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Council of University System Staff Report

March 27, 2012

The Council met on March 27 at Coppin State University. President Reginald Avery welcomed the Council and updated us on progress at Coppin.

Travis Tazelaar of Educate Maryland spoke on behalf of Helen Melton from CASA of Maryland. CASA wishes to secure CUSS's support for including the Dream Act on the November ballot, but it was not clear as to how that support would be used. CUSS members will return to their individual institutions to discuss with constituents. A vote will be conducted via email on April 11 as to whether we can give our support.

CUSS discussed the timeline for the 2012 Board of Regents Awards, as well as the creation of a new award. The new award criteria will be submitted to the Board of Regents Education Committee on Wednesday, March 28.

CUSS was proud to respond to a call to action that included 2,536 faculty, staff and student participants, sending more than 19,000 messages to the Maryland General Assembly objecting to the increased budget cuts to USM and its institutions. Numerous responses were also received from legislators saying, "We hear you loud and clear."

Our next meeting will be held at Towson University on Tuesday, April 24. Invited guests include P.J. Hogan and Andy Clark for a legislative wrap-up, and Joanne Goedert for a discussion on maternity/paternity leave policies.

Respectfully submitted,

Gynene Sullivan, Vice Chair
Council of University System Staff