



Central Student Government 14th Assembly

MINUTES

Location: Wolverine Room (Michigan Union, Third Floor) [Zoom](#)

1. Call to Order & Convening MatterS
 - a. Mario Thaqi calls the meeting to order at 7:35 PM
 - b. Eric Veal calls the opening roll → Quorum is met
 - c. Mario Thaqi reads the Land Acknowledgment
2. Recalls
 - a. Mario Thaqi: There are no recalls
3. Elections
 - a. Mario Thaqi: There are no elections
4. [Community Concerns](#)
 - a. Abigail O'Connell
 - i. Abigail O'Connell: I'm the promotions chair of blood drives united and I'm joined with Ashley Dixon blood drives united president, and we're here to talk about blood battle which is running between now to fall break. Rep Neely has helped draft a resolution to promote a partnership in marketing and online promotion for the blood battle every fall and against other schools. In the US, someone needs blood every 2 seconds. We've been struggling to get donations since COVID. It's crucial we get support from CSG for this. The administration has not been giving us any support online OSU. Overall there's a lot at stake here. The Blood Battle has been going on for 40 years, so we're seeking support from CSG. There's also a competition between Michigan and other Big 10 schools and that money will go towards student and or community health so that's why we're seeking your help.
 - ii. Erin Neely: Thank you for coming out and speaking. Would you like to pass the promotional resolution for this meeting.
 - iii. Abigail O'Connell: There's still a lot that needs to be added so maybe we'll hold off a week.
 - b. Jason Nuridjanian
 - i. Jason Nuridjanian: I'm a junior studying business and I'm president and chair of the keep it running party. We've had contention with the government having been shut down. Only a couple meetings ago we got something done. I want to bring up that we need to bring good change. I don't think anyone is satisfied with what we have in the corner. In SID, I don't think they're going to keep their seats for much longer. Just look at what happened once when their ideology took place. They cut funding



Central Student Government 14th Assembly

for student orgs and students want a change in leadership. It was found that 1/3 students don't acknowledge the holocaust. They are changing the inclusivity. That hate cannot be tolerated. We cannot support SID. The establishment needs to change the way they run as well. The government didn't reach out like SID. That was a failure of the last government. Other universities didn't see this happen but we did. We have to reflect on the government going forward and reflect on those changes going forward as a community.

- ii. Eric Veal: What do you think is the biggest problem facing students today and how do you address it?
- iii. Jason Nuridjanian: I think there are three main issues. One is safety, especially since the reps aren't coming to the meetings because they're scared of what happened on October 8th. Also hate rising in both communities and especially with the rise of holocaust denial. So creating a good format to take place. Another is student rights issues. We need to make sure student orgs know we are going to back them and hope.
- iv. Erin Neely: These are things that I've been thinking about as well. Did you know about the fundraiser tomorrow evening with ASA? Many of us should support the ASA fundraiser.
- v. Jason Nuridjanian: I wish the fundraiser the best of luck but we need to delegate with stakeholders rather than taking a top down approach. We want to have a high impact so students are satisfied with their representation.

5. Reports

a. MESA Training

- i. Tamari Claiborne: I'm with MESA as a pie team member so we're peer inclusive educators and I'm here to do anti-racism teaching to help you approach everyday racism in your life. Before we get started, I want to go over our forward space foundation. First, be present. I ask to limit our use of technology. It's important that all of you are participating. Identify where your learning edge is and push it. Sometimes it gets to the point where you have to think of things that are uncomfortable. Think about why it makes you feel that way. Confidentiality. What is said here stays here. We're going to have people who are sharing personal details with each other. Avoid assumptions, generalizations, blame, and speculations. What I said, I'm going to keep saying. We want you to be able for you to recognize your position and where you stand. When you are uncomfortable, that's a good thing. So our learning outcome today, we want to know the difference between non-racism and anti-racism. I



Central Student Government 14th Assembly

recognize how messages about race are internalized and how we've seen this through our childhood. See how you can combat racism throughout our lives and even CSG. So, what does it mean to be non-racist and anti-racist.

