



COUNCIL of UNIVERSITY  
SYSTEM FACULTY

**CUSF  
General Meeting  
Wednesday September 21, 2022**

**FINAL MINUTES**

**9:00 AM Call to Order/Roll Call**

CUSF Members in attendance:

Holly Brewer (Chair, UMCP), Lore Naylor (Secretary, UBalt)), Susan Antol (UMB), Jay Zimmerman (TU), Valerie Orlando (UMCP), Rosellina Ferraro (UMB), Ellen Schaefer-Salins (SU), Erica Kennedy (At-Large, FSU), Doris Santamaria-Mankang (FSU), Ellen Hondrogiannis (TU), Mohammed Samarah (UMBC), Mary Crowley-Farrell (UMGC), Kumindini Munasinghe (FSU), Edward Haberek (UMGC), Emma Bate (UMGC), Jeni Davis (SU), David Gray (UMCP), Ziah Bentahar (TU), Kelly Elkins (TU), Nagaraj Neerchal (UMBC), Lee Ann Christenson (TU), Agis Iliadis (UMCP), Kathryn Barrett-Gaines (UMES), Elizabeth Brunn (Past Chair, UMG), David Anyiwo (BSU), Heather Haverbeck (Vice Chair, TU), Justine Webster, (UMBC) Marcia Shofner (UMCP), Jennifer Martin (SU), Atma Sahu (At-Large), CSU, Kate Sheehan (FSU), Christopher Jarynski (UMD), and Tyesha Burke (BSU).

USM Members in Attendance & Guests

Jo Boughman (USM), Zakiya Lee (USM)

**9:33 AM Chair Report -Holly Brewer**

Holly stated she would record the meeting. Holly asked for a motion to approve the May 2022, CUSF Meeting Minutes. Susan Antol made the motion to approve the

minutes and Nagaraj Neerchal seconded the motion. When opened for discussion there was an amendment by Mary Crowley-Farrell on the education committee section. Mary advised it should read: “the academic integrity policy was part of general CUSF meeting discussion and approved by CUSF to move through the shared governance process, and the vote was unanimous.” It was then suggested to move these sentences out of the education committee report section and inserted in the old business section. A second motion was made to accept the amendments. Mary Crowley-Farrell made the motion to accept the amendments and Susan Antol seconded the motion on the amendments. Those in favor stated aye, those abstaining: Mohammed Samarah, Tiara Cornelius, and Katheryn Barrett-Gaines. Motion passed.

### **9:47AM Chair’s Remarks about Strategic Plan & Governance**

Holly Brewer shared the draft CUSF Strategic Plan on Zoom as guidance for this academic year. (Document attached). Discussion opened to CUSF at 10:05. Nagaraj Neerchal suggested to have our CUSF committees use the working draft as possible agenda items for the year.

**10:00 AM Committee Chairs** present information about their roles & plans for the year. Selecting chairs and committees.

Education Policy Committee – Committee Chair Mary Crowley-Farrell reported they wrote a policy on academic integrity, which took 5 years to draft, it is moving forward through shared governance process this fall, which should be approved Fall 2022. Also last year the committee explored issues on digital badging, artificial intelligence, civic engagement, 2-year to 4-year transfer policy, general education mandates, and open access rules on publications.

Awards – Committee Chair Ben Arah reported the committee will review and rank award applications first week in December and make recommendations to the Board of Regents. Need 4 faculty members to serve on the committee. Zakiya Lee advised that last year guideline revisions were made: 1) a new category, creative activity (visual and performing arts) was added; and 2) the innovation category was deleted and moved to evaluation criteria with inclusion and impact. The call for awards went out this past Friday, nominations need to be originated by a university president (not colleagues or individual faculty), deadline is November 18, 2022.

Faculty Concerns – Doris Santamaria Makang not able to report due to schedule conflict. She is meeting with the Chancellor who is on Frostburg State University campus. There were 3 subcommittees last year: 1) Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI), 2) Covid-19, and 3) Mental Health.

