



Chair's Report (CUSF)
February 2018

MEETINGS: The last report was for the January meeting on January 2nd. The material collected for the report was accumulated after January 2nd. Since then there was the BOR Education Policy and Student Life meeting on January 16th and the AAAC meeting on January 25th. The following is a brief summary of these activities since the last report.

- **EPSL Meeting** – The BOR Education Policy and Student Life Committee met at the Universities at Shady Grove (USG) on January 16th. Topics included: an update on the USM Strategic Plan, Maryland Center for Computing Education, an update from the Kirwan Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, the results of periodic reviews of academic programs, and a report on extramural funding for FY-2017.
- **AAAC Meeting** – The AAAC Meeting (Provosts) met at Bowie State University on January 25th. General topics included an update from USM (e.g. Scorecard, Coalition Case, Mission Statements, strategic plan, etc.), a legislative update by Andy Clark, provost suggestions (e.g. academic probation, tenure and promotion, campus reform, and environmental sustainability), announcements, and a discussion on applied Bachelor's degrees.
- **Drop in Teacher Programs** – At the AAAC meeting, it was noted that there is a 40% drop in enrollment in teacher education programs. This is statewide phenomena. This has had two impacts. First, it has impacted enrollments at universities within the System. Second, the drop in enrollment has occurred at a time when there is a need for more teachers. It is a classic situation where the demand for teachers is not being met by the supply.
- **Legislative Update** – Andy Clark provided an update of the upcoming legislative session. For the most part, the topics and bills covered were an extension of the items noted at the CUSF meeting on January 18th. Of interest to the CUSF members, there should be a bill advanced on the collective bargaining for graduate assistants and adjuncts, hazing, and tuition waivers for community colleges (i.e. free tuition). It was noted that the BOR may need to develop a policy on hazing. It could be short.
- **Community College Applied BS Degrees** – In the afternoon, there was a discussion on community colleges offering applied BS degrees. It was noted that several schools have programs ready for MHEC approval. Second, one of the issues is that some of the community colleges are advocating that MHEC already has the authority to grant applied BS degrees to community colleges. General consensus is that they don't and would need statutory approval to do so. Third, the discussion focused on credentialing, program quality, and licencing by the state. Fourth, there are significant issues regarding accreditation, including credentialing (i.e. number of masters versus doctorate degrees) and similar types of issues.
- **Symposium on Diversifying the Faculty** – The Symposium on Diversifying the Faculty will be held at the College Park Marriott Hotel and Conference Center on April 16th. The specifics are still being worked out for the symposium. At this time the CUSF ExCom, Council members,

Senate Chairs will most likely be invited to the symposium. Stay tuned for more specifics on the symposium.

COMMENTARIES: This month there is one commentary. It is on the followup from the panel discussion on academic integrity at the BOR meeting at Coppin State University. As noted in the commentary, there has been a paradigm shift. An issue that was covert is not overt. It is now out in the open. This enables an open discussion and sharing of solutions between institutions.

Respectfully Submitted (1/2/18)
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Chair, Council of University System Faculty

Chair's Commentary 1802.1: The Half-way Mark

Time moves quickly and the academic year is half-over. Actually, at the time of this writing, it is more than half-over. So far, it has been a productive year. However, there is still a lot to do and a lot is currently on the schedule for completion. The following lists the accomplishments during fall semester and what is on the schedule for completion spring semester.

FALL SEMESTER – Listed below are some of the accomplishments from fall semester. Some of these accomplishments are ongoing or have entered a new phase. Most of the accomplishments are listed as action items in the Action Plan for 2017-2018.

- **Academic Integrity** – The issue of academic integrity consumed CUSF's effort for fall semester. What started as a white paper on the issue became much more. The efforts of CUSF and others has been well documented and don't need further comment. As noted in the January commentary, it was congratulations to all for a job well done. We enter the implementation phase.
- **Orientation Session** – ExCom put together an orientation session for new Council members before the beginning of the September Council meeting. It was a good idea and successful.
- **Meeting at Shady Grove** – In an effort to educate Council members on the changing face of the faculty, the September meeting was held at the Universities at Shady Grove (USG). It was the first time CUSF met at a university location other than one of the traditional institutions in System.
- **Membership and Rules Committee** – There were three initiatives from the Membership and Rules Committee. The bylaw changes involving the election process have passed and are being implement this year. A house cleaning measure to amend the constitution to change the approval process of an amendment is at the BOR for approval. Third, the bylaws and proofing their content are being verified to insure that updates have been made and errors eliminated. Unfortunately, errors were found on the System website.

- **Joint Ombudsperson Resolution** – The joint resolution has been approved by the three Councils and currently rests with the Presidents and the Chancellor’s Council who are waiting for feedback from the Office of the Attorney General on several identified issues. Response from the OAG and resolution is expected prior to the end of spring 2018 semester.
- **Regent’s Awards** – The Regent’s Awards is one of the important yearly functions of CUSF. Under the supervision of Jay Zimmerman, the Regent’s Awards have been reviewed and have been passed on to the BOR for approval. In addition, the committee has updated the procedures and rules for the awards.

SPRING SEMESTER – Spring semester is upon us. The following items and events have been scheduled for spring semester.

- **Academic Integrity (Continued)** – Now that the issue is out in the open, it needs to be addressed. The CUSF Education Policy and Student Life Committee is addressing this issue. In addition, MJ Bishop from the Kirwan Center will speak to the Council at its March meeting. Along with OERs, she will address the followup to the academic integrity issue also.
- **Elections** – Elections are a seeming small item. However, elections do take time and are important. With the passage of the bylaw changes, Council approved them to be staggered.
- **State of Share Governance Report** – The survey of Senate Chairs regarding the state of shared governance is quickly entering the data collection and report completion phase. The report is expected to be completed prior to April 1st.
- **Chairman Brady’s Visit** – Chairman Brady is visiting Council at its April meeting. He has been very supportive of the faculty. He has worked behind the scenes on the Ombudsperson resolution to help implement it. He is committed to inclusion and diversity of the faculty and supportive of academic freedom also.
- **CUSF Panel on Faculty Evaluations** – The panel discussion was slotted for the February meeting but because of the Advocacy Day conflict, it will need to be moved to a later meeting. The Faculty Concerns Committee has identified this as an important issue.