



**DRAFT**

**COUNCIL OF UNIVERSITY SYSTEM PRESIDENTS**

**February 2, 2015**

**Meeting Notes**

- 1. FY 2015/2016 budgets. Chancellor Kirwan and Mr. Vivona discussed the status of the FY2015 and 2016 budgets with the presidents. They reported that under the FY 2016 budget submitted by the Governor, the USM has a shortfall of \$47 million. This shortfall is after the FY 2015 2% COLA is rolled back and FY 2016 merit increases are eliminated. While USM's FY 2016 General Funds increase by \$15.4 million, or 1.3 percent, USM will experience mandated costs in excess of that increase due to increased employee benefits costs, new facilities coming on line, service on USM's debt, higher utility costs and increases in financial aid. The presidents and Chancellor discussed options to address the reductions necessary in FY 2015 and 2016.**
- 2. Health benefits for employees of multiple institutions. Mr. Vivona explained the approach to providing health benefits for employees who qualify for benefits based on their employee at multiple State universities.**