Rules Committee – Committee Chair Heather Haverbeck reported they reviewed different university websites, considered possible changes to CUSF Constitution and Bylaws, and assessed re-apportionment of university representation on CUSF including alternates.

Legislative Affairs – Holly Brewer served as chair last year. This committee receives important information on state legislation. Patrick Hogan and Andy Clark provide CUSF with updates.

Atma Sahu encouraged everyone to join a committee. Elizabeth Brunn shared that all CUSF members are required to serve on a committee and participate on the committee.

### **10:30 AM USM Report- Sr. Vice Chancellor Dr. Joann Boughman/ Dr. Zakiya Lee**

Joann Boughman shared that CUSF is important to USM. CUSF Chair meets once a month at USM president meetings and attends and presents to the Board of Regents meetings. Joann reported that USM does not have a systemwide policy on guns on campus. USM will consider a policy on weapons and campus safety.

CUSF Structure. If CUSF has a one-time issue, it is suggested that CUSF create a working group instead of changing bylaws.

USM has released a new strategic plan. It is focused on being student-centered instead of institution centered. This is a major shift at USM.

The Transfer with Success bill passed the Maryland legislature. It is designed to make transition smoother for community college students to four-year institutions. The focus is on student success. The MHEC guidelines are 21 pages long (financial aid, counselors/advisors are required to interact differently, a big challenge with increasing student success) and will be extremely labor-intensive for the sending and receiving institutions.

Enrollment. First time, full-time enrollment is up, but community college enrollment has dropped precipitously, which lowers overall enrollment. USM currently has 16,500 faculty members across the USM. How can faculty encourage enrollment and student success?

Civic Engagement (student, staff and faculty): need to address equity across academic disciplines. Also, the USM Student Council wants election day off as a holiday (change academic calendar or if a student needs a day off to serve as an election judge) and will likely reach out to CUSF for support.

Faculty Titles: tenure track titles (assistant, associate, and full professor) are distinctly different than teaching track titles (lecturers). A working group might be created to address these differences.

10:45 AM Andy Clark, Assistant Vice Chancellor Government Affairs - report on legislative prospects for the year.

Andy stated that Jo Boughman will be greatly missed as she retires this academic year. Andy provides legislative information and each campus has a legislative affairs staff person who is an excellent resource. He shares information on Annapolis. The weekly newsletter will start again in January 11<sup>th</sup> when the session starts, and he will host a weekly Monday Zoom meeting.

Last session restored USM funding and resources for the upgrade of the ARTSYS transfer platform.

Nov 8<sup>th</sup> election – deep, historic turnover in executive level (governor, comptroller) and 30-40% in general assembly. In addition, the state legislature now has ability to manipulate the state budget. A constitutional amendment was passed in 2020 that gives the general assembly power to move money in the budget. This is a major policy change.

Likely issues for 2023: college cost and affordability, campus safety and community (guns on campus)

Maryland has a \$2 billion surplus of which \$1 billion is unassigned.

### **11:10 AM Committee Break Out:**

Ed Policy – Mary Crowley-Farrell reported her committee explored agenda items for the year.

Faculty Concerns – Doris Santamaria-Makang absent. Ellen identified workload and burnout as key issues. Zakiya stated committee structures and processes were discussed.

Awards Committee – Ben A advised that they currently have 3 members.

**11:35 AM Link to last year’s Shared Governance Report.** How do we increase shared governance at USM?

Holly Brewer – in the past, CUSF reps shared information after the fact to University Faculty Senate (UFS). Holly shared CUSF Shared Governance report link generated questions from last year. CUSF needs to reach out and provide information to university senate faculty chairs to enhance coordination.

**11:45 PM Old Business**

None.

**11:57 PM New Business**

Mary Crowley-Farrell offered to open Slack channel for CUSF.

**12:00 PM Adjourn**

Atma Sahu made motion to adjourn. Lore Naylor seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 12:00.