

### Report from the Council of University System Staff

**Board of Regents Meeting Report** December 15, 2017

Since our last meeting, CUSS has met three times. Our October meeting was held on October 24, 2017, at University of Maryland, Baltimore County. CUSS was welcomed by Vice President for Administration and Finance, Lynne Schaefer. Ms. Schaefer highlighted the new event center that is due to open later this fall. The center will be a place for men's and women's basketball, volleyball, as well as events such as convocation, commencement and concerts. Also, discussed the New Interdisciplinary Life Science Building which will open summer 2019. UMBC will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year. The primary focus of this meeting was a presentation by UMB's Ombudsperson, Dr. Laurelyn Irving. Dr. Irving gave a presentation of her services and discussed the role of the ombudsperson. She also discussed different ways that the service could be set up and the reporting structure. I would suggest inviting Dr. Irving to one of the President's Council meetings or the Chancellor's Council meeting.

In November, CUSS participated in the Joint Meeting with CUSF and USMSC which was held November 15, 2017 at University of Maryland, College Park. The agenda for this meeting included a welcome by President Loh, a report to the three Councils based on questions submitted in advance along with an update of initiatives within the State and System by Chancellor Caret, a report by Andy Clark on the upcoming legislative session, and an update on the joint ombudsperson resolution by Joann Boughman. While the information presented was of interest, in general many council members felt that the staff questions were largely left unanswered. The Council generally meets with the Chancellor during our December meeting, however due to scheduling conflicts, this was not possible. The Council is currently trying to find another meeting date on the Chancellor's schedule to have that face to face meeting.

Finally, our December meeting was held at the USM office in Adelphi on December 12, 2017. We were greeted by Jeff Neal, Vice Chancellor in the Office of Communications and Marketing. He presented an overview of the Communications and Marketing efforts of the system. CUSS reviewed and approved the FML and Parental Leave Policy updates as presented by Emily Bolyard of the Office of Attorney General. We also discussed the impacts of the proposed Federal Tax Law on tuition remission taxation consequences for faculty, staff, and graduate students who utilize this benefit. The executive committee will be presenting the final draft of the CUSS Shared Governance survey to the council for approval at our January meeting. The survey will then be distributed to campuses in late January with findings presented to the Chancellor and the Board in April.

#### **Bowie State University** 14000 Jericho Park Road

**Coppin State College** 2500 W. North Avenue Baltimore, MD 21216

Bowie, MD 20715

**Frostburg State University** 101 Braddock Road Frostburg, MD 21532

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**Towson University** 8000 York Road Towson, MD 21204

**University of Baltimore** 1420 North Charles Street Baltimore, MD 21201

University of Maryland, Baltimore 520 West Lombard Street Baltimore, MD 21202

**University of Maryland Baltimore County** 1000 Hilltop Circle Baltimore, MD 21250

University of Maryland Center For Environmental Science P.O. Box 775 Cambridge, Md. 21613

**University of Maryland** College Park College Park, MD 20742

**University of Maryland** 

**Eastern Shore** Princess Anne, MD 21853

**University of Maryland University College** 3501 University Boulevard East

Adelphi, MD 20783

**University System of** Maryland Office 3300 Metzerott Road Adelphi, MD 20783-1690

#### **Committee Updates:**

#### **Benefits & Compensation Committee**

- 1. Gathering information from institutions to see what is being done regarding salary compression.
- 2. Will be updating the point of contact email list with each institution.
- 3. Currently updating benefits listing for each institution.

## **Board of Regents Awards & Recognition Committee**

- 1. Completed draft rubric for evaluating the award packets.
- 2. Preparing for training session on SharePoint for conducting award packet evaluations.

## **Legislative & Policy Committee**

- 1. Shared summary documents with group to include goals, committee task list and timeline.
- 2. Andy Clark joined the committee meeting at our December meeting to discuss the legislative session and the USM Advocacy Day.

# **Communications and Marketing Committee**

- 1. The fall newsletter is now available and posted on the website: http://www.usmd.edu/usm/workgroups/SystemStaff/newsletters.html
- 2. Preparing an information sheet to use at each institution to promote and recruit CUSS members.
- 3. Preparing the January newsletter.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa S. Gray

Lisa G. Gray CUSS Chair