- ii. Tiya Berry: Non-racist is saying something like I don't see color.
- iii. Tyler: Anti-racism is going against racist beliefs
- iv. Erin Neely: I feel like anti-racist says that I wish we afford to not see color but in this society we can't.
- v. Tamari Claiborne: When it comes to non-racism like I don't see color versus anti-racism being you are actively working against racism. It's a fact that racism is present in the many facets of our society. To be non-racist, while you aren't adding to that fact, you're also not helping the problem. You're sitting in the privilege you have and not uprooting the internalized messages and the fabric of a racist society. So right now, we want you to focus on being anti-racist. So my team has come up with a definition. It is a practice that actively and continuing opposes racism and promotes inclusivity, intentional diversity, and social justice. We know what racism is. Everyone here has a good idea of what social justice is. Can someone tell me the difference between equity and equality.
- vi. Shawn Kelly: I think equality is understanding that there are inequalities but sing a one size fits all while equity takes into account how different people are impacted and try to find a specific solution.
- vii. Tamari Claiborne: That one size fits all is something a lot of people like to see. When it comes to equity, it makes sure that everyone is in the same place. I may need more resources to get to the same place where Tyler is at. Everyone has seen the picture with the box right? You give everyone the same crate, not everyone can see. If you look at their situations, you specify the help that each person receives. Inclusivity and intentional diversity. Can anyone tell me what tokenism is.
- viii. Mario Thaqi: When I think of it, I think of people in a meeting room where they're like, we need to fill diversity so let's put one black person, one Arab, and one woman in the room.
- ix. Tamari Claiborne: If you watch the show Glee, they don't really talk about identity until way later. Tokenism is when you're bringing in forced diversity as opposed to intentional diversity which is ensuring that these identities are correctly and accurately represented. High School Musical has a black character named Courtney, they give her an episode where she builds an HBC which is more representative of what happens in the



Central Student Government 14th Assembly

real world. What are racial messages we've heard. I can start. I grew up in Detroit Michigan. My highschool had like 15 percent from Bangladesh but other than that it was mostly black. But all I see in the news and media, I heard that all white people are bad. My mom told me that at least half of white people are out to get you. You only hear this message and you start to believe that. Before I got to UofM, I could name all the white people I knew on one hand. Getting here was a cultural shock. Not only am I out of my comfort zone, I'm around people who say they're out to get me. My first thought is now, are they out to get me? This adds another layer of difficulty where I'm burdened. Being able to unlearn what I was told in my childhood helped me in my professional and personal life. None of that started without me taking that first step. That's something that affects how you make decisions in your everyday life.

- x. Demi Jardine: One I heard a lot as a kid from a lot of white people is that I was one of the good ones. I didn't know what that meant at the time, but now I've been able to combat that idea to not put everyone in the same bucket.
- xi. Tamari Claiborne: Does anyone want to share?
- xii. Margaret Peterman: Our group talked about how being at Michigan has been a great learning experience in how we're surrounded by people who don't have the same experience as us.
- xiii. Erin Neely: I would say that a lot of the white people in the room grew up with parents who were probably racist and would support setting up roadblocks and other harmful policies. It's still our responsibility to unlearn that, but it's complicated to unlearn it when it's your family.
- xiv. Tamari Claiborne: I wanted you to be able to see that it starts when you're a little kid. These are things we've been learning for so long. Moving forward, I want to introduce us to the ideology, institutional, interpersonal, and internalized parts of oppression. Historical flashpoint. Prop 2 was proposed and passed which is against discriminating against race, color, ethnicity, etc. Institutional oppression is demonstrated in how institutions reinforce and manifest certain ideology. In 2006, Michigan passed prop 2 which banned affirmative action and June 2023 they went nationwide. We can see how this is a form of institutional oppression. This is a form of institutional oppression because from the legal system, by banning affirmative action, we're fitting into this one size fit all already. The person who's working to pay bills is not able to present the same amount of achievements as someone who is afforded the time to do so.



