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

Chancellor Caret and Mr. Vivona provided updates on the FY 19 enhancement request paying particular attention to workforce development initiatives at both institutions and regional higher education centers (RHECs). Chancellor Caret and Mr. Vivona also gave an update on the Fund Balance Work Group, whose aim is to promote transparency in the fund balance process and provide education about the fund balance for legislators and other state officials.

Chancellor Caret led a discussion of whether private institutions should be permitted to offer programs at USM RHECs. The Presidents raised concerns about this prospect but acknowledged that different RHECs may have different needs and circumstances. Chancellor Caret and Dr. Boughman provided additional information on the ombudsperson recommendation that came out of the advisory councils noting that CUSP is taking the resolution seriously, but needs to do more due diligence to research legal implications, scope of services, etc.

Chancellor Caret and Ms. Doyle asked for input on the agenda for the CUSP Retreat scheduled for December 4th. Mr. Vivona and Ms. Skolnik provided an update about collective bargaining at USM institutions and received feedback from the Presidents.
The Council of University System Presidents held a retreat on December 4, 2017 with Chancellor Caret and USM senior staff. Chancellor Caret, Mr. Vivona, and Mr. Hogan provided updates on the FY 19 budget and budget strategy with particular emphasis on the enhancement request. The presidents had a discussion about enrollment management across the USM. Chancellor Caret and Mr. Vivona gave an overview of the USM financial model and budget equity. They also led a discussion on fund balance management and the development of a required BOR policy.

President Miyares presented about the UMUC business model and how it was restructured to compete in an increasingly competitive for-profit world. Chancellor Caret and Mr. Vivona provided an overview of system-wide initiatives and asked the presidents for other systemness ideas that they would like to discuss in future meetings.

Chancellor Caret and Mr. Sadowski presented an update on the Excel initiative, the timeline, and next steps. They paid particular attention to the benefits and challenges moving forward. AAG Bainbridge provided an update on the Coalition Case.