Council of University System Staff

Quarterly Newsletter | May 2018 Edition



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University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) 1000 Hilltop Circle Baltimore, MD 21250

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Updates from the Chair

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy Spring! I know the weather sure hasn't felt like spring lately, but I'm hopeful that warm temperatures are just around the corner. As we enter into the final stretches of the spring semester and prepare for graduation day, I wanted to take this opportunity to update you on council activities.

First, CUSS completed its first State of Shared Governance Survey and we have submitted our report to the Chancellor and the USM Board of Regents. I would like to thank all the staff senate groups at each institution for their participation in the survey and hope that the results of our survey will assist in improving the shared governance processes at each institution across the system. The report can be found on the USM website in the board agenda at this link: https://www.usmd.edu/regents/agendas/.

Select the April 20th agenda and then the Council of University System Staff. The report is pages 54 through 73. We hope to use the results of the survey as a baseline going forward.

Second, CUSS members participated in the USM Advocacy day on Wednesday, February 21. CUSS was recognized on both the House and Senate floors. Again, we joined forces with the Council of University Faculty, University System of Maryland Student Council and system office staff to advocate for the appropriation in the Governor's budget for the University System of Maryland. The immediate focus was to protect the Governor's proposed budget as the Maryland General Assembly considered it keeping in mind that the legislature can only delete from the budget, not add to it. We met with key legislators and delivered the message that any further reductions to this budget would be harmful to our students and our institutions. Overall, I think the day was successful and now that the session has ended, we now know that our budget for the system remained intact.

Third, an update on the Board of Regents Staff Award Nominations. We have completed reviewing the packets and nominees are rising to the top of their categories. Once the executive committee reviews the results, we will submit those names to the Board of Regents for final approval. Again, we can expect that approval at their June board meeting.

Finally, I know that many institutions are approaching their elections for Staff Senate and CUSS seats. I would encourage you to nominate yourself or someone interested in these roles. As a reminder, the mission of the Council of University System Staff (CUSS) is to provide a voice for Staff employee concerns in reference to basic decisions that affect the welfare of the University System of Maryland (USM) and its employees. CUSS speaks for all Nonexempt and Exempt Staff employees on Regular and Contingent II Status, who are not represented by a union under collective bargaining. Use your voice to make a difference and get involved.

Sincerely-

Lia S. Gray

Lisa G. Gray, Chair Council of University System Staff

PRESIDENTIAL UPDATE

Greetings, colleagues and friends,

I am truly honored to serve as the newly inaugurated 10th president and the first woman president of Bowie State University, the oldest historically black university in Maryland. So many members of the University System of Maryland community have welcomed me to Maryland and this great public higher education system, and for that, I am forever grateful.

When I arrived at Bowie State University in July 2017, I was struck by the tremendous spirit of community and excitement about the future course of the university. I established a strategic vision called Racing to Excellence, which focuses on three major priorities: academic excellence, student success and viability of the university.

The Racing to Excellence vision is inspired by my late father, Alex J. Woodley II, who was an educator as well as a coach of Olympic track and field athletes. His love of learning and passion for helping others to do their best will always guide me.



Bowie State University's 153-year legacy in Maryland and the determination of our current students, faculty, staff and alumni inspires me every day. While the university embraces our heritage as a teacher's college, we are building on our strengths in areas like cybersecurity, nursing, business, counseling and education.

We are also expanding our partnerships and establishing new ones with businesses, community organizations, public school districts, community colleges, and four-year institutions to strengthen the P-20 pipeline and engage 21st century learners in real-world opportunities that deepen their learning.

We are making progress in expanding our Entrepreneurship Academy to infuse entrepreneurial thinking across the disciplines. Through partnerships with local business owners, our faculty are teaching students to think creatively to solve problems and develop new innovations in their respective professions.

The class of 2018 has numerous examples of students who took advantage of the opportunities provided by their Bowie State education and have demonstrated a never-give-up attitude that has defined Bowie State throughout our history.

