

Date: September 1, 2021
Meeting: September 2021 Board of Regents
Organization: University System of Maryland Student Council
Representation: **Yvonne Harper**, University of Baltimore
Master of Public Administration Candidate
President of the University System of Maryland Student Council

Good morning,

Members of the Board of Regents, my name is Yvonne Harper. I am a Master of Public Administration candidate, with a focus in public policy attending the University of Baltimore. It is my pleasure to serve the University System of Maryland Student Council for the 2021-2022 term as President. If I may take a moment to also introduce the Vice President of *Undergraduate* Affairs, Arsalan Siddiqui from the University of Maryland, College Park and Vice President of *Graduate* Affairs Stephen Jenkins from the University of Baltimore. Our term started July 1, 2021, and we are prepared and ready to represent all students across the 12 institutions.

Throughout my time at the University of Baltimore, I was honored to have served on boards such as Strategic Planning and Budgeting committee, Student Success committee and Student Fees committee. Also, serving as an Orientation Leader for incoming students, a Campus Pantry Ambassador, and a Student Events Board Membership Coordinator. I have served on the University System of Maryland Student Council (USMSC) throughout the past three years as the student representative for the University of Baltimore, where I also served as the 2019-2020 Student Government Association President. During my time with the USMSC I also served as the chair of the Urban Public Safety committee and a member of the Diversity and Inclusion committee. Later, being elected as co-director of the Government Relations committee.

Please Note, Vice President of Undergraduate Affairs, Arsalan Siddiqui from the University of Maryland, College Park was my co-director of the Government Relations committee for the USMSC 2020-2021 term. Arsalan and I were very successful with meeting with legislators and leaders of the USM, to ensure the student voice were being heard throughout Annapolis as well as advocating for the USM. Creating pathways for our current and future students is extremely important to the USMSC and because of this civic engagement is a primary agenda item for this term. As well as Co-vid 19, mental health, and Student fees. As we prepare for our first meeting that is schedule this Sunday, September 12, 2021 we are collecting data from the Universities representatives to create a vision that represents all 12 institutions.

I do invite everyone to a USMSC meeting, the meetings are held one Sunday of each month. Each meeting will start at 11am. The meetings will be virtual for the fall semester; until there is better understanding of the “new” Delta variant, to ensure the safety of our students. The dates of those meetings are listed below:

- Sunday, September 19, 2021
- Sunday, October 10, 2021
- Sunday, November 14, 2021
- Sunday, December 5, 2021
- Sunday, February 13, 2022
- Sunday, March 13, 2022
- Sunday, April 10, 2022
- Sunday, May 15, 2022

Thank you for your time. Have a wonderful day.

Sincerely,
Yvonne Harper
University System of Maryland Student Council President

