



**Report to the Board of Regents
University System of Maryland Student Council
June 22, 2012 – Salisbury University**

I. 15 April Meeting

The Student Council held its sixth meeting on April 15th at the University of Maryland, College Park. In addition to the members of the Council, Chairman Welsh invited each Student Body President from across the University System to discuss a response to the “doomsday budget cuts” that were adopted during the Sine Die session of the Maryland General Assembly.

The Council decided to pursue multiple outreach methods, including the creation of a packet to standardize messaging and serve as a guide for each SGA to begin outreaching to students on social media (this packet will be provided on your request). Additionally, the Council, along with the various SGA presidents in attendance, filmed a video entitled “*Keep Maryland Affordable*,” with each institution in attendance offering a short appeal to legislators to end the doomsday budget. By the time the special session was held, more than 1,000 people had viewed the video, including Governor O’Malley and various members of the General Assembly. Governor O’Malley tweeted about the video.

The Council furthermore discussed and unanimously passed a resolution regarding the Maryland DREAM Act. A plan of action on how to promote the DREAM Act will be discussed this summer in conjunction with the System and with each institution.

II. 6 May Meeting

The Council held its seventh and final regular meeting on May 6th at Salisbury University. The main items on the agenda for the Council were the elections of new officers and for members to offer concluding remarks on the year. The results of the officer elections are as follows:

Chairman—Zachary Cohen, UMCP

Vice Chairman—Richard Lucas, III, Bowie State University

Secretary—Theresa Card, UMB

III. Student Fee Review Policy

Though the Council did not have the opportunity to discuss the proposal directly, I would like to offer my personal support for the measure before you today amending Board Policy VIII-2.50-Policy on Student Tuition, Fees, and Charges. I strongly believe that the measure before you today is fair, prudent, and responsible. In my experience working on fee review committees for several units that have gone to great lengths to incorporate student opinions, students have had a great deal of success working collaboratively with administrators to ensure that money is spent in a way that is most beneficial to the student body and to the institution. I urge you to support this measure to enable students across the system to have a fair voice on fee review committees in continuing the tradition of shared governance that the System has championed.

IV. Concluding Points

Following the final meeting, I have begun to seek out the replacements for those members of the Council that who either graduated or are otherwise not returning. This process is continuing smoothly with a great deal of interest from each of the campuses thanks to the spirit of cooperation that was created between our institutions during the past year.

Additionally, I have nominated Caitlyn Leiter-Mason of UMBC to serve as the Director of Government Relations for the Council. Caitlyn was instrumental in the creation of the *Retrievers for Affordability* campaign at UMBC. Following her confirmation by the Council, Caitlyn looks forward to working Vice Chancellor Hogan, the Board, and students and administrators at each institution to continue the advocacy work that was done this year.

The Council wishes to thank Regents Florestano, Johnson, and Wojciechowski for each of their dedicated service to the Board of Regents, Student of Maryland, and to the people of Maryland. I would also like to thank my predecessor Emmanuel Welsh for the great work that he did in advancing the Council and the interests of the Students of Maryland this year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Zachary B. Cohen,
Chairman