Michaelangelo Hayes came to Bowie State University from another university. He yearned to pursue a career in the music industry. He found his way to us, having faced extreme poverty and even homelessness. He now runs his own record company and will graduate in May 2018 with a 4.0 GPA, as the first Bowie State University student to complete the new hip-hop and visual studies concentration. In describing his journey, he says, "Bowie State University gave me a level of love and safety that I have waited for my entire life."

Stories like Michaelangelo's illustrate the transformative power of higher education. Because of the dedication of faculty and staff like you, our USM institutions make a difference in the lives of the students we serve, advancing public education for the public good.

Sincerely, Aminta H. Breaux, President Bowie State University

CUSS Members Attend USM Symposium on Diversifying the Faculty

On Monday, April 16th members of the Council of University System Staff (CUSS) Executive Board, including Vice-Chair Mark Freeman (UMUC), and Co-Secretaries Candace Johnson (UMUC) and Laila Shishineh (UMBC) attended the

University System of Maryland Symposium on Diversifying the Faculty. This symposium brought together several key stakeholders and constituents including faculty, staff, students, and administrators, as well as Presidents and Provosts from all USM campuses to discuss this critical topic.

The event was hosted by Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, Joann Boughman and both Chancellor Caret and Board of Regents Chair Jim Brady welcomed everyone at the start of the symposium.

The day included several presentations from a variety of USM campuses to show case their work on this topic. Presentations included:

"Guiding Institutional Efforts to Promote STEM Faculty Diversity" by Dr. Kimberly Griffin (UMCP)
"STRIDE: Strategies and Tactics for Recruiting to Improve Diversity and Excellence" by Dr. Philip Rous, Dr. Autumn Reed, and Dr. Chris Murphy (UMBC)
"PROMISE: Maryland's Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate - Facilitating Faculty Diversity through Professional Development and Partnerships" by Dr. Renetta

Attendees also had multiple opportunities to participate in "Institutional Team Time" with other members from the

Tull (UMBC/USM)



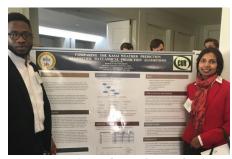
CUSS Members Candace Johnson, Laila Shishineh, and Mark Freeman attend the USM Symposium on Diversifying the Faculty

symposium from their own institutions. The symposium was intended to be a first step in an ongoing process to determine best practices and opportunities to recruit, develop, and retain diverse faculty across USM. The hope is that these discussions will also carry over to discussions about diversifying the staff at our institutions as well.

USM INSTITUTIONAL UPDATES

Bowie State University (BSU)

Bowie State University Computer Science Major Presents Research on Capitol Hill



Jesuye David is One of 60 Students Selected for Elite Research Showcase – For Second Straight Year

Bowie State University А undergraduate student was one of 60 top student researchers selected to present their faculty-guided projects to Congressional members earlier this month at the 22nd Annual Posters on the Hill. It is the second year in a row that Jesuye David was selected from hundreds of applicants for this elite showcase of student research, sponsored by the Council on Undergraduate Research. He was the only student from a Maryland school to participate. https://www.bowiestate.edu/abo ut/news/details/bowie-statecomputer-science-majorpresents-research-on-capitol-hill/

BSU Student Entrepreneurs Win Cash Prizes in Idea Competition

Top Four Students, Plus Three Finalists, Awarded More Than \$5,000 in Prizes & Business Services

A Bowie State University student entrepreneur, who developed an idea for a mobile app to enable relatives of the elderly to respond quickly in case of a medical emergency was one of four top students, plus three finalists, awarded more than \$5,000 in cash prizes and business-related services last week in the Idea Competition, hosted by the **BSU Entrepreneurship Academy**.

https://www.bowiestate.edu/abo ut/news/details/bsu-studententrepreneurs-win-cash-prizes-inidea-competition/

Frostburg State University



Frostburg state university student's Maryland-themed mission patch to fly to international space station

Astronaut Ricky Arnold isn't the only piece of Frostburg State that is rendezvousing with the International Space Station this year.

A mission patch designed by FSU art and design major Donovan Carter will be on its way to space in June. Carter won the Student Spaceflight Experiments Program Mission Design Competition with his Marylandinspired patch. The patch represents the University System of Maryland in SSEP Mission 12.