Central Student Government 14th Assembly

- xv. Margaret Peterman: I feel like a large part of it is giving discretion in terms of why they did or didn't allow them into the institution which doesn't sound like it's rooted in oppression but can be given to whoever is hired to this job.
- xvi. Tamari Claiborne: When you remove affirmative action, that does allow those balances to go unchecked. Now interpersonal, how do we see this being played out against one another?
- xvii. Tyler: In school debates, in government. I was the only black student in my class. People were saying that it was a bad thing but I was the only person that could counter because my parents benefit from it.
- xviii. Tamari Claiborne: That's a great way of interpersonal oppression.
- xix. A lot of times people have the idea that people who benefit from affirmative action is that they don't work hard
- xx. Tamari Claiborne: Yeah, that idea that this is just a hand out is just a way for people to ignore the bigger picture. All the racism that's written in our society is hundreds of years old. To say that this isn't fair in this time, sure, but it's not realistic to forget everything. Moving forward, what is internalized oppression? Anyone in this room feel bad about certain expectations or when they felt internalized oppression?
- xxi. Tiya Berry: I wanted to touch on my internalized colorism. It was better to look like the colonizer and I had to unlearn all that. It took me until I came to Michigan and moving away from that community so naturally colorism is going to be a part of the culture, but the classes I took helped me check myself to tell myself that this isn't the right way to think.
- xxii. Tamari Claiborne: Another big one is imposter syndrome. Speaking as a POC, being here, you don't see many people like you, you start to question, do you belong? Being in those classes, you're thinking do I belong because I don't see anyone here like me. You start to doubt yourself and your abilities. Same thing with the model minority or for our international students thinking that I'm lucky to be here, you're forced to have that extra pressure which isn't fair. That's another way we suffered from institutionalized oppression.
- xxiii. Vincent Pinti: I wanted to talk about a disability moment where I had imposter syndrome and places on campus like the law school doesn't have desks I can get my wheelchair behind shows that people like me haven't gotten there, not because they're not qualified but because there aren't many accommodations for them.
- xxiv. Tamari Claiborne: Being a person in a wheelchair, you're constantly reminded that it was cool, but we didn't really think about you. This



Central Student Government 14th Assembly

shows how deep rooted this problem is in our society. So, what can you guys do? How can CSG be anti-racist?

- xxv. Emily Ryan: I was thinking about connecting with constituents and talking with student groups is different than us coming up with our own ideas.
- xxvi. Tamari Claiborne: With CSG being important and being able to take what you learned in this workshop and take what you're hearing is huge.
- xxvii. Nate Cohen: I'm in Ross and I will say that there is a lot of normalization of things that shouldn't be normalized. What do you think is the best way to combat racism in those contexts when I'm not the group that's being offended but in a way where you're not going to be ostracized?
- xxviii. Tamari Claiborne: You bring up a great point when it comes to your position in anti-racism, but you can be an ally. As a white guy, people will listen to you and give you that voice to bring that up to other people. It doesn't have to be on an administrative level. It can just be to one other person. It has a very substantial effect of being able to take what you learned here today and expand their point of view. Being anti-racist is not doing when you feel like it, it's when you choose to be a part of the cause. So, what responsibilities do you have to anti-racism?
- xxix. Margaret Peterman: As student leaders, we have positions where we can use our platforms to practice that in our everyday lives and ensure that the way we treat members of our community is practicing anti-racist practices.
- xxx. Tamari Claiborne: You're the example, people look to you to know what to do? What is true allyship?
- xxxi. Anglica: There are many differences but mostly consistency. Change doesn't come in the form where it's public. Don't only promote anti-racism when you have one hand but not the other. Focus on what brings the most change, whether you get likes on Instagram.
- xxxii. Tamari Claiborne: If you're able to continue talking, continue to bring it up, then it's huge.
- xxxiii. Erin Neely: In terms of power dynamics on campus, I will say that I personally feel less comfortable talking about racism and anti-racism with white men because they are unlikely to listen to me whether it's the gender factor and what luck I have with white women to be anti-racism.
- xxxiv. Tamari Claiborne: Ya, that's a great example of seeing how racism intersects with other identities as well. How does healing begin? Being here is step one. The hard part is keeping it up. Going out, talking to people and sharing what you learned, then you are on track. Being able



Central Student Government 14th Assembly

to recognize the racial messages you learned in childhood is huge. So when it comes to educating yourself within your sphere of influence, listen to the voices of those who have been marginalized. Thank you for attending. Support the work of people of color. Never stop learning. This is something that occurs around you. Continue educating yourself.

xxxv. Eric Veal: Thank you for coming and doing this for us.

b. Rules

- i. Stefan Nielsen: We talked about nothing.
- ii. Erin Neely: We did discuss the november resolutions workshop. We still need to find a date and time for that, so be on the lookout for information on that because rep Jackson needs to book a spot.

c. Finance

- i. Nate Cohen: Nothing to report.

d. Communications

- i. Cory Knittle: We considered AR14-048 for the Blood Drive and that passed unanimously for assembly.

e. Resolutions

- i. Margaret Peterman: We talked about potential resolutions and a women's conference and we've had some people express interest in that.

f. SOC

- i. Hayden Jackson: Nothing to add.

g. Elections

- i. Hailey Bedell: Any candidates on zoom or in person, today is the last day to fill out the candidacy requirements. So make sure to get your proof in. The election is next week. We have 8 days until fall election begins. We have a few drop out during the process, but still, it's a large election. The first draft of sample ballots are linked on the report. The second draft will be posted this week. We're going to need help for the polling stations. If you can spare an hour of your time on Wednesday or Thursday, I would appreciate it so check out the link on the report. We also have custom stickers to pass out so if you want to look at it, it's on the report. We had meet the candidates tonight and we're really proud of the turnout we had.
- ii. Riley Kina: Is there any communication with Wolf TV
- iii. Hailey Bedell: Not yet but we're having a meeting with them on Tuesday so we will have plenty of time to work with them.
- iv. Erin Neely: Are candidate platforms available?



