CUSF Newsletter

Message from CUSF Chair Virletta Bryant

As Chair of CUSF it is my goal to keep USM faculty abreast of important events which impact our work and to create greater opportunities for dialogue. In this issue we lay out our plans for the year, and we hear from USM’s 4th Chancellor, Robert Caret. We’re excited about what the year will bring and encourage you to tune-in and enjoy the news and tidbits!

December, 2015
Editor: Joyce Henderson, UMUC
CUSF Executive Committee
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Robert Kaufman, FSU, Vice Chair
Pat Alt, TU, Secretary
Joyce Henderson, UMUC, At Large
Bill Montgomery, UMCP, At Large

Sub-Committees
Faculty Affairs
Paul Flexner
pqflexner@salisbury.edu &
Jeanne Geiger-Brown
jgeiger@son.umaryland.edu

Legislative Affairs
Chris Brittan-Powell
cbrittan-powell@coppin.edu

Academic Affairs
Amy Froide
froide@umbc.edu

Membership and Rules
Bill Chapin
ewchapin@umes.edu

2015 -2016
CUSF Goal 1:
Improve Visibility & Communications
With Constituents

CUSF Goal 2:
Strengthen Shared Governance across USM
Campuses

CUSF Goal 3:
Efficiency & Effectiveness 2.0 Initiative,
Analytics & Student Success

CUSF Goal 4:
Strengthen Faculty Benefits & Compensation

CUSF Goal 5:
Increase Legislative Presence

Photos: Upper left, Pat Alt, Secretary, Virletta Bryant, Chair and Joann Boughman, USM
Lower left, CUSF Executive Committee
Right, CUSF meeting October, 2015, Frostburg State University
Photographer: Robert Kaufman
Message from Chancellor Robert L. Caret

While my time as Chancellor of the University System of Maryland (USM) has been brief, my roots in Maryland and with the USM run deep. From 2003 to 2011, I served as president of Towson University (TU). Prior to that—from 1974 to 1995—I served TU as provost, executive vice president, dean, and for many years as a faculty member.

I know first-hand the difficult and important work carried out by the Council of University System Faculty (CUSF). The educational landscape in the US is rapidly changing, bringing both opportunities and challenges. We are simultaneously experiencing demands for increased access, greater affordability, and improved levels of completion. At the same time, there are calls for greater scrutiny of our policies and procedures along with increased accountability in terms of our expenditures. CUSF’s role in this meeting and mastering these challenges cannot be overstated. It is through shared governance that our strategic priorities are developed, promoted, and advanced. Just as the USM’s shared governance groups—CUSF, CUSS, and the USM Student Council—have been a driving force behind our success, so too will they help us to prosper going forward. This will be especially important regarding the unique needs of the growing cohort of non-traditional students.

As the first member of my family to attend college, I also have personal experience with the vital role faculty play in unleashing the power of higher education has to transform lives. As an undergraduate studying chemistry and mathematics at Suffolk University, it was a faculty member who gave me guidance and helped me become a Dean’s list student. As a graduate student pursuing a Ph.D. in organic chemistry at the University of New Hampshire, I well remember the two faculty members who kept me focused and on track. I know this same ethic of support defines the faculty throughout the USM.
As the provider of public higher education in Maryland, the USM has a special mission. We deliver high-quality, meaningful education to our students. We promote sustainable and impactful economic development. We cultivate social progress and social well-being. In short, our mission is to graduate educated citizens who are ready to go to work in all facets of life and make the state and nation better.

In order to better focus on that mission, in mid-October I embarked upon a statewide tour. Over the course of four days and traveling more than 900 miles, I met with literally hundreds of Marylanders. I spoke with elected officials, business leaders, farmers, educators, community activists, advocacy organizations, and others. We discussed USM’s strengths, challenges, and opportunities for new partnerships to meet both regional and statewide needs together.

In addition to the listening tour, I am in the process of conducting daylong visits to each USM campus, bringing together institutional leaders, faculty, staff, and students to talk about how we can work together as a system even more effectively to make progress on our agenda. I look forward to the opportunity to perhaps meet and talk with some of you in this extended and relaxed setting as I familiarize myself with the USM’s institution’s initiatives, activities, partnerships, and areas of emphasis.

Faculty play a vital role in all that we do as a university. And just as our institutions would not be what they are without the faculty, so to Maryland wouldn’t be the state it is today without the USM. And Maryland will never be the state it wants to be without the USM. We stand as an investment in Maryland’s future.

**Purpose of CUSF**

Article I, section 1 of the CUSF Constitution states that CUSF "advises the Chancellor and reports regularly to the Board of Regents. Its responsibility will be to consider and make recommendations on matters of system wide professional and educational concerns to the faculty and matters to which faculty bring special expertise."

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**Professor David Parker is appointed to the P-20 LEADERSHIP COUNCIL OF MARYLAND**

Former CUSF Chair and Professor of Math and Science David Parker (SU), is among the
distinguished gubernatorial appointees who will serve on the P-20 Leadership Council of Maryland in 2015. The P-20 Leadership Council of Maryland was initiated by the Governor in October 2007 and was established by statute in 2010. "P-20" refers to a system of education that encompasses preschool through graduate studies, and ensures that students from an early age are learning the necessary skills for a competitive workplace.

The purpose of the Council is to investigate ways to improve education, and advance workforce creation. The Council also ensures that college and career readiness, and college completion strategies for Maryland students are implemented. Thanks for your continued service and dedication Dave.

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CUSF remembers its own....

Dr. Stephen C. Jacobs, a surgeon, former chief and professor of urology at the University of Maryland Medical Center and champion of shared governance died at the age of 70 on Oct. 30, 2015. During his long and illustrious career, Dr. Jacobs was chief resident in urology at Harvard Medical School, professor of urology at the Medical College of Wisconsin, as well as chief of urology at the Veterans Administration Hospital of Milwaukee before joining the University of Maryland. In 1989, he was named professor and head of the University of Maryland's Division of Urology, a position he held until 2002. He pioneered the development of laparoscopic nephrectomy for donor transplant and bilateral renal carcinoma and received numerous awards including in 1979, an award by the American Urological Association for his description of growth-stimulating activity found in the prostate and in 2009, their lifetime achievement award for his contributions to urology. In 1990, he was diagnosed with throat cancer and started a long personal battle with his health. He continued to teach at the University of Maryland Medical School until his death. You will be missed!
2015 – 2016 Meeting Schedule

September 24
Bowie State University

October 16
Frostburg State University

November 9
University MD College Park

Dec 10
Coppin State University

January 13
University System MD

February 11
University MD University College

March 10
Salisbury University

April 12
University MD Baltimore

May 6
University of MD Baltimore County

June 7
Towson University