



August 2008

To the Residents of the State of Michigan:

From its beginnings as a state teacher's college, Central Michigan University has ascended to one of Michigan's top universities on the strength of its nationally recognized academic programs, research opportunities with international implications, far-reaching community service initiatives, and year-round cultural events designed to enrich the lives of generations of Michigan residents. The university maintains many programs to preserve and renew its focus on student-centered learning while improving the quality of life in the region and state. Presented on behalf of the Board of Trustees, this report outlines revenues and expenditures for these programs as well as the university's net assets. The 2007–2008 report was audited by Andrews Hooper & Pavlik P.L.C.

Michigan's fourth-largest university serves nearly 28,000 students — 80% of whom remain in the state after graduation to contribute to the state's highly skilled workforce and overall economic development. CMU professors engage students in discovery-based learning as well as substantial research and creative work with national and international significance. Our more than 200 professionally focused academic programs are accompanied by a variety of activities and organizations including the CMU volunteer center, study abroad programs, undergraduate and graduate research, internships, Leadership Institute, and NCAA Division I athletics — all of which complement students' experiences in the classroom.

CMU is an important force in Michigan's economic engine by generating more than \$830 million in spending and income per year and directly and indirectly creating more than 12,000 jobs statewide. CMU prepares a high number of students for in-demand fields such as business, engineering, technology, and health professions and serves as a catalyst for intellectual and economic momentum across the state. Home to one of Michigan's 11 SmartZones, CMU helps draw high-tech businesses to the region with partnerships through the Center for Applied Research and Technology and the CMU Research Corporation. As one of the state's best returns on investment, CMU is a wise and critical investment for the state of Michigan as it works to build a stronger economy.

We continue to build upon our strong and historic foundation of excellence by looking ahead for unique education-based opportunities to improve the quality of life in Michigan. CMU maintains an environment that supports learning in all aspects of university life; this includes implementation of enhanced safety notification systems and construction of a state-of-the-art, LEED-certified education building. By implementing sustainability measures such as water-saving faucets, reduced energy light bulbs, and renewable fuel sources, CMU has cut costs in excess of \$2.25 million annually while strengthening our commitment to being ecologically sound, socially just, and economically viable.

Your support makes higher education even more accessible to Michigan's youth, giving them a greater chance for success. On behalf of the Central Michigan University community, thank you for your confidence in CMU and in all of Michigan's higher education institutions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Rao".

Michael Rao
President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Burdette".

David Burdette
Vice President for Finance and Administrative Services