Central Student Government 14th Assembly

- v. Hailey Bedell: Yes, they're on the sample ballots on the CSG website. All candidate platform statements are due at 11:59 pm on the 18th. If you're interested you can check those out.

- h. [Shoutouts](#)

- i. Shawn Kelly/ Tyler Hart: For Tyler Watt, for being there for everyone as CSG's number one supporter. For Eric, being my number one support person. For reps running, so proud for taking the initiative. Excited to see you do great things. For Mario, for being the biggest hustler and hardest worker I know. For Eric, for calling me when I got stuck in the elevator yesterday. For Shawn Kelly and Eric, for coordinating our MESA training. For Demi Jardine, for giving the best hugs. For Tyler Watt, for being the rock which we trust. For Demi Jardine, for being a sweet, approachable mentor. For Hailey Bedell and the elections team, for working hard on the election. For Angelica, for being the firm but supportive mom we all need. For Margaret, for juggling in and out of CSG. To Tyler Watt, for being the boy. To our many nominees, congratulations on being nominated and sticking around. For D money, love you intern bestie. For Mario, for being a great partner in crime.

- i. Executive

- i. Mario Thaqi: No response.

- j. [Speaker](#)

- i. Mario Thaqi: We have 6 vacancies. Rep Chaz Vandershort resigned last week. We appreciate his contributions. He didn't give a note or anything. Please fill out the excused absence form. We have three resolutions to consider. 41 is in third reads. 43 is still in committee and an introduction for a couple for first-reads today.

- k. Hayden Jackson (Member Report)

- i. Hayden Jackson: I wanted to take a minute to let you know about the need based compensation that's available. We are requiring everyone to submit a form requesting an eligibility check by this Sunday because we want to run it all through financial aid and get payments processed. If you believe you're eligible, please submit a request through that form by Sunday. I apologize for the delay, but we didn't have a budget but now we do.
- ii. Erin Neely: Rep Jackson, I believe I've seen something like this before. Have you sent anything by email or slack to the assembly?
- iii. Hayden Jackson: Yes.

6. Nominations

- a. [Ashley Heo](#), Chair of the Programming Task Force



Central Student Government 14th Assembly

- i. Mario Thaqi: Rep Mario Thaqi has nominated Ashley Heo for Chair of the Programming Task Force. Does anyone object to this confirming this nominee with unanimous consent? Seeing and hearing none, congratulations.
- b. [Auburn Marriott](#), Chair of the Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Survivor Empowerment Task Force
 - i. Mario Thaqi: Rep Mario Thaqi has nominated Auburn Marriott for Chair of the Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Survivor Empowerment Task Force. Does anyone object to confirming this nominee with unanimous consent? Seeing and hearing none, congratulations.
- c. [Taylour Poellnitz-Thomas](#), Chair of the Disability Empowerment and Advocacy Committee
 - i. Mario Thaqi: Rep Mario Thaqi has nominated Taylour Poellnitz-Thomas for Chair of the Disability Empowerment and Advocacy Committee. Does anyone object to confirming this nominee with unanimous consent? Seeing and hearing none, congratulations.
- d. [Lidia Cappelletti](#), Chair of the Policy and Government Affairs Committee
 - i. Mario Thaqi: Rep Mario Thaqi has nominated Lidia Cappelletti for Chair of the Policy and Government Affairs Committee. Does anyone object to confirming this nominee with unanimous consent? Seeing and hearing none, congratulations.
- e. [Andrew Gammo](#), Vice Chair of the Programming Task Force
 - i. Mario Thaqi: Rep Mario Thaqi has nominated Andrew Gammo for Vice Chair of the Programming Task Force. Does anyone object to confirming this nominee with unanimous consent? Seeing and hearing none, congratulations.
- f. [Ella Vick](#), Vice Chair of the Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Survivor Empowerment Task Force
 - i. Mario Thaqi: Rep Mario Thaqi has nominated Ella Vick for Vice Chair of the Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Survivor Empowerment Task Force. Does anyone object to confirming this nominee with unanimous consent? Seeing and hearing none, congratulations.
- g. [Riley Kina](#), Vice Chair of the Disability Empowerment and Advocacy Committee
 - i. Mario Thaqi: Rep Mario Thaqi has nominated Riley Kina for Vice Chair of the Disability Empowerment and Advocacy Committee. Does anyone object to confirming this nominee with unanimous consent? Seeing and hearing none, congratulations.
- h. Eric Veal Jr., Ethics Committee Member



Central Student Government 14th Assembly

- i. Mario Thaqi: Rep Demi Jardine has nominated Eric Veal for Ethics Committee Member. Does anyone object to confirming this nominee with unanimous consent? Seeing and hearing none, congratulations.

