



acres of land, a student body of approximately 12,000 undergraduate students and 2,200 graduate students. There are about 20 Ph.D. programs and 85 Ph.D. degree students will graduate this year.

### **Minutes**

The April minutes were approved as amended.

### **Report from the Chancellor's Liaison**

- Open enrollment will take place from May 24<sup>th</sup> through June 14<sup>th</sup>. Prudential will offer Long Term Care. Caremark's (90 day by mail prescription program) contract will expire on December 31, 2006 and another company, Catalyst, Inc., will be the new prescription vendor.
- The Blue Ribbon Commission will submit their report in 2008 in regard to the ORP for retirees.
- Everyone will receive the COLA but people who are currently at the "maximum" of their level won't get a merit increase. There can, however, be a one time merit payment for "exceptional contribution to the institution" but the bonus is not added to a person's base salary.
- TIAA-CREF migrated to a new platform and discovered major problems with the web site. The involved IT Operations Room staff members are no longer there and other TIAA-CREF staff members are reviewing each and every concern/problem-one by one.

### **Chair's Report**

- The Board of Regents held a special meeting on May 10<sup>th</sup> to vote on tuition. The proposed 2007 budget includes funds from projected costs for employee and retiree health insurance that were overestimated. The General Assembly authorized the use of the health funds in place of tuition revenues that would have been generated by increasing tuition rates at USM institutions.
- The Board's agenda on May 10th also included proposals for privatized student housing at Towson University and the renovation of a building at the University of Baltimore.
- The ORP for retirees is a concern that CUSS will continue to work on. Martha Siegel of CUSF is a stronger supporter.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Ad hoc Committee formed to review:**

- BOR Awards Nomination Process – The committee handed out a draft proposal as to how to increase participation of nonexempt employees, and a long discussion followed. The nomination process is too complex, and overwhelming. How are the BOR Staff Awards advertised at each institution? What office has the responsibility for initiating/encouraging/reviewing nominations after each president receives their letter from the chancellor? CUSS representatives are to inquire about the method used at their respective institutions for nonexempt nominee applications. Please forward the information to Larry Lauer in order that suggestions can be made on how the present process can be amended--so that a better representation can be achieved of BOR Nonexempt Staff Award nominees.

### **Benefits and Compensations Committee**

- For TU - Contingent II employees who were on the university payroll as of October 22, 2004 will all be converted by July 1, 2007. Contingent II employees hired after that date are limited to a 12 month contract that is renewable on a one time basis. Two examples are as follows: If a department hires someone on July 1, 2006, their contract will be valid until June 30, 2007. At that time, it can be renewed for another 12 months. Scenario 2 - if a department hired someone on April 1, 2006, their contract will be up for renewal on June 30, 2006. So, in situation 1 you are getting a contractual employee for 24 months, and in situation 2 you are getting one for 15 months. The second scenario forces the campuses to hire Contingent II employees as they were meant to be hired.

### **Communications Committee:**

- There was another request for missing “committee” reports that have not been submitted for this year’s CUSS newsletter.

### **Community Development**

- Only 8 BOR Staff Award nonexempt nomination packages were received this year. The question is: how to encourage more applications overall and especially, nonexempt packages. Speak with “shared governance” units on campuses and Chancellor’s Council.

### **Legislative Committee**

- No report.

### **Old Business**

- No Old Business.

### **New Business**

Nomination for chair-Larry Lauer, UMCP and Dave DeLooze, UMB as vice chair and secretary-none as of yet. Elections will take place at the June meeting at UMES on June 27, 2006. The council will consider additional nominations for chair and vice chair - if any, as well as the member-at-large positions on the executive committee at that meeting.

A motion was made and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

Mary E. Reed  
Secretary