



COUNCIL of UNIVERSITY
SYSTEM FACULTY

*CUSF/CUSS/USMSC Joint Council Meeting
at University of Maryland, College Park
Wednesday, November 15, 2017
Minutes*

Joint meeting:

9:53 Call to order

Mr. Cadden Fabbi, chair of the USM Student Council (USMSC) called the meeting to order and introduced the CUSF chair, Dr. Robert Kauffman, and the CUSS Chair, Ms. Lisa Gray. Mr. Fabbi then introduced UMCP President Wallace Loh.

9:55 Greeting and Introduction of Chancellor Caret

UMCP President Dr. Wallace Loh welcomed attendees and praised the United States higher education system as the finest in the world. He spoke about shared governance as a primary reason for this high status, and discussed similarities between shared governance structures and democracy. Dr. Loh then reported that Chancellor Caret had recently been elected chair of the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU) and explained that land-grant institutions have always had a dual mission of making higher education accessible and of conducting research that can be applied to improving the common good. He closed by describing the US as more polarized than it has been in recent decades, thus necessitating that the millennial generation work to unify America and bridge gaps among diverse groups of people. Dr. Loh then introduced Chancellor Caret.

10:01 Chancellor Caret

Chancellor Caret addressed the assembled groups and then answered questions that had been submitted prior to the meeting. Chancellor Caret spoke about the USM budget, stating that, even with recent cuts, Maryland higher education is better off than higher education in most states. He reported, however, that funding is not keeping pace with needs. He then turned to the issue of inclusion and diversity, stating that it is a high priority to the Board of Regents (BOR). He explained that the BOR would like for campus personnel to develop ideas about how to increase inclusion on USM campuses. There will be a system-wide symposium in spring 2018 to discuss these matters. Chancellor Caret then spoke about Title IX issues, reporting that Joann Boughman has worked closely with the USM HR staff and with the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) to ensure that the USM approach is consistent with new federal guidelines on evidentiary standards and other matters. Chancellor Caret also talked about the opiate crisis, noting that the approaches employed to combat the binge drinking crisis of the 1990s may provide models for fighting the opiate problem. Next, The Chancellor addressed a question about the the shared governance report submitted by the CUSF chair each spring. Chancellor Caret reported that this report is an important part of his annual evaluation of university presidents. The Chancellor

closed by talking about the Maryland Amazon headquarters proposals, the System's role in Maryland economic development, and student costs. He noted that the state of Maryland is the leader in the cyber industry in the country and that, although USM is graduating large numbers of students with expertise in this area, we need even more graduates in order to keep up with the demand. Chancellor Caret then answered questions from the audience about the Coalition lawsuit and possible faculty collective bargaining in the future. He stated that it was too soon to say much about the judge's recent decision in the lawsuit, and that he prefers that faculty work within shared governance structures, rather than being unionized.

10:52 Strategy for Legislative Session

Mr. Andy Clark, Assistant Vice Chancellor of Government Relations, provided an overview of the USM strategy for the Maryland legislative session that begins January 10, 2018. The focus will be primarily on possible bills relating to DACA, federal Title IX policy changes, social media policy, no-cost community college, collective bargaining for adjunct faculty and graduate students, free speech on campus, and other matters that are pertinent to higher education. Mr. Clark also explained the process that his office employs in engaging with legislators prior to and throughout the legislative session. He welcomed CUSF, CUSS, and USMSC members to participate in his weekly conference call, on which he provides briefings on prior week activities as well as expectations for the coming week. He also reported what has occurred in recent budget activity in the state, highlighting the fund balance transfers that were used to cover anticipated budget shortfalls in FY 2018 and 2019. Finally, he addressed the federal Republican tax reform bills that are currently being written on Capitol Hill, and their implications for higher education. The most notable item within the reform would involve taxing tuition remission for graduate students.

11:36 Update on Joint Ombudsperson Resolution

Robert Kauffman took the floor to describe the joint ombudsperson services resolution. He commended Ms. Sherrye Larkin, past chair of CUSS, and USMSC leaders for working with CUSF on this resolution, which states that all USM institutions should offer ombuds services to faculty, staff, and students. Dr. Joann Boughman, Sr. Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Life, reported that USM presidents and provosts agree in principle with the resolution, but that work remains to be done to ensure that implementation will not conflict with existing legal, personnel, and student judicial board processes.

Ms. Judy Gray, Chair of CUSS, closed the joint meeting, after telling members that CUSF, CUSS, and USMSC would hold individual meetings after lunch.

CUSF Breakout Meeting

Bowie (2)	Benjamin Arah, Patricia Westerman
Coppin (2)	Chris Brittan-Powell
Frostburg (3)	Robert Kauffman, Kelly Rock, Ronna Schrum
Salisbury (3)	Bobbi Adams

	Paul Flexner (by phone)
Towson (4)	Beth Clifford, Bill Helman (alternate), Ryan King-White Rajeswari Kolagani (by phone)
UB (2)	Haitham Alkhateeb, Julie Simon
UMB (5)	
UMBC (3)	Nagaraj Neerchal, James Stephens
UMCES (2)	
UMCP (6)	Ethan Kaplan, Janice Reutt-Robey,
UMES (2)	Bill Chapin (by phone)
UMUC (3)	Elizabeth Brunn, Mary Crowley-Farrell (alternate), Sabrina Fu
Guests:	Joann Boughman, (USM) Zakiya Lee (USM, by phone) Dan Falvey (UMCP Senate Chair) Albert Nekimken (UMUC)

In the afternoon, the three Councils held individual breakout meetings.