7. Introductions

- a. [AR 14-048: Blood Drive Promotion and Partnership](#)
 - i. Erin Neely: This is a declarative resolution that calls on CSG and administration to promote the blood battle. We had Abigail from community concerns. Blood donations are important. Every 2 seconds, someone in the US needs blood. Every 3.5 hours somewhere in UofM needs blood. A lot of donations come from student blood drives. We make it fun by hosting competitions with other schools. This resolution does mention a few things about logistics. It's to establish a communication with marketing. We become responsible for promoting blood battle events on our website or social media to donate blood if they're able. This resolution doesn't appropriate any funds in itself but gives the assembly appropriate money from the LDF for the blood drive. It's also investigating ways to expand the program in the future and calls the university to help promote this to help save lives.
 - ii. Mario Thaqi: This resolution will be re-referred to the communications committee.

8. Business

- a. [Minutes from the 17th Meeting of the 14th Assembly on November 4th, 2024](#)
- b. [Motion to Impeach President Chowdhury and Vice President Atkinson](#)
 - i. Margaret Peterman: I'm going to ask you to look over these articles. THE PResident and Vice President were elected to serve their students. Since their time began, they did not perform the constitutional duties incited to them. They've incited violence against members of this body, openly degraded members which they disagreed with. After calls for their resignation, this assembly is left to impeach. Although a significant portion of this assembly supported their impeachment, they've belittled anyone who disagreed with them. They have dismissed concerns for the student body at large. The conduct of this executive is inexcusable. They did not apologize for their behavior. After members have been followed on campus, received threats to their safety, spat on, they've broken promises time and time again and failed to repair relationships. All this is in the articles and remember all the potential the executive can do, but have done nothing.
 - ii. Mario Thaqi: There's a motion to end debate and move to the previous question. There is a debate so we'll enter a hand vote. Motion passes.
 - iii. Tiya Berry: Motion to vote through secret ballot.
 - iv. Mario Thaqi: Does anyone object? Seeing and hearing none, the method of voting will be through a secret ballot.



Central Student Government 14th Assembly

- v. Kaitlin Karmen: On the agenda I saw there was this motion was only being added now rather than before so people knew it was coming.
 - vi. Mario Thaqi: Rep Peterman motioned to add this to the agenda. We voted on it and it was passed.
 - 1. Vote -> Motion Passes
 - a. For: 30
 - b. Against: 7
 - c. Abstain: 1
 - d. Absent: 1
 - vii. Tyler Watt: There will now be a hearing and trial and CSJ has the final say. If they are impeached, the speaker will be the President.
9. Reconsiderations
- a. Mario Thaqi: There are no reconsiderations
10. Matters Arising and Announcements
- a. Margaret Peterman: I brought up before, the resolutions committee was planning a women's conference, so if you want to help out, reach out or if you know any speakers as well.
 - b. Eric Veal: Thank you for all the members who stuck around tonight and for those who attended the training tonight. We're done with that training. Also for planet blue, we're going to send out the form and get that certified. Let's make sure we're doing our jobs and supporting our students on this campus. There are students on our campus who feel scared and hurt and that CSG is a place they can't come to and that's something we need to change. We come week after week and do the same thing and that doesn't work. Good luck next week on elections, but let's think about the work we do. If you want to talk more about what you can do, please reach out.
 - c. Mairo Thaqi: I couldn't say it better than Eric. This has never happened before. It speaks volume on the president and vice president. We've seen what they've done over the last few months. It's not unifying our campus and I think those two things are important. We ran to represent the student body. No matter if constituents like you or dislike you, we're representatives. We're here to push for everyone and for this place to be somewhere for everyone. Regardless of what happens going forward, we need to be focused on what we're here to do. I felt that we just got here, but we've been here since March most of us. I appreciate all y'all coming for the MESA training.
11. Closing and Adjournment
- a. Eric Veal calls closing role -> Quorum is met
 - b. Mario Thaqi adjourns the meeting at 9:41pm