

Chair's Report (CUSF) September 2016

For my first report to Council, I would like to refer back to my summary statement that I wrote for the elections last year. Since the elections were non-contested, the statements didn't receive much attention. Before the last ExCom meeting, I reviewed the statement in passing. During the ExCom meeting Chris asked me what my vision for the year was and my vision and response are summarized well in the following 145 word statement. I share it here.

I believe that our mission in CUSF should be "*to strengthen higher education through shared governance.*" There are a lot of dimensions to this statement. It is important for us to frame everything that we do in terms of strengthening higher education whether it is academic freedom, faculty salaries, benefits, curriculum, and servicing students. We have strengthened our advisory role with the Chancellor with the Senate Chair's Survey on Shared Governance. We have a need to strengthen share governance on the individual campuses. We need to develop tools and strategies that share shared governance policies, procedures and practices between campuses. We should not be isolated island campuses. In addition, we need to develop a mission, vision statement and strategic plan for CUSF. These tools strengthen our organizational structure and our ability to deliver share governance policies, procedures and practices that strengthen higher education in Maryland. [Election Statement – March 2016]

This statement is reflected in the proposed mission statement and vision statement for CUSF. We can entertain other mission statements. Regardless, it suggests my thinking as Chair. The year is beginning and we will see where it takes us.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert B. Kauffman
Chair, CUSF