



**Board of Regent’s Report  
September 20, 2013**

The Council of University System Staff held its first meeting of the term on August 13 at Salisbury University. As chair, I am excited to be working with an outstanding group of volunteer leaders. The ongoing success of the council is realized by the work and dedication each member brings to the council, shared governance, and the USM.

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I am pleased to announce the Executive Committee for the 2013-2014 Term:

Executive Committee Members

Bill Crockett (Chair) University of Maryland, Baltimore	Dana Wimbish (Vice-Chair) University of Maryland, College Park
Lisa Gray (Co-Secretary) Salisbury University	Kristen Tull (Co-Secretary) University of Baltimore
Mary Hickey (Member-at-Large) Towson University	Sherrye Larkins (Member-at-Large) Coppin State University
Willie L. Brown (Past Chair) University of Maryland, College Park	Rosario I. van Daalen (Chancellor's Liaison to CUSS) University System of Maryland Office

Substantial time was spent brainstorming and discussing goals for 2013-2014. This year, the **Executive Committee** will be undertaking a comprehensive review of council practices and procedures to ensure effectiveness, efficiency, and engagement.

- Focused succession planning of officers and council members.
- Restructure roles within the executive committee to create better utilization of all members.
- Review of institutional compositions in regards to membership (seats) on the Council.
- Continue collaboration between all USM shared governance councils.
- Continue to assess and find ways to improve how we can be more strategic and fiscally responsible as a body. We will be looking closely at ways to streamline our work and take advantage of existing technologies in order to increase member engagement.

The **Benefits & Compensation Committee** (Chair: Brenda Yarema, Towson Univ.) plans to continue with the goals that were in progress last term as well as start the reviewing to produce a report for the USM on the following as it relates to our constituents:

- Tuition Remission (support & work with CUSF initiatives underway)
- Benchmark what are the best practices for PMP Cycle
- Update and disseminate USM Wellness Discounts that are available
- Assess ORP options at other peer systems and see where we stand as a system.

The **Community Outreach and Recognition Committee** (Chair: Jen Ziegenfus, Salisbury Univ.) will focus on two main areas:

- The annual USM Board of Regents Awards (improved timeline and participation).
- Ways to improve awareness of CUSS and shared governance at all USM institutions.

The **Communications Committee** (Chair: Anthony Scorsune, UMUC) will focus on improving methodology and content management of our communication processes.

- Improve and establish new timelines for the annual newsletter.
- Assess communication effectiveness, penetration, and impact.
- Continue to enhance our archival system and document repository.
- Assess and recommend deployment of various technology & platforms to better assist communication and other work of the council.

The **Policy & Legislation** (Chair: Roy Ross, UMB) was proud of the work accomplished the last term and looks forward to being an active and engaged body in the coming year.

- Keeping a very close eye on bills that could affect Staff employees, as well as facilitate more regular contact with legislators to further the System's goals.
- Continue to work closely with the USM Office of Government Relations.
- Develop training and a primer to assist the council on its annual visit to Annapolis during the legislative session.
- Create a forum to surface relevant legislative issues at the local, state, or federal level.
- Providing tools and resources to locate your legislative representatives and strategies to make informed voting and advocacy choices.

### **Next Meeting**

The Council will meet on September 24 at University of Maryland, Baltimore to start working on these goals.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill P. Crockett, MS, RCRSP  
Chair