



COUNCIL of UNIVERSITY
SYSTEM FACULTY

General Body Meeting

FINAL MINUTES

Tuesday October 24, 2023

9:30 am-1:00 pm

**Meeting Location:
University System of Maryland Office
Rita Rossi Colwell Center
701 East Pratt Street
Baltimore, MD**

9:35 Call to Order – Heather Haverback, CUSF Chair

Attendance sign in sheet sent around the room for in person attendees. Voting members in attendance include: Heather Haverback (TU; Chair), Tom Abrams, (UMD; Vice Chair), Lorenda Naylor (UBalt; Secretary), Karen Repp (UMB), Patricia Campbell (UMB), Amy Froide (UMBC), Tim Nohe (UMBC), Tom Abrams (UMD Vice Chair); Lorenda Naylor (UBalt; Secretary), Loretta Baryeh (CSU), Ahmed Zohny (CSU), Joan Antunes (TU), Jay Zimmerman (TU), Sergiy Borodachov (TU) Mary Crowley-Farrel (UMGC), Emma Bates (UMGC), Miroslaw Janowski, Kelly Elkins (TU), Doris Santamaria Makang (FSU), Kate Sheehan (FSU).

Non-Voting: Dr. Zakiya Lee (USM)

Those attending via Zoom:

Holly Brewer (UMCP; Past Chair), Kelechi Uzochukwu, (UBalt), Emily Gorman (UMB), Ellen Schaefer-Salins (SU), Xin Zhang (UMCES), (UMB) , Emily Gorman (UMB), David Anyiwo, (BSU), Joyce Bell (UMES), Vivian Koh (SU),

9:37-9:40 Approval of September 2023 meeting minutes

(See Separate Email Attachment). Minutes approved.

9:40 -10:20 Welcome –TU Interim President Dr. Melanie Perreault

Dr Perreault gave an overview of Towson University. She reported that she is finishing her term as president. TU is moving up in the rankings and increasing student diversity. This fall TU welcomed the largest freshman class in TU's history (over 19,500 students including 1,600 transfer students). TU Purchased the National Armory in Towson. TU is increasing diversity on campus; during AY23 it had the largest number of graduates of Black women in the state (73% for 6 year graduation rates), and has also increased the number of veterans. TU is shifting focus from 6-year to 4-year graduation rates. TU and other area universities have been impacted by lowered tuition rates by state institutions in Pennsylvania and New Jersey; increasing the competition for students. TU has also increased the number of graduate assistant positions, research assistant positions, and increased faculty lines by 40. TU is proud to announce a new academic program; PhD in autism, and has lowered teaching loads for research active faculty. Equally important TU has increased its annual budget by \$16 million to make these important investments.

Dr. Perreault shared that the freshman year has the biggest drop out rate. If you can get students through the sophomore year they will likely graduate. Also, it would benefit students tremendously if student loans were available for summer so students can make up classes and stay on target for graduation. In regards to campus renovations, Smith Hall is being renovated (\$120 million) from science to communication and electronic media and film program building.

10:20 Welcome from Chancellor Jay Perman

Chancellor Perman reported that he recently visited Coppin State University where he visited with pre-health students. He thanked faculty for all their hard work and dedication to USM students.

10:25 -10:35 Heather Haverback, Chair

BOR Retreat. Took place in October. It focused on USM being student centric. UMCP Chief of Police gave an update on campus safety, which is a top priority for all USM campuses.

Senate Chair Meeting. Held this Thursday, 10/26 in person.

CUSF Committee Meetings. Requesting that CUSF Committee Chair reports are given earlier in the meeting.

10:35-10:45 USM Report

Dr. Zakiya Lee, USM Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs and Chief of Staff to Sr. Vice Chancellor, Alison Wrynn.

Zakiya reported that Chancellor Perman meets with students monthly, known as the “chancellor’s chat.” It provides ongoing contact with USM students so he can hear from them directly. This past meeting focused on first generation students. They shared their challenges, importance of advisement with advisors and faculty members.

USM Student Council meets in November – they will be reviewing religious accommodation policy and how it is being implemented by faculty. Any policy changes that arise from this will be shared with faculty.

New TU President is coming in.

