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## ATAA Student Outreach Program at Michigan State University: Lansing, Michigan

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The Assembly of Turkish American Associations (ATAA) held a student outreach event at Michigan State University. As part of its student outreach plan, ATAA provided an opportunity to exchange ideas and lay the foundations of networking at MSU. Under the leadership of Nurten

Ural, Honorary Consul General and ATAA past president, and ATAA civic engagement director Yenal Kucuker, event provided an invaluable opportunity for students to discuss issues regarding visa & immigration, political issues, business culture, and Turkish American community and organizations in an informal Q&A setting.



The first part of the panel focused on the Turkish American organizations and community. Ms. Nurten Ural

presented information on various organizations and their activities such as ATAA, Turkish American Cultural Association of Michigan (TACAM), Turkish Coalition of America (TCA), Turkish Cultural Foundation (TCF), Turkish American Chamber of Commerce and Industry (TACCI), Turkish American Scientists and Scholars Association (TASSA) and several others. Ms. Ural emphasized various resources, scholarships, internships, and grants that are offered by these organizations and encouraged students to take part in these organizations to benefit themselves and establish networks. Mr. Yenil Kucuker informed the students about the increasing number of Turkish students studying in the USA and its importance for ATAA and Turkish American community.



Mr. Kucuker also mentioned about ATAA's civic engagement projects such as TABAN-Turkish American Broad Advocacy Network and urged students to take an active role in Turkish American relations both on and off campus.







The second part of the panel focused on the visa and immigration issues. Mrs. Deniz Baser, an immigration attorney informed student about legal and administrative issues and answered questions. In the final part of the panel, students were able to discuss networking, career and success in the US with a group of successful Turkish American business and academic people.



Student outreach panel provided an important opportunity for the students and participants to familiarize themselves with ATAA, and Turkish American Cultural Association of Michigan – TACAM. Participants were entertained by Turkish folklore dancing and belly dancing, presented by the MSU Turkish Student Association members.







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