A printout of the patch is expected to lift off on June 9. The mission itself includes several student space experiments that will be delivered to the Space Station, where 1985 FSU graduate Arnold is completing a longterm mission that will have him in space at the same time.

The pride of the Maryland flag is strong, as Arnold has a special jumpsuit emblazoned with the state flag on his chest and a crab-shaped flag on his back.

Students from Frostburg State University and local middle schools had the opportunity to speak with Frostburg alumnus and NASA astronaut Ricky Arnold, who is in the early weeks of his six-month mission. The conversation took place via a live downlink from the International Space Station.

In addition, approximately 1,200 students from Allegany and Garrett County middle schools, Frankfort Middle School in West Virginia and three local private schools were on campus to participate in a wide range of NASA and space-related educational activities directed by more than 100 College of Education students and faculty in sites all around campus.

Arnold, FSU Class of 1985, earned his accounting degree and teaching certification from FSU, along with a master's degree in Marine and Estuarine Science from UMCP. After teaching all over the world, he was chosen in 2004 as an astronaut candidate. Arnold is among the first Educator Astronauts, a renewal of the program that began with teacher Christa McAuliffe, the first civilian selected to go to space; she died in the 1986 Challenger accident. Arnold's mission is the second half of NASA's Year of Education on Station, in which NASA's astronauts will be executing the lesson plans McAuliffe created but never got to teach, among other educational activities.

Salisbury University

Presidential News: The USM Board of Regents has appointed Charles Wight as the next president of Salisbury University, beginning July 1, 2018. Wight – who has served as president of Weber State University (WSU) in Ogden, Utah since 2013 – will replace Janet Dudley-Eshbach, who announced last fall her plans to step down from the position after 18 years.

Maryland Governor Larry Hogan recently honored Dr. Janet Dudley-Eshbach for her "transformational leadership and over 18 years of dedicated service as president" of Salisbury University. Hogan lauded Dudley-Eshbach for her "commitment to improving the lives of students and all Marylanders" and "strategic vision that has served the citizens of Salisbury, Wicomico County and the State of Maryland."

Center The International for Supplemental Instruction recently honored Heather Porter, assistant director of Salisbury University's Center for Student Achievement with Outstanding (CSA), its Supplemental Instruction (SI) Support by a Campus Administrator Award. According to Heather Holmes, SU CSA director, Porter's impact on Salisbury's program has included helping it grow from 47 SI sections serving over 1,700 students in fall 2012 to 107 sections serving nearly 4,200 students just five years later. Currently, Porter also oversees some 77 student SI leaders, who provide assistance for their peers. For more information, http://www.salisbury.edu /news/article.html?id=7854

Salisbury University Dining Services (UDS) is among the top collegiate dining programs in the nation, according to a recent survey by the National Association of College and University Food Service (NACUFS), which includes 484 member institutions. The survey was conducted on campus with over 1,800 participants who gave the University exceptional marks in all areas including four important measures: food quality, variety, value and overall customer satisfaction.

SU's dining program is self-operated, which "is the key, enabling us to be agile, proactive and responsive to the changing tastes and preferences of the campus community," said Owen Rosten, UDS director. "We can give the students what they want without having to go through a third-party contractor. It's also what helps us keep our meal plan prices among the lowest anywhere." SU is one of only two selfoperated dining programs in the University System of Maryland.

Academic News:

SU has announced the creation of a new College of Health and Human Services (CHHS). This dramatic restructuring of academic programs reflects the growing importance of these fields. It supports related workforce demands as the state and nation try to address the opioid epidemic, the rapidly aging Boomer Generation and distinct rural health care needs.

Set to launch this fall, the CHHS is expected to become the largest academic unit on campus, with nearly 2,200 students. The idea for the new college came from faculty in the Richard A. Henson School of Science and Technology and the Samuel W. and Marilyn C. Seidel School of Education and Professional Studies. "They were looking for more efficient and effective ways for their disciplines to collaborate and achieve common goals," said SU President Janet Dudley-Eshbach. "I believe their vision and desire to better serve students and the community will benefit academic programs across campus. I applauded their initiative."

