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Board of Regent's Report December 6, 2013

Since the last Board of Regents meeting, The Council of University System Staff held its meetings at the University of Maryland, College Park (November 19). We would like to thank President Loh for his hospitality. As far as the current work and comments of the council:

- CUSS and CUSF Executive Boards met at USMO on November 4. The two executive bodies surfaced commonalities and concerns that are mutually shared. The following was discussed:
 - Merit process and transparency across intuitions.
 - Strategic priorities for the upcoming Maryland Legislative Session.
 - Ways to rally and engage our constituents
 - Establishing the time and location of this term's joint meeting.
- CUSS and CUSF have made a decision to have our respective Legislation and Policy Committees work together during the upcoming legislative session. The chairs from each committee have started discussions on what this will entail.
- The Joint Meeting of the Shared Governance Bodies (CUSS, CUSF, and USMSC) will be held on January 15, 2014 at UMUC (Adelphi). The agenda is being crafted with the focus being the upcoming legislative session.
- The packets for the Board of Regents Staff Awards were distributed to the institutions on November 8. The packets are due back to CUSS for review on January 31, 2014.
- The Benefits and Compensation Committee is reviewing three draft policies changes/proposals that are in the "pipeline". The committee is reviewing and providing advice and follow-up to the executive committee. These include the following:
 - o Sick Leave for Exempt and Nonexempt Staff Employees
 - Policy on Annual Leave for Exempt and Nonexempt Staff Employees
 - o USM Policy on Termination With Prejudice

Note: I am pleased to report that early feedback on "Termination with Prejudice Policy" was reviewed and the council's concerns addressed.

- The Council continues the work to refine our data collection and analysis for best practices. We will use this to improve our practices and procedures while ensuring continuity of shared governance during times of transition.
- The Council supports the launch of the Employee Assistance Program on January 1 and will provide any support for its roll-out and implementation.

The Council's next meeting is December 10, 2013 at USMO.

Respectfully submitted, Bill P. Crockett, MS, RCRSP Chair