The Council of University System Presidents met on March 6 with Chancellor Caret and USM senior staff.

Chancellor Caret and the USM presidents discussed options related to enhancing the retention of, and the support provided by, OAG staff. Chancellor Caret, Mr. Vivona, and Mr. Hogan provided an update on the legislative session, including the FY 2018 budget, the USM hearings, and legislation of note. The Chancellor also briefed the Presidents on a proposed state economic initiative that would enhance workforce development.

President Boesch led a conversation about freedom of speech as a follow-up to the last Board of Regents meeting, where William Galston spoke on the topic. He also discussed possible impacts of funding decisions by the New Administration on Federal research and how best to advocate for funding across the system.

Chancellor Caret and Mr. Vivona provided an update on the compensation study being conducted by Sibson Consulting, which included the proposed methodology for selecting presidential compensation peers. Chancellor Caret also spoke about enhancing systemness and establishing an enrollment management model.

Mr. Vivona encouraged the Presidents to have a list of infrastructure projects ready in case opportunities arise from a plan for infrastructure investments from the New Administration. He also briefed the Presidents on the biennial nonexempt market salary survey report.

Ms. Bainbridge provided an update on the New Administration’s immigration orders and advised that the OAG would provide guidance for a new executive order to be released that day. Ms. Doyle asked the Presidents to help identify who on campus to work with to put together a master event schedule for the campuses.