For

information, <u>http://www.salisbury.edu</u> /news/article.html?id=7753

more

Staff Shout-Out:

Salisbury University's Accounts Receivable and Cashiers offices recently were honored for becoming the first on campus in which all staff completed Green Zone training. Through the SU Green Zone

Program, faculty and staff learn to better provide support services to help ensure military-connected students are successful in their academic pursuits, adjust to the campus environment and eventually transition to civilian employment.

Pictured below, from left, are account clerks Diane Lawrance, Michelle Thomason and Kim Daly; Associate Registrar Jamie Holmes-Kriger; Veteran Special Populations Coordinator Shannon Hardester; Accounts Receivable Director Tabitha Pilchard; Cashier Office Supervisor Michelle Malone; and account clerks Aliceson Newton and Michelle Eure.



University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB)



The President's Panel on Politics and Policy is a speaker series examining issues important to the UMB community that are likely to be affected by the new presidential administration and the new Congress.

With so much at stake in terms of health and higher education policy, federal budget priorities, and issues of civil rights and social justice, President Jay A. Perman, MD, encourages the UMB community to take part in these timely conversations.

SPEAKERS

Robert L. Ehrlich Jr., JD

Former Maryland Governor Senior Counsel, King & Spalding LLP Parris N. Glendening, PhD, MA

Former Maryland Governor President, Smart Growth America's Leadership Institute

President, Governors' Institute on Community Design

EVENT DETAILS

Tuesday, May 1 SMC Campus Center Elm Ballrooms Breakfast - 8 to 8:30 a.m. Panel Discussion - 8:30 to 10 a.m.

UMB Human Resources & Staff Senate present Empowering Excellence Employee Professional Development Day

The Staff Senate presents their third annual Employee Professional Development Day dedicated to providing learning and networking opportunities for UMB staff. Featuring a key note address by: Jennifer Gilbert News Anchor, WBFF-TV Wednesday, June 6, 2018 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. | SMC Campus Center, Elm Ballrooms A & B

University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)

Event Center Grand Opening: all members of the UMBC community were invited to attend the grand opening of UMBC's brand new Event Center on Saturday, February 3rd to watch the Men's Basketball America game against East Conference rival Vermont. Complimentary tickets were given to all faculty and staff who were interested in attending.

UMBC Men's Basketball later advanced to the NCAA tournament as America East Champions for the first time in a decade!! The team then made HISTORY as they defeated #1 seed UVA in a 74-54 victory! This is the first time in the history of the NCAA Men's Basketball tournament that a #16 team defeated a #1 team. Unfortunately, the Retrievers were then defeated in the second round by Kansas State, 50-43.

Not to be outdone, UMBC's Men's Lacrosse also recently defeated #1 ranked Albany, bringing Albany's 31 game regular season winning streak to a screeching halt! (Note: this is a LOT of sports related updates for UMBC but Retriever Athletics is loving the spot light right now).

In non-sports related news - UMBC recently hosted two awesome opportunities for staff on campus: the Presidential Faculty & Staff Awards Ceremony and the Staff Professional Development Day. The Presidential Faculty & Staff Awards took place on Wednesday, April 4th to recognize faculty and staff for both UMBC specific and Board of Regents Awards. The Staff Professional Development Day took place on Thursday, April 12th and featured two sessions: a morning session with Jan Fox on the "Keys to Bold Speaking & Communication" and an afternoon session featuring UMBC staff presenting their very own "Retriever Talks", a TEDx style event.

UMBC Parking Services recently announced that starting Fall 2018, our campus will be transitioning to virtual parking permits for all parking on campus. The system will use license plate recognition to identify registered vehicles - removing the need for printing and distributing physical hangtags for all vehicles and allowing permit holders to quickly and easily update their vehicle information online, including adding multiple cars to their accounts (up to 3 vehicles per account).

In shared governance related news the Professional Staff Senate (PSS) is currently hosting elections until the end of April to elect 9 new senators, a new CUSS Rep, and a new CUSS Alternate for upcoming two year terms from 2018 to 2020. The PSS Mentoring Committee is also in the process of launching the seventh cohort to participate in the program. The programs pairs seasoned staff members with new staff members for a one year commitment while offering several workshops and opportunities to participants.



