



COUNCIL of UNIVERSITY SYSTEM FACULTY

CUSF Council Meeting Towson University and Zoom Monday October 28, 2024 9:30 am-1:00 pm

Voting Members:

Heather Haverback (Chair, TU), Tom Abrams (UMB, Vice Chair), Loretta Baryeh (Secretary, CSU), Lorenda Naylor (Member-at-Large, UBalt), Nagaraj Neerchal (Member-at-Large, UMBC),

Benjamin Arah (BSU), David Anyiwo (BSU) Doris Santamaria-Makang (FSU), Jenn Flinn (FSU, alternate voting), Jennifer Hart (SU), Ryan Conrath (SU), Vitus Ozoke (SU, alternate voting) Jay Zimmerman (TU), Kelly Elkins (TU), Ziad Bentahar (TU), Maria Francesco (TU), Ryan King White (TU, alternate voting), Kelechi Uzochukwu (UBalt), Miroslaw Janowski (UMB), J. Ward Morrow (UMB), Adam Schneider (UMB), Recai Aktay (UMB, alternate voting), Amy Froide (UMBC), Holly Brewer (UMCP), Agis Iliadis (UMCP), Heidi Scott (UMCP), Rosellina Ferraro (UMCP), Jamie Pierson (UMCES), Wei We Zhu (UMES), Leslie West (UMES), Mary Crowley-Farrell (UMGC)

Non-Voting Attendees:

CUSF: Marcia Vandiver (TU, alternate)

USM: Alison Wrynn (USM), Kelsey Beckett (USM).

Guest:

Dr. Mark Ginsberg, President, Towson University

Dr. Jay Perman, Chancellor, University System of Maryland

| Month | Schedule of CUSF General Committee Meetings AY- 2024-2025 | Location |
|-----------|--|---|
| September | 9/17/24 (Tuesday) | Virtual 9:30- New Members 10:00-12:30 |

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| October | 10/28/24 (Monday) | In Person Towson University 9:30-1:00 <i>(lunch will be served)</i> |
| November | 11/19/24 (Tuesday) | In Person UMBC Joint-Council Meeting <i>(details forthcoming)</i> |
| December | 12/10/24 (Tuesday) | Virtual 9:30-1:00 |
| January | 1/22/25 (Wednesday) | In Person USM Adelphi 9:30-1:00 <i>(lunch will be served)</i> |
| February | 2/12/25 (Wednesday) | Virtual 9:30-1:00 |
| March | 3/5/24 (Wednesday) | TBD 9:30-1:00 |
| April | 4/9/24 (Wednesday) | TBD 9:30-1:00 |
| May | 5/9/24 (Friday) | TBD 9:30-1:00 |
| June | TBD | |

1. Call to Order- Beginning of formal meeting 9:57
Heather Haverback called meeting to order. 1 item on consent agenda
2. Approval of September 2024 CUSF meeting minutes 9:57-10:05
(See Separate Email Attachment from CUSF Secretary)
Minutes were approved
3. Welcome and Introductions 10:05-10:13
Members introduced themselves
4. Towson University President Mark Ginsberg 10:13-10:23
President Ginsberg expressed appreciation about current ranking of TU and other USM institutions. He invited members to tour the TU campus to see the beautiful new buildings. TU has become a comprehensive research institution but is just as committed

to teaching and learning. TU has outstanding faculty, and the President believes in faculty perspective in guiding and leading the system. Thanked the faculty for all they do.

Break 10:23-10:30

5. Report from USM and Questions 10:30-11:13
Chancellor Jay A. Perman

Thanked everyone for all they do. Appreciated the civility and respect and grateful we went through October 7 peacefully. Hoping there would be dialogue in the near future. Reminded faculty of the upcoming elections. All campuses showed increased enrollment since pre-pandemic periods. UMES and Coppin had the largest incoming class in 10 years despite the FASFA debacle. This is in contrary to the rest of the country.

Encouraged dual enrolment, college and career path and early college.

Budget was cut twice and covid funds have dried up. There is concern on the impact on the budget cut on students and employees. He mentioned that tuition must be raised by more than 2% in USM this year to cover the budget cut.

