

CUSF General Body Meeting
University of Maryland College Park
College Park, Maryland

Minutes
Tuesday, November 11, 2014

Institution	Attendance
Bowie (2)	Monika Gross
Coppin (2)	Chris Brittan-Powell; Virletta Bryant; Vanessa Coles
Frostburg (3)	Robert Kauffman, Benjamin Norris; Elesha Ruminski
Salisbury (3)	Dave Parker
Towson (4)	Pat Alt; Beth Clifford; Thomas Krause; Jessica Shiller; Jay Zimmerman
UB (2)	Julie Simon
UMB (5)	
UMBC (3)	Nagaraj Neerchal; James Stephens
UMCES (2)	
UMCP (6)	William Montgomery; Lila Ohler; Don Webster (Senate Chair)
UMES (2)	William Chapin
UMUC (3)	Margaret Cohen; Joyce Henderson
USM Guest(s)	Zakiya Lee; John Wolfe

CONVENING THE SENATE CHAIRS MEETING – 10:10 a.m.

Robert Kauffman convened the meeting and had each senate chair/president give a brief introduction.

SHARED GOVERNANCE PRESENTATION FROM JOHN WOLFE– 10:20 a.m.

Policy on Shared Governance in the University System of Maryland (I-6.00) was reviewed. Dr. Wolfe stressed the importance of communication flowing both “up and down the chain of command” in order for shared governance to be successful. Additionally, USM policy I-6.00 defines the faculty’s role as advisory to the President and further stipulates faculty’s participation should be based in areas consistent with their knowledge and area of special expertise. Ultimate authority at the institutional level rests with the President who has the right to make decisions without immediate consultation of faculty. However if this occurs the president is to inform faculty of the actions taken thus providing an opportunity for faculty to respond ex post facto to the decision that has already been rendered.

REMARKS FROM CHANCELLOR KIRWAN – 11:20 a.m.

Vice Chancellor Joann Boughman delivered these remarks, as Chancellor Kirwan was unable to attend at the last minute. She described the growing emphasis on shared governance in the USM, and the efforts being made on improving campus security and sexual misconduct policies. She will deliver the plaque to Dr. Kirwan from CUSF.

STRATEGY FOR THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION – 11:30 a.m.

P. J. Hogan, the Vice Chancellor for Government Relations, described some of the key areas of likely concern in the coming year.

1. The U. S. Higher Education Act will need to be reauthorized
2. State level – there are lots of unknowns, with a new Governor; substantial change on the House side (key committee Chairs weren't re-elected); a new Chancellor to be hired; and new Board of Regents members to be appointed. Plus a \$400 million “revenue write-down” coming....major concerns about how to deal with the deficit. A KEY focus needs to be educating all new members of the General Assembly about the results we've achieved and the need to keep moving forward.
3. Efforts to be maintained –
 - State statutes aim for higher education achieving 15.5% of the state budget (have never gotten that high); also aim for 55% of citizens with higher education degrees.
 - There was a constitutional amendment stating that the state's revenue from gaming should go to the Education Trust fund for K-12 schools & infrastructure, and for Higher Education infrastructure needs.

Andy Clark, the Director of Legislative Affairs for USM, also described some crucial concerns. He recently did a presentation on these topics, and will make it available to us online.

- The Federal Higher Education Act will have no additional funds, and there is a Higher Education Task Force which will be pushing for greater efficiency.
- Having a USM Legislative Day this year will be critical, although there may be fewer actual bills introduced as the administration changes.
- The loss of Delegate John Bohannon will be a problem for Higher Education
- We will continue to monitor SB 740, and to work with Senators Pinsky and Rosapepe on its implementation.

LUNCH BREAK – AND MOVE TO SEPARATE MEETINGS

CUSF MEETING CONVENED AT 1:20 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 10/20/14 –

With some revisions, the motion passed unanimously.

CHAIR'S REPORT - Virletta Bryant

1. The CUSF Meeting at FSU went well.
2. The Board of Regents met at FSU on 10/24/14, and she reported to them from CUSF.
3. The Education Policy & Student Life committee is currently focused on: their workload group, preparing for the BOR Retreat on 11/25 (particularly on the 55% completion goal), and they have established an Intra-athletic Division workgroup to try to make sure we have appropriate checks and balances for student athletes' behavior.

4. The AAAC meeting also focused primarily on the 55% completion issue
5. The BOR “Retreat” is a public meeting. There will be a panel of Presidents discussing what happens with budgets, etc. Also a focus on degree pathways and how to turn “access” into “success”. They will be examining the variety of forms of research in the USM. The guest speaker will be James Duderstadt, the President Emeritus of the University of Michigan.
6. She attended the “Strive to 55” conference, representing CUSF. John Wolfe will report on it now.

REPORT FROM JOHN WOLFE – “Strive to 55” Conference

The goal of the conference was to help 55% of Maryland citizens achieve a post-high school degree. There were various speakers, including panels of students from various institutions and the Undersecretary of Education from the U. S. Department of Higher Education. Other panelists included representatives of philanthropic partnerships and the “Complete College America” effort. A key question discussed was “how to engage faculty”...with an implicit assumption that faculty aren’t already concerned. The panel was quizzed about these assumptions. Governor O’Malley was also given an award for his efforts to support higher education in the state.

COMMITTEE REPORTS– 2:05 p.m.

1. Academic Affairs – The committee will be focusing on:
 - Academic Freedom “policies” – How are they incorporated in all campus and USM handbooks? Apparently, many Provosts don’t want to incorporate CUSF policies in their handbooks, but include “resolutions” or “recommendations”. There was extensive discussion of these concerns, and of the need to go back to the system and campuses and explore what the actual issues are.
 - The committee also began to explore the use of Open Source Textbooks.
2. Legislative Affairs – The committee will be focusing on how to influence the next General Assembly, working with P.J. Hogan to arrange a Legislative Day in Annapolis, and also further exploring SB 740.
3. Faculty Affairs – The Committee will be working on three key issues: Editing the BOR Awards for next year; following up on the UMUC letter; and the need for an Ombudsperson.

FINAL COMMENTS –

Virletta reported that the Executive Committee has established a subcommittee to explore the UMUC concerns. They will meet with UMUC representatives and review all the documents which have been submitted. Dave Parker will Chair the committee, with Martha Siegel and Stephanie Gibson also serving on it.

ADJOURN – 2:25 p.m.

With no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 2:25 p.m. The motion was unanimously passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Patricia M. Alt, Secretary

APPROVED