



USM Student Council Report for the USM Board of Regents

Date: February 17, 2023

Meeting: February 2023 Full Board of Regents Meeting

Organization: University System of Maryland Student Council

Representation: Arsalan Siddiqui, President of the University System of Maryland Student Council

Good Morning Chair Gooden, Board of Regents, and Esteemed Colleagues,

In January, the USMSC officially started accepting applications for the first ever Board of Regents Student Excellence Scholarship. Just in a little over two weeks, we have received over 150 applications from students across the University System, and are anticipating over 180-200 applications in total by the time we stop accepting applications.

This month, the USMSC Executive team and I had an opportunity to meet with the new Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Student Success, Dr. Alison Wrynn. We had a great time getting to know her and discussing with her about the projects and initiatives the USMSC are working on this year.

Innovation and Entrepreneurship, I believe, and I hope you all would agree, is essential for creating a prosperous campus environment. Along with the chairs of the Council for University System Staff and Council for University System Faculty, I had the opportunity to have a nice conversation with Bowie State University President Aminta Breaux, and we discussed the importance of fostering an environment of Innovation and Entrepreneurship perhaps through working together as a system to share resources like 3-D printers, prototyping labs and more, as well as through creating start-up incubators and accelerator programs, and more. On that note, Chair Brewer, Chair Patricio, and myself were also able to meet with Eric Leadutke, who leads the legislative office for Governor Wes Moore, and I had the opportunity to discuss this further with him among other legislative priorities shared by CUSS and CUSE.

Advocacy Day was this past Wednesday, and I want to take this opportunity to thank Roy Prouty from CUSS, Meghna our Director of Government Affairs from USMSC, David Gray from CUSE, as well as Chair Brewer, Chair Patricio, and Vice Chancellor Patric Hogan and Assistant Vice Chancellor Andy Clark for helping to organize this. It was the first time in several years that Advocacy Day was arranged in person, and certainly my first time, and I think it was a success. We had many meetings with several key delegates and senators and were able to advocate on behalf of the USM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arsalan Siddiqui'.

Arsalan Siddiqui

President of the University System of Maryland Student Council (USMSC)