University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science (UMCES)



Solar power has become a reality at the UMCES-Horn Point Lab. The project, which began in September 2017, was completed in March 2018, and the solar field containing 11,000 solar panels and solar carport canopy is producing 100% clean, renewable, zero emission, zero greenhouse gas electricity.

The power produced by this project will supply about 55% of the laboratory's electrical power needs decades for without emissions. Although this is a major milestone, UMCES will continue to look for other energy-saving projects such replacing old light fixtures with high efficiency LED lighting to lighting quality improve while reducing maintenance and energy usage.

University of Maryland College Park (UMCP)

The University of Maryland announces a \$21.25 million gift from Barry and Mary Gossett to establish an innovative, three-part support model for the academic success of student-athletes. The Barry and Mary Gossett Center for Academic and Personal Excellence aims to ensure the development of UMD's studentathletes in both athletics and academics. In collaboration with the Office of the Provost, the Gossett Center will provide student-athletes with the foundation needed to be

successful global citizens and make a positive transition to life after college. <u>https://marylandday.umd.ed</u> <u>u/</u>



The University of Maryland welcomed thousands of visitors to Maryland Day, our one-day celebration of learning and discovery. The 20th annual family-friendly event is always one to remember, with fun and exciting demonstrations, exhibitions, performances and more. Families and community members from across the region enjoy hundreds of free events in six learning neighborhoods UMD's across campus and see how our students and faculty are transforming our community, the state and the world. Our university and surrounding community are in the midst of a tremendous transformation. Cranes have been a permanent fixture in the air for students, faculty, staff and visitors who have been on our campus over the past several years. Our Greater College Park initiative to cultivate a vibrant college town has been a driving force behind many of these changes. The Edward St. John Learning & Teaching Center, A. James Clark Hall and The Hotel at UMD are a few new landmarks on campus from just the last 12 months. Exciting new projects like the Brendan Iribe Center for Computer Science and Innovation are not far behind.

A key element of a connected and growing college town is easy and direct access to the region, which is why we are excited to welcome the Purple Line to campus. The Purple Line is a light rail line that will extend from New Carrollton in Prince George's County to Silver Spring and Bethesda in Montgomery County. Five of the 21 stations will be located directly on or around the UMD campus.

Once completed, the Purple Line will dramatically improve the way students, faculty, staff and visitors access campus. The Purple Line will link our community to our neighboring counties, offering alternative commutes, opening up new opportunities for student internships, and linking UMD to all the region has to offer. With direct connections to Metrorail's Green, Red and Orange Lines; Amtrak; and MARC, it will offer more direct access to and from campus from locations across the region. Students, faculty and staff will be able to ride for free among the five stations on or around the UMD campus. This will make it easier to move across campus, offering a new way to get to and from classes, meetings and more. For those who live in surrounding communities, the Purple Line will offer a new way to commute to and visit the campus.

Towson University (TU)

Towson University held an extremely successful TU4U, an annual admissions event, welcoming nearly 3,000 admitted students – many of whom will make up the Towson University class of 2022.

Towson University's Dance Team won it's 18th national championship title during the 2018 National Dance Alliance Collegiate National Championship in Daytona Beach, Fl.

TU held its public groundbreaking event for our Science Complex which, when completed, will be the largest academic building on campus. The 320,000-square foot facility will boast over 50 teaching laboratories, 30 research laborites, and 50 classrooms.

For the first time, a Presidential luncheon was held to recognize the

staff members who were nominated for a Board of Regents Staff Award.

TU will be holding its annual Staff Development Conference on May 30th.

University of Maryland University College (UMUC)

University of Maryland University College was featured last week as an "answer" on the popular quiz show, "Jeopardy!" UMUC's mention came during a quarterfinal round of the show's annual College Championship. Rebecca Rosenthal, a sophomore at Swarthmore College, chose the "College Slashes" category for \$600 and up came: "In 2015–16 the University of Maryland University College got rid of these-course materials are now online and free." However, quarterfinalist Carsen Smith, a senior at Vanderbilt University, buzzed in first with her correct answer question form, "What are in textbooks?" View a video clip of the winning answer.

