

Michigan Community Scholars Program (MCSP) Funding Initiatives

1. “MCSP Leads” – Student Leadership Development

\$35,000/year (or \$1,000 per student leader)

MCSP has a proven track record of developing a diverse group of student leaders committed to civic and public engagement. MCSP has intentionally and effectively trained its students to take on leadership roles across the UM campus and in the community far in excess of their proportional numbers.

Through pre-semester activities, retreats, ongoing training meetings, mentoring in community service and community partnering, responsibility for budget and programming, encouragement to initiate new projects, a leadership course, MCSP helps to develop about 25 – 40 student leaders each year. Funding is needed to sustain and grow this program.

2. MCSP Faculty/Staff-Student Civic Engagement Connection

\$30,000/year; (or \$5,000 per faculty/staff member)

Funding would be made available to MCSP-linked faculty and staff who work closely with students on sustainability issues, civic and public engagement curricular or co-curricular activities. Funds would be used to develop, organize, and coordinate course development and revision, projects with community partners that involve students, transportation for students, coordination of project efforts, educational activities with MCSP students outside the classroom, and informal co-curricular activities involving faculty, staff, and students.

3. MCSP “Retain and Achieve” Underrepresented Students Academic Success Program

\$20,000/year

MCSP’s is a national leader in its retention rate for first-year under-represented students of color. Funds are needed to sustain the success rate for all under-represented students, including support for the MCSP staff’s efforts to strengthen and sustain its strong community bonding efforts, leadership training, faculty support and development, mentoring programs, and civic engagement and intergroup engagement initiatives.

**4. MCSP's "Social Justice Film and Discussion Series"
\$6,000/year; (or \$1,000 per film screening)**

The Michigan Community Scholars Program and the Ann Arbor District Library have partnered to sponsor on a monthly basis the "Social justice Film and Discussion Series" at the Ann Arbor Public Library. This is a unique effort to bring the university and community together to discuss and learn about substantive issues. In 2009, this program received the Ginsberg Center's "Outstanding University Program" award.

The University of Michigan and the Ann Arbor community are the closest of neighbors, but there are few, if any, opportunities for the two parties to join together to discuss society's most serious issues. While UM is committed to a diverse campus, discussions with members of the Ann Arbor community bring a grounded reality in social, economic, and generational diversity that is rarely present on campus. The discussions that take place are robust, authentic, open and honest. Funding is needed to expand the offerings, integrate the program with university courses and faculty, pay for speakers, films, and marketing.

**5. "Be the Change" - MCSP Four-Year "Student-Citizen" Scholarships
Endowed Scholarship Opportunity**

"Student-Citizens" scholarships will be offered to high school applicants who have demonstrated exceptional accomplishments in their communities (and/or demonstrate exceptional potential to do so in the future). Student-citizens (international students would also be eligible) will receive these scholarships/aid packages annually on a four-year basis assuming continuing exceptional commitment and performance in their academic studies and in their community work each year on and off-campus.

Through close guidance and coordination at MCSP, each year students would climb the developmental "ladder of civic engagement" by taking on increasingly greater responsibility and leadership in community service/civic engagement and related outreach activities.