



## COUNCIL of UNIVERSITY SYSTEM FACULTY

### **Minutes of December 10, 2020 CUSF Meeting – Online format**

#### **9:30 Attendance**

Joann Boughman (USM), Zakiya Lee (USM), Elizabeth Brunn (Chair), Benjamin Arah (BSU), David Anyiwo (BSU), Aerian Tatum (CSU), Juanita Ashby-Bey (CSU), Atma Sahu (alt.) (CSU), John Lombardi (FSU), Erika Kennedy (FSU), Doris Santamaria (FSU), Ellen Schaefer-Salins (SU), Jeni Davis (SU), Vitus Ozoke (SU), Jay Zimmerman (TU), Jennifer Potter (TU), James Manley (TU), Ellen Hondrogiannis (TU), Ana Maria Soto (alt.) (TU), Ellin Lobel (alt.) (TU), Julie Simon (UB), Lorenda Naylor (UB), Karen Clark (UMB), Susan Antol (UMB), David Gray (UMB), Patricia Campbell (UMB), Diane Flint (UMBC), Pamela Lanford (UMCP), Marc Pound (UMCP), Daniel Falvey (alt.) (UMCP), William Chapin (UMES), Sabrina Fu (UMGC), Mary Crowley-Farrell (UMGC)

#### **9:32 Meeting Called to Order**

#### **9:35 Minutes approved with minor changes**

#### **9:37 Chair Report - Elizabeth Brunn**

- Meetings are continuing on Zoom and will not be connected to a university per se for future meetings.
- Faculty are being asked, by students, to be more flexible due to COVID related personal issues for students.
- Zakiya dealing with pass/fail issues
  - Students asking for flexibility.
  - Susan – P/F can be a bad thing for graduate school issues.
  - Pamela – Urge faculty to be generous to students.
  - Aerian – Asked if graduate schools will take COVID into account this year.
  - Elizabeth – Students are offered late withdrawal option at some schools.

#### **10:00 Jay Zimmerman introduces Jane Wolfson to discuss retiree health benefits**

- What happens to a spouse when the USM faculty dies in retirement?
  - Health insurance will lapse.
  - Wolfson retired and had to create an annuity to continue health insurance
- Benefits have to be changed to name of surviving spouse, but they may not know the USM system.
- It is important to alert the surviving spouse of these issues.
- Should spouse be made to go through system after spouse dies and not in proper state of mind?

- Atma – There should be a booklet made for surviving spouse.
  - Jo responds – Carolyn from USM HR can be involved in discussions with small CUSF team about this issue.
- Elizabeth – Motion to have the rest of the meetings via Zoom for the remainder of the 2020/2021 academic year
  - Motion passes
- Jay – Allow people to vote by phone or Zoom for the meetings. This is a change from having to be in person.
  - It recommended not to say how to vote and to leave that open so we can use Zoom or phone.

### **10:30 Jo Boughman - USM Report**

- Spring semester recommendation and information on vaccines and COVID
  - Increased testing on campus.
  - Current COVID surge means we have to alter strategies now.
  - Can get first 130,000 tests at no costs.
  - Vaccinations – FDA approval expected today.
    - Pfizer does not have as many vaccines as expected.
    - Priority currently: Front line workers and the elderly in group situations.
    - Moderna vaccines are coming too. Does not require special freezers.
    - Most people won't be vaccinated till March, April, or beyond.
      - There may be side effects but not bad.
    - Teachers are high on list – faculty are teachers
    - Vaccines will be free for campuses – need people trained to give them.
    - Some have bad reactions, but those are often people who have allergies.
    - Can we require vaccines for students and employees? Answer may be yes with exemptions like religious reasons.
    - Vaccines have RNA (not DNA). Mounts an immune response to COVID
    - Pfizer – 21 days between vaccines or more.
    - Moderna – 28 days between vaccines or more
    - Can get fever as reaction to vaccine so people may have to stay home before vaccine side effects stop.
    - Worrying about messaging to getting vaccines. Want faculty to show “good vaccine behavior” to others.
    - Questions about students in healthcare getting vaccines? No answer yet.

### **11:45 CUSF Committee Reports**

- Rules and Membership Committee - Jay Zimmerman and Bill Chapin
  - Discussed voting for new members and ExComm
  - Polling or e-mail to vote. Do you have to be at the meeting to vote?  
Discussion continues
- Faculty Affairs Committee - Diane
  - COVID sub-committee set up a survey with good questions - Ellin Lobel
  - Structural racism - Ana Maria
    - January panel discussion looking at structural racism with chief diversity officers.

- Second panel with reps from student, faculty, staff and more.
- Tech Committee - Patricia
  - What can campuses require that students have with tech?
  - Can we require cameras, classes being recorded?
  - They will meet with CIO of various campuses plus tech person in MD legislature.
  - Who owns technology mediated structural materials?
  - Diane – Things are changing daily with tech issues impacted by COVID and more.
- Board of Regents Faculty Awards Committee - Benjamin
  - Members met on December 8; faculty summaries due by Dec. 22
  - Applications in all four areas except for innovation; summaries go to BOR
  - There is normally a nice breakfast for winners but with COVID that won't happen this year. Zakiya thanked committee.
- Badging - Karen Clark
  - IPE badge working group meeting. Want to meet with MJ to get direction on where to go. Needs goals for what badge.
- Academic Integrity Committee - Mary
  - Trying to get a report out there with guidance. New draft will be presented to CUSF in January 2021. Once passed will go to different campuses.
  - Draft will look at best practices with AI.
- Legislative Committee - David
  - February 17 is Annapolis Day for USM
  - Details forthcoming, but group will probably meet with legislators on Zoom.
  - This will be a challenging budgetary time for all.
  
- **12:30 Old Business – none**
- **12:32 New Business – none**
- **12:35 Adjournment**

**Recording of meeting**

[https://umuc.zoom.us/rec/share/HVGFymcJ2laL52vjBrCrgZUkLIus\\_Oi4QVVt5kX9zGtQP6Z-F3N92E0gxtYvR88.wv5SgX\\_Ei18v9rOc](https://umuc.zoom.us/rec/share/HVGFymcJ2laL52vjBrCrgZUkLIus_Oi4QVVt5kX9zGtQP6Z-F3N92E0gxtYvR88.wv5SgX_Ei18v9rOc)

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**Next meeting will be online and is scheduled for January 19, 2021**