During Q&A, the Chancellor said he didn't think recommendations to the BOR were needed for new USM policy language on the use of AI, but he encouraged the Education Policy Committee to pursue its efforts to help faculty integrate AI into their work.

6. Break 11:13-11:20

7. Alison Wrynn, USM Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs

11:20-30

Alison mentioned that there was a first board meeting in September. She emphasized and encouraged the continuous work on AI. The USM held a retreat in early October. She visited higher education centers in the system. There were some challenges with MHEC program approvals. Sensitive to issues about refunding tuition for medical and other pertinent issues with students. USM has accepted the CUSF resolution.

8. Chair Updates 11:37-11:30

Heather reported meetings with ExCom have been occurring. She has been attending the Chancellor's Council meetings. Current policy on appointment, rank, and tenure was a concern with CUSF. There was a proposal to include 2 faculty members in a workgroup to look at section C7 of the policy. Heather was appointed by the Chancellor's office because she is the chair of CUSF and one other member was to be elected.

New Business

9. Resolution (Legislative Affairs) 11:44-11:50

Holly shared that the legislative affairs committee proposed that people who are chosen for the C7 workgroup do not have administrative roles because of the fear of them leaning to the administrative perspective.

Voting for the resolution regarding section C7 of the appointment, rank, and tenure policy occurred and resulted in 22 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention.

Resolution C7

That the current section I.C7 of the USM Bylaws concerning the firing of tenured faculty does not afford adequate due process. They are problematic in terms not only of fairness, and of academic freedom, but in terms of nationally accepted standards set by the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) [highlighted by AAUP national in their review of USM policy (*note included below)]. It is thus important that the CUSF General Body elect the several faculty representing CUSF on the task force that will consider changes to section C7.

1) The Council of University System Faculty (CUSF) resolves to elect three CUSF members as representatives on the task force that will draft a revision to section C7 of the USM Bylaws regarding the process for termination of tenured faculty.

2) Based on the comments from the AAUP at the national level, and the discussion at the meeting of the Legislative Affairs Committee, the revised section C7 should include provisions such as the following:

“Final deliberations about termination of a tenured faculty member should be done by a University Faculty Board of Review, and the decision sent to the university president for formal action; this Board should consist of tenured faculty elected either by the University faculty or by the elected University Faculty Senate.”

3) Nominees for this position, either self nominated or nominated by others, are welcome both before the election and on the day of the election.

10. Committee Chairs- Each Committee Chair gives a brief overview 11:50-12:35 Membership and Rules

Education Policy Committee: Mary Crowley-Farrell, chair, reported the committee planned to follow up on its 2022 and 2023 artificial intelligence conferences for USM faculty with a report and/or annotated bibliography of best practices and perhaps bring speaker(s) to CUSF meetings to talk about ways to develop AI policies and/or socialize the use of AI on the members' campuses. Also:

- i. Asked ExCom to have the Research Committee examine the information-sharing deals that academic journal publishers are making with generative AI services, as policy guidance on the ramifications for faculty scholarship may need to be suggested to the Board of Regents (BOR).
- ii. Asked the Chair to find out whether the BOR wants the committee to develop guidelines or propose policy on AI use by USM faculty and researchers in their research and instruction.
- iii. Said the committee was still considering whether it should examine [trends in campus free speech](#) policies.

Awards Committee: Kelsey presented the new members of the committee on behalf of Benjamin Arah Chair of Awards Committee. Announcement for nominations to the USM BOR Awards came out Sep 6 , Deadline is Nov 15th.

Faculty Concerns Committee: Doris Santamaria-Makang, chair, mentioned the survey for campus safety, procedures and policy had been deployed.. They are going to send the survey out to collect data in the coming period. She also mentioned that discussions were ongoing concerning

- I) Impact of affirmative action on campuses
- ii) Equity for compensation across campuses

Legislative affairs committee: Holly Brewer, chair, discussed the various issues they are working on, including

- i) Collective bargaining
- ii) Shared governance
- iii) Advocacy day in February

Research Committee: Tom Abrams, chair, discussed their work on

- i) Involving students in research, writing papers, writing grants.
- ii) Working on creating a System wide research, commercializing research and collaboration among faculty.

Jamie Pierson motioned for adjournment and Nagaraj seconded. Meeting adjourned at 12:40