

**Council of University System Staff
University of Maryland University College
January 24, 2006**

<u>Members Present</u>	<u>Alternate Members</u>
Marie Meehan BSU	
BSU	
John Barber UMB	Cassandra Lewis - UMUC
Dave DeLooze UMB	
Roy Ross – Past Chair UMB	
Bill Crockett, Vice Chair UMB	
UMBI	Rick Tysor - UMBI
Joan Doremus TU	Loretta Hollifield - TU
Angie Brickhouse TU	
Gloria Gaguski TU	
SU	Janine Vienna - SU
SU	
Joe Hill, Chair UMBC	*****
Lidia Schechter UMBC	
Cindy Schuster UB	Chancellor’s Liaison to CUSS
Larry Lauer- UMCP	Rosario I. van Daalen, USMO
UMCP	*****
UMCP	
Chenita Kollock UMES	GUEST:
	Dr. Nicholas Allen, Interim President
Bernedette Bell CSU	
Jim Hartsock UMUC	
Scott Wibbert UMUC	
UMCES	
Mary Reed USMO	

Call to Order

Joe Hill, Chair, called the January 2006 meeting to order at University of Maryland University College in Adelphi, Maryland at 10 am.

Dr. Nicholas Allen, Interim President, UMUC was introduced and spoke to the group. He welcomed CUSS to UMUC and mentioned that our meeting was being held in the “new” building which was dedicated about a year ago. UMUC’s entire student body – worldwide is approximately 87,000 students – half of whom reside in Maryland. UMUC has been in operation 60 years now. The institution will

have a new president as of February 1, 2006 – Dr. Susan C. Aldridge who will be coming to UMUC from Troy University. UMUC houses the largest collection of Maryland art in the state.

Minutes

The December (draft) minutes were reviewed, corrections were noted and the minutes were accepted as amended.

Report from the Chancellor's Liaison:

- The 2005-06 Exempt Market Study is moving very quickly the approval process. The Vice Presidents for Administration approved the study in December and the presidents considered it earlier this month. The BOR Finance Committee will review it this Thursday. Three institutions use the traditional method to adjust Exempt salaries. UMB, UMUC and UMBI use the aforementioned method and reclassify their ????? frequently. The other institutions use the wide range method in which there are 5 wide salary ranges adjusted according to geographic zones. The overall increase for exempt employees is 10% - minimum to maximum.
- Joint Committee on Pensions met in Annapolis - there were different proposals on enhancing the retirees' pension plans. The legislators have to look after the state's economic future – many of the proposals were not economically realistic. The committee is going to continue to study the problem.
- She was appointed ????? - when by the governor to a ??????? health committee. She hopes that open enrollment health benefits' information will be available by May 1st. Health plan vendors will be the same ones as last year; prescription vendors could stay the same or change.

Report from the Chair

- Joe mentioned that the media turned out in force at the January hearing of the Joint Committee on Pensions – because of the State's Teachers' Union folks. We do not want to be overlooked in the process.
- State funding looks good - Two and one-half percent COLA looks feasible at this point in the session.
- The number of USM students is projected to grow 20% by 2012.

Benefits and Compensation Committee

- Joe suggested that the committee draft a letter in regard to Contingent II's and recognizing their service time.
- Affordable day care is a concern at institutions. Joe suggested that the committee members do the necessary research, and then make recommendations.

Communications Committee

- Waiting for input for 2005-06 newsletter. Marie will be looking at last year's minutes to see when the deadlines were set for the various stages – deadlines for chairs' reports, etc., - all the way to when the newsletters were delivered to campuses for distribution.

Community Development

- BOR nominations to Cindy by next Monday. Cindy will then give them to Joe the following week.
- Committee revising BOR staff award material for next year.

Legislative Committee

- Larry, Joe and 2 faculty representatives (Council of University System Faculty) met with Joe Vivona and Jim Sansbury to discuss increasing both the mandatory (percentage of salary) employees' and employers' contribution to pension plan. Funds already allocated this year – could potentially be considered at a later date.
- The Chair instructed the Legislative Committee to create and draft a letter to address the Employee Pension System and the Optional Retirement Program to be sent to the co-chair of the Joint Pension Committee.

Old Business

- Dr. Gira's plaque from CUSS. When and where should it be presented to her?

New Business

- Joe wanted to encourage everyone to consider who would be a good candidate for CUSS chair during 2006-07 year.

The next meeting will be at University of Maryland Biotechnology Institute, Shady Grove, on February 28, 2006.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary E. Reed, Secretary