

*Minutes for CUSF Executive Committee*

*Monday, March 6, 2017*

*12:00 – 2:00 pm,*

*USM System,*

*Adelphi Conference Room 1*

### ATTENDANCE:

|  |
| --- |
|  |
| Chair: Robert B. Kauffman, FSU | Present |
| Past Chair: POSITION VACANT |  |
| Vice Chair: Nagaraj Neerchal, UMBC | Present |
| Secretary: Patricia Westerman, BSU | Present |
| At-large: Chris Brittan-Powell, CSU | Present |
| At-large: Elizabeth Clifford, TU | Present |
| VCAA: Joann Boughman, USM: Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs | Present |
| Asst to Sr VCAA: Zakiya Lee, USM | Present |

12:11 Robert called the meeting to order.

12:12 Executive committee approved the February 6, 2017 executive committee minutes.

12:13 Report from chancellor's council—Robert Kauffman and Joann Boughman

Robert: I noted that Virletta Bryant has gone on to a new position. On the legislative session, Jo didn't want to comment because they're going to comment later today. There could be a reduction to the fund balance and perhaps to the base funding level.

Joann: On the fund balance, we're talking about $25 million on a $1.1 billion dollar base. It is a hit. We are not getting raises. It's death by a thousand paper cuts. But compared to the situation the state is in right now, this is not the time to be screaming about our issues. We are concerned about the cut to the Maryland work force that would further reduce funds coming into the state coffers. The commentaries that Patrick has heard from campuses and from others is that there remains strong support for higher education; it's just that the state is not in a good position right now. But we'll find out for sure later this afternoon. There's still a possibility of supplemental funding in which case we would be in the running for some of those funds.

Robert: And on the ban-the-box bill preventing institutions from asking applicants to report whether they have been convicted of crime?

Joann: One of the amendments would be that each campus can choose to use a third-party vendor (common app) or that each campus may use its own application. It is likely that the bill will be passed, but we needed to make it workable for us. The point of the requirement to use the "check the box" language is to provide support services to help such students make important choices about majors, etc. We have said that we cannot be held responsible if such a student were three years into a major in a field for which he or she would be disqualified by his or her criminal record.

Robert: The textbook initiatve would incentivize open educational resources (OER).

Jo: This includes community colleges and others as well as state institutions. The idea is to use money as an incentive for faculty who would like to use OER for certain courses. With only 40 courses across USM, in two years we saved $950,000 in textbook costs.

Robert: Briefing on the *Coalition* case. The remedial phase testimony ended recently. Closing arguments are expected in June.

Also discussed was the review of policies on campus emergency planning and on Institutional Review Boards (IRBs).

Joann: There is legislation being discussed on the notion that every institution must write a letter to every student by a certain date each year, explaining to each student what student loans will cost him or her over how many years. We currently give students information about how to find out about the loan programs from which they're receiving money. A major increase in workload would be required. Plus, there is the concern about what happens if we get the dollar figure wrong.

Robert: We thank Chris Brittan-Powell for his efforts on advocacy day in Annapolis. Appointments with the legislators were successful.

Chris: What changed was that we went to appointments with groups of students/faculty, etc. That was good. Some appointments were cancelled because Tuesday is a busy day for legislators. We would like to include students meeting with their own legislators, allowing also for photo opps.

Robert: There were minor issues with food, but it all went off okay. The chancellor was there, which did not go unnoticed.

Beth: If anyone got a picture, please send it to me for the newsletter.

Robert: I did get one picture and I'll send it.

Beth: Thanks. And Chris will send me a write-up.

Robert: On the agenda for the CUSF meeting at UMUC on March 15:

Robert added Ethan to the draft February 26 CUSF meeting minutes. And Robert suggested that the secretary email Senate Chair JC Weiss for a brief of the provost's remarks. We will pass on the February minutes to the CUSF membership.

On page 10 of the agenda: The meeting is at UMUC Largo.Parking is free and right behind the building.

