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## **Board of Regents' Report April 12, 2013**

The Council of University System Staff met on February 19 in Annapolis, and on March 26 at Coppin State University.

In February, 18 members of the Council met in Annapolis for the Council's yearly advocacy day. We wish to thank Andy Clark, P.J. Hogan, and Anne Moultrie for their assistance and guidance in making this year's event possible. The Council was introduced by Delegate Barbara Frush and Senator Jim Rosapepe in their respective Chambers.

After a brief tour, the members of the Council split up and visited the offices of the members of the Maryland General Assembly and passed out a letter from the Council and the USM Brochure of Excellence. For those fortunate enough to meet with a member of the General Assembly, the discussions were guided by the talking points that Andy supplied to the Council.

At the March meeting, after a warm welcome from Interim President Dr. Mortimer Neufville, the Benefits and Compensation, Legislative, Community Affairs & Recognition, and Communications Committees all gave presentations on the progress of their 2012-2013 goals. The Council also held elections to fill the position of Vice Chair, which has been vacant since November 30. We are pleased to welcome Willie Brown back to the Executive Committee for the remainder of the term, which ends July 30.

In a response to the Council's meeting in Annapolis and a wish by the Council to be more proactive, the Executive Committee and the Legislative Committee will begin a strategic planning process with the USM Office of Government Relations. Its main purpose will be to not only support the USM's goals during each legislative session, but to also better represent Faculty and Staff employee issues at the state level.

The Council expressed concerns about the effects of the sequestration—both as it relates to grant-funded faculty and staff, and how it may come to affect the delivery of educational programs across the USM's institutions. CUSF and CUSS Executive Committees will be meeting during the month of April to discuss further concerns, as well as other potential issues that may arise.

The next CUSS meetings will be April 23 at Towson University and May 21 at University of Maryland, Baltimore.

Respectfully submitted,

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Chair  
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