



**Report to the Chancellor's Council
University System of Maryland Student Council
September 2, 2014**

Student Regent Selection

I am thrilled that Governor O'Malley has completed the process of selecting a student regent for the University System of Maryland. While the process took longer than usual this year, I am confident that the Governor's selection of Raaheela Ahmed from the University of Maryland, College Park was one made in great confidence. Her passion for service and her forceful voice in advocating for students within the USM will surely benefit the council this upcoming academic year. I cannot wait to collaborate with Raaheela to continue the council's work on affordability and financial literacy.

Cabinet Appointments

The Executive Board has made its selections for our cabinet for the upcoming academic year. This year we have expanded our cabinet to include three governmental affairs positions. We have a director and two deputy directors, who will focus on state politics and federal politics respectively. We hope that this will allow us to better plan our state and federal lobby days, as well as accomplish more for students. The council is also hoping to plan a collection of outreach events on different campuses throughout USM to both promote USMSC and our work on key initiatives. We also hope to be more visible in the media, mainly promoting initiatives like the Maryland Open-Source Textbook Initiative.

Our cabinet members are listed below:

Director of Communications

Brandon Wharton

Towson University

Director of Outreach

David Lewis

University of Maryland, Baltimore

Director of Governmental Affairs

Kennard Wallace

University of Baltimore

Deputy Director of Governmental Affairs - Federal Politics

Sarah Uehara

University of Maryland, Baltimore

Deputy Director of Governmental Affairs - State Politics

David Zeledon

University of Maryland, Baltimore

The Maryland Open-Source Textbook (MOST) Initiative

The council is continuing its collaboration with the USM Center for Academic Innovation in expanding the MOST Initiative. We are working with MJ Bishop to plan and execute the upcoming fall workshop. The workshop will be for faculty members interested in participating in our Spring 2015 pilot program, or who are interested in learning more about open-access materials in general. The workshop will take place at UMBC Tech Center on October 21st, 2014.

This year, Lumen Learning will continue to assist us in providing high-quality open-access materials and support for this initiative. We hope to include more customization by faculty members in the adoption of classes for the Spring 2015 pilot.

The council will also be conducting surveys on campuses throughout USM to collect data on how students use their textbooks. We will also be attempting to understand how much money students usually spend on textbooks, if they choose to purchase them at all. This data will help inform our campaign for affordability and also, hopefully, add legitimacy to our efforts in pushing for broader open-access adoption across the System.

Changing Campus Cultures – Sexual Assault

The Board of Regents approved a revised policy on sexual misconduct at their June 2014 meeting. This policy must be enacted on each campus by January 1, 2015. I am currently sitting on the workgroup to inform implementation of this policy, however, this is only a small amount of the work the council will be doing on this issue during the upcoming academic year.

Our Director of Outreach is working to plan events on campuses that will include speakers relevant to sexual assault on campuses and the culture that manifests the epidemic we have found ourselves in. The council will also be assisting to facilitate an initiative being led by the National Campus Leadership Council. The initiative will work to change campus cultures. We hope to focus our efforts on bystander intervention, which empowers campus communities to come together and allows students to address sexual assault before it happens. We hope to assist in a pledge drive and awareness campaign on most campuses. Our full plan will be expanded during our retreat.

Respectfully submitted,
Zachary McGee
President