Joann: I suggested that we have a federal lobbyist, which is what Derrick is, as our speaker. He will talk about how professional organizations work with Capitol Hill. We know that funding for a variety of things is threatened. We know that Save the Bay, NOAA, CDC, NSF will experience cuts. He will urge us to think about national policy needs. Most organizations have an advocacy day on the hill and this would be easily done. He will encourage us to advocate for things like support for what faculty do, etc.

Beth: April 22nd is the March for Science. I wonder if there is any coordination about that.

Jo: Derrick may know. This is a message that faculty could think about doing, using the power that they have to step forward and provide their opinions.

Beth: It seems that we sometimes get mixed messages about to what extent we may lobby. There is a chilling effect, potentially.

Jo: Another thing about which Derrick may talk is that, in the state budget, the majority of the budget is locked in to Medicare/Medicaid etc. At the federal level, federal R&D is the biggest slice of discretionary funding.

Robert: Also, comments/recommendations on what we should do about the UMUC reapportionment—went from 3 to 2 representatives. In talking to Bill Chapin, there are two options: 1. Cut from 3 to 2 now, or 2. Honor the term and then cut to 2 when the current term expires. UMUC currently has Sabrina, Elizabeth, and Albert, each of whom has one more full year after the end of this year.

Bill's suggestion is that we cut UMUC's representation to 2 at the end of this year, then it would be a matter internal to UMUC to decide which 2 go forward, pending discussion with chair (Bill Chapin), membership and rules committee with regard to whether adjuncts can represent institutions.

Moved by Trish Westerman and seconded by Chris. Passed.

Planning session at UMUC meeting: We discussed this at the last meeting. I went through the strategic plan and went through everything we've done and we're doing. (I need to add in the work of the other councils.) I came up with 8 different groupings. And it appears that we've done a lot this year.

We'll have an afternoon session in which we post easels of paper and put one action item on each easel for discussion. We will use this as a way to generate possible topics for next year's CUSF meeting agendas. Robert will communicate with Elizabeth Brunn to discover what topics have been shared with her for this session.

Jo: One of the next topics for BOR meeting discussion will be the role of the university in society. Part of that is the tension between the universities as trainers of people for workforce versus preparing an educated citizenry. They will bring in a national figure to discuss this classic issue. We are clearly working toward meeting the workforce needs of Maryland, as evidenced by the fact that 80% of our graduates stay in Maryland.

Another topic coming up soon will be "systemness." This will be interesting in light of the differing perspectives between the Regents and others.

Zakiya: Jay or Elizabeth or Ethan, members of Regents' faculty award committee should give an update on awards.

Robert: Okay. And another item is the USM ombudsman. Does anyone remember when we passed that?

Joann: There was no money. And also, we, by state law, cannot hire anybody. So we assigned ombuds activities to John Wolfe's office, but almost every situation that arises must be handled on the individual campus.

Robert: According to Sherrye (CUSS Chair), UMB, College Park and one other institution have ombudsmen on staff. CUSS was interested in a joint resolution or letter to the chancellor on this. My recollection is that we've already done that.

Joann: It has to be very clear what the role is and in which office it is situated. So I suggest a letter to the chancellor outlining what the problem is and how having an ombudsperson would solve it.

Chris: Was it ever considered that another campus could borrow some of the time of the College Park ombudsperson?

Joann: I'm sure it could be done.

1:25 Adjourned.

|  |
| --- |
| **Future ExCom and Council Meeting Dates** |
| **Month** | **Schedule of CUSF ExCom Meetings for 2016-2017****Academic Year 1** | **Schedule of CUSF Council Meetings for 2016-2017 Academic Year** | **Location** |
| April | Monday, April 3, 2017 | Thursday, April 20, 2017 | TU |
| May | Monday, May 8, 2017 | Monday, May 15, 2017 | UMBC |
| June | Monday, June 5, 2017 (optional) | Tuesday, June 13, 2017 (opt) | USM, Adelphi |
| 1 Unless noted, ExCom meetings are all held at the USM System in Adelphi. |