12:37 Call to order

The CUSF meeting was called to order by Robert Kauffman, and the CUSF October 2017 general meeting minutes were approved.

12:40 Senate Chair's report

UMCP Senate Chair Daniel Falvey addressed the group. Daniel reported that there is no specific body that represents the faculty, but rather the shared governance structure consists of a university senate comprised of administration, faculty, staff, and student leadership. He said that approximately 120 people attend meetings and have good discussions, and that 15 standing committees undertake much of the work needed to support institutional processes. He also described the Academic Planning Advisory Committee (APAC), which works to make decisions about budget priorities and other matters, as not representative of the faculty. Further, this body has no by-laws upon which it operates. Finally, Daniel talked about concerns among some

faculty that large donors, appear to drive decision-making processes on campus. This is viewed as inappropriate for two primary reasons: (1) they do not necessarily have the expertise to make such decisions, and (2) their donations typically pay for approximately 20% to 30% of the cost of the building or program on which they are making decisions.

1:06 Photographs

Photographs of CUSF members and CUSF executive committee members were taken.

1:13 Call to order after photographs

Robert called the meeting to order once again.

1:14 Academic integrity update

Robert Kauffman led CUSF members in a discussion about academic integrity, reporting that the Regents are very interested in the topic and will convene a panel, including Robert, to discuss the matter at the December BOR meeting. The CUSF December agenda also includes a panel discussion on the issue, and Dr. Elizabeth Brunn, chair of the CUSF Education Policy committee, explained that this panel will address awareness as well as approaches to countering academic dishonesty in face-to-face and online learning environments. Elizabeth reported that cheating is very pervasive in higher education, and that the largest problems in combatting it involve addressing differing cultural viewpoints about cheating versus sharing information or working collectively, deciding upon and implementing appropriate and consistent punishment, and agreeing on best practices for identifying and pursuing students suspected of cheating. Elizabeth also highlighted the potential that fraud is being perpetrated by some cheating students, in that they may be using federal financial aid, including Pell grant funding, to pay for online "tutors" (cheaters) to take their classes for them. There may also be implications for students on the GI Bill. Elizabeth described that McCabe report, which she noted is dated now, as the most seminal report on academic cheating. She suggested that one recommendation that may emerge from her committee's work could be developing a list of what universities could do to identify business, such as Coursehero, that help students cheat, so that universities or the System could ask them to cease and desist.

1:30 Membership and Rules committee update

Robert Kauffman introduced the topic of proposed changes in the CUSF constitution and by-laws. Dr. William Chapin, chair of the Membership and Rules committee, explained that the committee recommends two changes: (1) corrections to incorrect by-laws published on the CUSF website, and (2) changes to the constitution to remove the requirement that proposed amendments be voted upon at campuses and to require, instead, that such amendments be voted upon at two different CUSF meetings. (See below for proposed language changes.) CUSF members made motions about each change and approved both motions. CUSF members are urged to read the corrected by-laws to look for omissions or errors so that they may be revised before voting and publication.

1:34 Ombudsperson resolution

Robert commended Joann Boughman for her thorough explanation of discussions on the ombuds services resolution. Robert urged CUSF members to work to ensure implementation on all campuses. He suggested two approaches: (1) We could bring this issue to the attention of the Chancellor at his next visit with us, and (2) It would be appropriate to report on the issue in the shared governance report.

1:36 Constitutional amendment suggestion

Several suggested changes in the constitution have been suggested by the Membership and Rules committee: On page 33 of today's meeting packet, change "replacement" to "substitute" for the person who is elected to serve as chair. (Moved and seconded.) On page 32, regarding constitutional amendments: On the recommendation of the Membership and Rules committee, we would remove the requirement to have any constitutional amendment go back to constituent campuses for referral. This could be accomplished by striking items 2 and 3. We would, instead, vote on any constitutional amendment at two different CUSF meetings. (Moved and seconded.) On the revision of Article IV, it was suggested that the word "initial" be removed. This was approved unanimously.

1:55 Elections issue

A suggestion was made that, in order to elect the best people to serve on the CUSF Executive Committee (Ex Com), the by-laws be changed to state that, instead of electing all Ex Com members in the same meeting, the chair be voted upon in one meeting, with the vice chair being elected at the following month's meeting. This recommendation was moved, seconded, and approved.

2:05 Old/New business

Chris Brittan-Powell, chair of the CUSF Legislative Affairs committee, requested space on the December CUSF agenda for reapproval of the CUSF collective bargaining resolution.

Benjamin Arah, chair of the CUSF Faculty Affairs committee, reported that the committee will determine an approach for gathering information from all campuses about any interest in developing retired faculty associations.

2:10 Adjournment