Dear Students:

The University of Michigan received numerous calls to block, delay, or oppose two resolutions being considered by the student body under the auspices of its Central Student Government, AR 13-025 and AR 13-026.

The University honored the request of CSG that the University not take any of these steps. Thus, despite serious concerns about the appropriateness of putting these types of questions up to a vote by the student body, the University respected the CSG process.

On Wednesday morning, after voting began on AR 13-025 and AR 13-026, an unauthorized email was sent to the entire undergraduate student body at the request of a graduate student. That email, which "call[s] on [students] to VOTE YES ON AR 13-25, titled 'University Accountability in the Face of Genocide,' and VOTE NO ON AR 13-26," constitutes an inappropriate use of the University’s email system and a significant violation of Standard Practice Guide 601.07. That communication irreparably tainted the voting process on the two resolutions.

The University immediately brought this violation to the attention of CSG. CSG declined to address this threat to the integrity of the election results.

We do not know and never will know the voting results on these two resolutions. But, under the circumstances, the University has been left with no alternative but to cancel the portion of the election process for these two resolutions. The voting process involving candidate races and other issues will continue and remain open until 10 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 30.

We take this action with deep reluctance. But the extraordinary, unprecedented interference with the CSG ballot process requires the significant action we take today.

Timothy G. Lynch
Vice President and General Counsel