10:45- 10:50 Old Business

Jay Zimmerman, Rules Committee- no new information on CUSF Bylaws. The proposed amended documents (Constitution and Bylaws) will be sent to CUSF members to give ample time for new CUSF members to review. Jay shared the impetus for bylaw changes was the pandemic and need to meet via Zoom. The current issue is deciding on how many in person meetings and Zoom meetings to schedule each year. The aim is to accommodate as many faculty as possible.

10:50-11:06 New Business

CUSS Tuition Fee. CUSS has requested that CUSF support its request for USM to change its policy on tuition fees charged to employees. This generated much discussion. The policy is not clear if fully online students pay less fees than on campus students. The fee structure varies for full-time and part-time employees. In general, CUSF supports further exploration of creating equity in campus fees for employees. CUSF needs time review it (just received it this past week). Heather encourages CUSS representative to present policy proposal at future CUSF meeting. Also need a formal request by CUSS.

11:06 -11:18 Break

11:18 – 12:00 Committee Reports

CUSF Awards Committee. Zakiya Lee (USM) reported that Ben Arah (BSU) is the AY24 CUSF Awards Chair and the following faculty members are serving on the committee; Lorenda Naylor (UBalt), Loretta Baryeh (CSU; former awards winner); Dr. Goshi (UMBC; former CUSF winner); and Eric Shot (UMCES). Awards committee makes recommendations to the Board of Regents, who makes the final decision in the spring. In April, the BOR hosts an awardee breakfast.

Eds Policy – Mary Crowley-Farrell reported that the committee completed the Academic Integrity policy, which took several years. For AY24 they are focusing on artificial intelligence (AI). Last year, they produced an AI Zoom webinar. This year they will address AI in the syllabus, course curriculum, assignments, best practices, and other learning issues. Mary invited faculty members to join Ed Policy because AI is a big, broad issue. Will also be focusing on student engagement. Heather shared that AI is being brought up in accreditation. Florida is designating classes as AI.

Faculty Concerns – Doris Santamaria-Makang (FSU) reported that 11 faculty members attended the September 2023 meeting; will continue to work on Diversity Equity & Inclusion (DEI). Produced a Mental Health Awareness DEI webinar last year. This year will focus on DEI and graduate assistantships.

Legislative Affairs – Holly Brewer (UMCP; past chair) reported that they are working on shared governance, collective bargaining, and organizing the 2024 Annapolis Day. She has also reached out to the governor's office on potential legislation and will be working with Andy Clark at USM.

Research – Tom Abrams (UMD; Vice Chair) reported they are focusing on animal care issues; how to connect USM research portals, concerns about foreign born researchers, and improving the pipeline from research discovery to commercialization. Tom invited faculty from other institutions to join the committee to get broad representation of institutions and disciplines. The committee needs representation from SU, FSU, UMCES, and UBalt.

Rules – Jay Zimmerman reported CUSF is giving CUSF members more time to review proposed changes to the CUSF bylaws and constitution.

12:30 Committee Meetings – Tasks:

- 1) Complete committee membership (addition of new members); 2) confirm initiatives/agenda items 3) determine times for additional meetings if needed:
 - a. Legislative Affairs
 - b. Educational Policy
 - c. Faculty Concerns
 - d. Faculty Awards
 - e. Membership and Rules
 - f. Research

1:30 Adjourned

Month	Schedule of CUSF General Committee Meetings AY- 2023-2024	Location
September	9/20/23 (Wednesday)	Virtual 9:30-12:30
October	10/24/23 (Tuesday)	In Person USM Baltimore 9:30-1:00 <i>(lunch will be served)</i>
November	11/15/23 (Wednesday)	In Person UMBC Joint-Council Meeting <i>(details forthcoming)</i>
December	12/13/23 (Wednesday)	Virtual 9:30-12:30
January	1/23/24 (Tuesday)	In Person USM Adelphi 9:30-1:00 <i>(lunch will be served)</i>
February	2/23/24 (Friday)	Virtual 9:30-12:30
March	3/27/24 (Wednesday)	Virtual 9:30-12:30
April	4/25/24 (Thursday)	TBD
May	5/15/24 (Wednesday)	Virtual 9:30-12:30
June	TBD	