



Report from the Council of University System Faculty  
Board of Regents  
September 17, 2012

There was a transitional CUSF Executive Committee meeting on August 3, 2012. The incoming Executive Committee members are Virletta Bryant (Vice – Chair, CSU), Robert Kauffman (Secretary, FSU), Nagaraj Neerchal (At Large, UMBC), Bobbi Adams (At-Large, SU) and Joyce Shirazi (Past Chair, UMUC).

In May, CUSF passed an Academic Freedom Resolution. CUSF believes that this statement is justified by court decisions that academic freedom belongs to institutions and not to the faculty. In particular the Supreme Court's *Garcetti* Decision in 2006 is troubling to the faculty. At the September CUSF General Body meeting, CUSF will debate a preamble to this document. The preamble explains why we believe this document is necessary. We will also discuss what to do with this document. A faculty review of BOR policies on academic freedom with these issues in mind seems indicated. Much of this document is based on the USM statement that is already in place as well as similar statements from the University of Delaware, the University of Maine and the University of Michigan.

At each CUSF meeting, the Senate Chair of the host institution will speak to CUSF about issues of concern to that institution's Senate. The first such speech will be at the September meeting at UMUC. The impetus for this comes from the CUSF sponsored Senate Chairs' Meetings. This will increase communication between CUSF and the faculty at each institution.

The chancellor added two CUSF members to the Meet and Confer Committee, Dr. Jay Zimmerman (TU) and Dr. Betty Jo Mayeske (UMUC). This committee has been meeting over the summer of 2012 and has produced final documents. The CUSF representatives will report on the outcome of these meetings to the General Body in September. In addition, Dr. Nancy Shapiro will brief CUSF on the draft MSDE regulations on the issuance and renewal of Advanced Professional Certificates.

The first regular meeting of the CUSF Executive Committee was on Tuesday, September 4, 2012 at 12:15 at USM Headquarters. The first CUSF General Body Meeting of this academic year will be held on Friday, September 21, 2012 at the University of Maryland University College.

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