



Fall 2009 Progress Report

Released by: UTM Muslim Students' Association

In the name of Allah, the Divinely-Compassionate, the Ever-Merciful

The goal of this report is to summarize what has been accomplished this semester in relation to our goals and to outline initiatives that we want to start in the Winter term based on the suggestions of our general members. This report will be used internally by the executive members as a means of assessment, but it will be made available on our website (www.utmmsa.com) for our members.

To gain perspective we want to begin by listing our events for first semester:

August:

Aug. 28: Frosh Goes Halal (orientation)

September:

6 Ramadan iftars

Sept. 25: Eid Dinner

October:

Sisters tajweed classes every Wednesday

Friday halaqas consistently for 5 weeks (to conclude in January)

Oct. 15: General body meeting

Oct. 28: Pink Hijab Day

Oct. 29: Career and Grad workshop

November:

Nov. 10: Six Feet Under public lecture

Nov. 13: Khutbah workshop

Nov. 20: Brothers' and Sisters' Night

Highlights:

- Improved event promotion and attendance from last year: Eid Dinner was sold out, 200 people at Six Feet Under public lecture, Halaqas usually had 20-30 students regularly attend
- Media coverage in The Medium (re: Burka fatwa) and on OMNI news (re: Islamic History Month)
- Greater sense of brotherhood and sisterhood on campus

- Lots of leadership potential among members
- Most events were free of charge
- More resources on our website (i.e. khutbas and halaqas audio)
- Successful partnership with GTA MSA council, Qurba Academy, Al-Maghrib Institute, and Reviving the Islamic Spirit

Areas of Improvement:

- Greater involvement of members in organizing events (utilizing talent on campus)
- Quicker updates and more resources on website (i.e. videos, Chaplain's contact information)
- Implement ideas suggested by general body (e.g. Janaza Workshop and basketball tournament)
- Increase community events
- Increase da'wah on campus

Goals Status:

1. *Goal:* Create an academic environment in which Muslims can learn Islam.
Status: Almost reached with structured weekly halaqas, Six Feet Under lecture, and khutba workshop. Main lecture in January (by a renowned academic) will further this goal. MSA library and scholarship will be available next semester, *insha'Allah*.
2. *Goal:* Develop leaders that can make a difference in the broader community.
Status: Needs work. High school leadership program and involving students in Islam Awareness Week will further this goal. In addition, we hope to form more volunteer-based committees.*
3. *Goal:* Collaborate with other organizations on the basis of universal values in Islam such as mercy and compassion.
Status: Needs some work. For Pink Hijab Day we worked with CBCF. In January we will be hosting a fundraiser with the Hindu Students Council, Sikh Students Council, Christian Fellowship, and Orphan Run. Over the Winter break, we will develop a food handling guide to distribute to vendors on campus (We plan on consulting other faith groups to ask about their dietary requirements).

“Say: Verily my prayer, my sacrifice, my living, and my dying are for Allah, the Lord of the worlds” [6:162, 163].