consensus after considering the work being done at the K-12 level on financial literacy, as well as the mandated entrance/exit counseling that already exists.

Shared Governance Survey

The student council will be distributing our annual Shared Governance Survey to student leaders at both the graduate and undergraduate levels in the coming weeks. The survey focuses on evaluating the strength of shared governance at different levels at each institution. It asks questions about the student role in decision-making at large and in different areas at the institution. It also evaluates how well the university president communicates and serves as an opportunity for student leaders to communicate general concerns about shared governance on their campuses. Results will be collected and analyzed by the USMSC Executive Cabinet and then reported directly to Chancellor Kirwan and to Chancellor-Designate Caret.

Student Leader Roundtable w/Congressman Hoyer

Council members had an opportunity to meet with Congressman Hoyer last Thursday, April 2nd. They were given the chance to voice broad concerns about higher education to the congressman. The roundtable was intended to focus on college affordability. However, council members were also given the opportunity to discuss the work they were doing on their individual campuses and our council initiatives. Council members were encouraged to discuss the It's On Us campaign, the Maryland Open-Source Textbook Initiative, and our work to include students on adjudication procedures

on campuses. This marks a great step forward for the student council in engaging at the federal level on important policy for students of the USM.

PSLI Workshop @ UMB

On Monday April 6th David Lewis (UMB) and I had the opportunity to present to the President's Student Leadership Institute as part of our outreach efforts. We discussed opportunities to get involved with USMSC and led a facilitated discussion on leadership in a diverse society. We were able to communicate our experiences deconstructing the student population to understand diversity in terms of academic disadvantage, geographic concerns, mature students, graduate vs. undergraduate, scholarships vs. parental funding vs. loans, and more. Our discussions focused on how those types of diversity have an effect on group dynamics and decision-making.

Respectfully submitted,
Zachary McGee
President