The Council of University System Presidents met on August 8 with Chancellor Caret and USM senior staff.

Chancellor Caret and Mr. Vivona provided an update to the presidents about the FY 18 budget and the target reduction plan that was submitted to the governor. They then briefed the presidents about the development of the FY 19 budget, noting that there are 3 steps – the current services budget, the enhancement budget, and the target reduction.

Dr. Boughman and President Perman discussed declining enrollments in nursing across the system and steps being taken to address this issue. Mr. Vivona briefed the presidents about the tuition remission benefit for differential tuition and how it is handled differently at different institutions. He noted that we, as a system, need to decide on a standardized approach to tuition remission as it involves differential tuition.

Chancellor Caret and Ms. Doyle led a discussion about the Sibson Consulting executive compensation and governance report and its rollout. The presidents provided input on the compensation philosophy that is being developed as a part of the Sibson report’s recommendations.

Mr. Raley provided information on the Foundation and Campaign Leadership Summit being held November 7th for presidents and foundation board chairs and vice chairs. This summit will outline what everyone needs to do to ensure campaign success. Chancellor Caret reminded presidents about the spousal travel policy and procedures. President Dudley-Eshbach asked all of the institutions to participate in the USM Women’s Forum.

Presidents Loh and Breaux discussed possible activities on their campuses in honor of Richard Collins III, the BSU student killed on the UMCP campus in May.