



**USM Staff Council  
Board of Regents Report  
April 16, 2010**

**The Staff Council met on February 23 at the University of Maryland,  
College Park and again on March 23, 2010 at Coppin State University**

**Bowie State University**  
14000 Jericho Park Road  
Bowie, MD 20715

**Coppin State University**  
2500 W. North Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21216

**Frostburg State University**  
101 Braddock Road  
Frostburg, MD 21532

**Salisbury University**  
1101 Camden Avenue  
Salisbury, MD 21801

**Towson University**  
8000 York Road  
Towson, MD 21252

**University of Baltimore**  
1420 North Charles Street  
Baltimore, MD 21201

**University of Maryland, Baltimore**  
520 West Lombard Street  
Baltimore, MD 21202

**University of Maryland  
Biotechnology Institute**  
Executive Office  
15825 Shady Grove  
Rockville, MD 20850

**University of Maryland Center  
for Environmental Science**  
P.O. Box 775  
Cambridge, MD 21613

**University of Maryland,  
Baltimore County**  
1000 Hilltop Circle  
Baltimore, MD 21250

**University of Maryland,  
College Park**  
College Park, MD 20742

**University of Maryland,  
Eastern Shore**  
Princess Anne, MD 21853

**University of Maryland,  
University College**  
3501 University Boulevard East  
Adelphi, MD 20783

**University System of Maryland  
Office**  
3300 Metzertott Road  
Adelphi, MD 20783-1690

- 1. The recommendations for the Board of Regents Staff Awards have been submitted.**
- 2. Members of the Council went to Annapolis on March 11 for the CUSS annual Visit Annapolis Day. The members passed out over 180 letters of introduction to the members (or offices of) the House and Senate.**
- 3. The Council distributed a brief news release to the institutions to keep them up to date on the activities of CUSS (see attached). Website and feedback addresses were created to facilitate input from the staff members of the system.**
- 4. At the last Chancellor's meeting, the Council respectfully requested that the President's remind their respective human resource units to keep the non-exempt and exempt staff of UMBI that have not yet found employment in the forefront of their hiring decisions (see attached).**

**The next meeting will be held April 27, 2010 at Towson University.**

\*\*\*\*

**Submitted: Willie L. Brown, Chair  
Council of University System Staff**

## **Council of University System Staff Visits Legislators in Annapolis, Spurs Overwhelming Response to Legislative Proposal Affecting USM**

Council of University System Staff representatives visited Annapolis on Thursday, March 11, to meet state legislators and distribute letters of introduction from Council Chair Willie L. Brown, explaining CUSS goals and communicating the importance of shared governance. While in Annapolis, CUSS representatives learned that the evening before, legislators had heard House Bill 1533, which would have had the following effects:

- reduce General Fund appropriations for USM by at least \$50 million
- eliminate 1,000 USM positions
- reduce the USM budget for travel by 50 percent
- halve the tuition remission benefit for USM employees and their families.

Thanks in part to CUSS representatives' actions to spread the word to their Institutions and encourage their constituents to contact their legislators, the USM garnered nearly **5,100** responses to the bill from its advocates. Frostburg State University forwarded the most responses of any USM institution.

House Bill 1533 was re-referred to House Appropriations on March 15, 2010. USM *does not anticipate further actions on this bill* by the General Assembly.

**Did you know?** The Council of University System Staff represents more than 8,000 USM Staff employees *excluded* from the collective bargaining process. The majority of these Staff employees are the USM's professional, technically skilled and managerial employees. CUSS predates collective bargaining in Maryland and was *codified* in Maryland law by the General Assembly, in the Education Article of 1995, as a permanent part of the advisory groups to the USM Chancellor and Board of Regents.

**Do you have questions about USM policies or benefits? Are you having problems in your job? Do you have solutions to share with others?** Be in touch with us at [usmcuss@umd.edu](mailto:usmcuss@umd.edu) or <http://cgi.umd.edu/survey/display?CUSS/cussinput>.

**Get to know your CUSS representatives.** Contact them with any questions or concerns you might have.

NAME, position (filled in by the respective university CUSS representative(s))  
phone  
e-mail

NAME, position (filled in by the respective university CUSS representative(s))  
phone  
e-mail

Dr. Brit Kirwan, USM Chancellor  
USM Presidents

Council members,

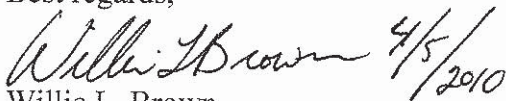
Because a bargaining unit does not represent UMBI staff members, the Staff Council feels a particular responsibility to advocate for the staff of this institution and its centers.

Some staff members, exempt and non-exempt, have been with UMBI for many years, allowing the research and educational outreach activities to advance and operate at a very high level. The dedication and professionalism of these staff members to UMBI (and as a consequence to the USM), should not be overlooked during this period of transition.

While we know that the Human Resource Directors of the individual institutions have been asked to consider UMBI employees for any openings, the Council would ask that your office also emphasize to the employment offices that UMBI employees who have not been placed would have first right of refusal to positions for which they qualify. We urge that all consideration continue to be given to the dedicated staff of UMBI and its component centers whose livelihood may be at risk though no fault of their own.

If the Staff Council or I can assist the Regents or the USM Office in any way, please let us know.

Best regards,



Willie L. Brown,  
Chair, Council of University System Staff (CUSS)