UMUC, indeed, became the first major university in the country to eliminate textbooks and use Open Educational Resources (OERs)—digital materials available on the Internet—in most of its online classes, potentially saving students thousands of dollars over the course of their degree programs.

The transition to OERs began with The Undergraduate School in the fall of the 2014–15 academic year; The Graduate School completed the same process by the end of the 2016–17 academic year.

"Turning such a vast university into a textbook-free zone, though, has been no small task," said Thomas C. Bailey, now the vice dean of science programs, in an August 2013 article on the UMUC Global Media Center. "It has almost gotten to the point where textbooks are as expensive as the cost of a class. That becomes a barrier when students are shelling out that much money to try to better themselves or get [ahead] in the work world."

The change was prompted in part by the rising cost of textbooks combined with opportunities now available to find and access peer-reviewed content and information in specialized databases and other digital sources, the article said.

In addition to national media coverage of the move, the higher education community also took notice. The Open Education Consortium recognized UMUC with its 2015 President's Award, granted to an individual or institution that shows exceptional leadership and commitment to open-source education."

Over There: The Adventures of Maryland's Traveling Faculty

The Overseas Marylanders, а legendary group of "flying faculty" who traveled the world on behalf of UMUC beginning in 1949, are now the subject of a documentary, soon to air on Maryland Public Television. Many current and former UMUC staff united to bring the story of this group of adventurous faculty and administrators who dedicated their careers to delivering quality education to United States military troops, wherever they were assigned.



Founded as the College of Special and Continuation Studies, a branch of the University of Maryland's College of Education in 1947, UMUC was the first university to send faculty overseas to educate active-duty military personnel in Europe.

The result of all these years of planning and work is an inspiring look into what UMUC faculty and staff went through to bring quality education to our troops, wherever they were.

Over There: The Adventures of Maryland's Traveling Faculty will air on Maryland Public Television (MPT) Sunday, April 15, 6:30 p.m. ET and Wednesday, April 18, 8 p.m. ET. Check your local listings for channel designations. The program is also available on MPT's website.





2017 - 2018 CUSS REPRESENTATIVES

Bowie State University (BSU) Trenita Johnson Trish Johnson LaVel Jones

Coppin State University (CSU)

Sheila Chase Dondra Davenport Sherrye Larkins, Past Chair Anthony Littlejohn Sonia McCain

Frostburg State University (FSU) Liz Nelson Rubin Stevenson Stacey Utley-Bernhardt

Salisbury University (SU)

Vanessa Collins Lisa Gray, Chair Teri Herberger Charles Overholt

University of Maryland, Center for Environmental Sciences (UMCES) Juliana Brush Amy Griffin Elissa Lee April Lewis **University of Baltimore (UB)** Eric Jones Keiver Jordan

University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) Colette Beaulieu, Member-at-Large Sharese Essien

Angela Hall Susan Holt Nicole Miskimon Janet Nance-Richardson

Towson University (TU)

Deniz Erman Mary Hickey Conor Reynolds Cyndi Zile Carol Green-Willis Lavern Chapman

University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)

Sheryl Gibbs Thomas Penniston Laila Shishineh, Co-Secretary Michael Walsh Bethany Walter Pheng "Max" Xiong University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP) Dylan Baker Sister Maureen Schrimpe, Member-at-Large Sarah Goff Dana Wimbish

University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) Chenita Reddick

University of Maryland University College (UMUC) Craig Binder Sylvia Bolden Mark Freeman, Vice Chair Candace Johnson, Co-Secretary Karolina Nash

Jennifer Volberding

University System of Maryland Office (USMO) Chevonie Oyego

For a full listing of all minutes regarding the USM Council of University System Staff (CUSS), institution photographs, and other pertinent information, visit <u>http://www.usmd.edu/usm/workgroups/SystemStaff/</u>.

The Council of University System Staff (CUSS) was established in 1992 by request of the Board of Regents to advise on matters relating to the development and maintenance of a new USM Pay Program for Staff employees. CUSS is comprised of System- wide Staff employees with representatives from each of its 12 institutions and the System office.

