



COUNCIL of UNIVERSITY SYSTEM FACULTY

Regents Report April 19, 2024

This is a summary report of The Council of University System Faculty (CUSF) activities since our last submission in February 2024. When we last met, the legislative session was in full swing and on February 21, 2024, a number of CUSF members went to Annapolis to attend Advocacy Day.

Since my last report, CUSF and the CUSF Executive Committee have met. The CUSF General Body Meetings were held virtually on February 23, 2024, and March 27, 2024. The CUSF Executive Committee met on March 13, 2024. In the remainder of the report, I will highlight a few of the initiatives happening within our various committees.

CUSF Meetings

CUSF General Body Meeting: February 23, 2024

A CUSF General Body Meeting was held virtually on February 23, 2024. One highlight of this meeting was having President Jenkins join us and share updates and highlights from Coppin State University. Dr. Kalia Patricio (CUSS) joined us to discuss the Shared Governance Survey. The Rules Committee shared a first read of changes to the CUSF Constitution. Dr. Heather Haverback and Dr. Alison Wrynn also gave brief updates.

CUSF General Body Meeting: March 27, 2024

A CUSF General Body Meeting was held on March 27, 2024. Dr. Candace Caraco shared updates and asked for feedback on the ART Bylaw Changes and Transfer Policies. Dr. Nancy O'Neill discussed the Kirwan Center and listened to ideas for future use. Dr. Heather Haverback and Dr. Alison Wrynn also gave brief updates.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee met on March 6, 2024, and April 10, 2024. At these meetings, we discussed the work being done in committees, as well as current topics of interest to USM faculty. Dr. Alison Wrynn shared updates with the committee. The Executive Committee moved a white paper brought forth by the Faculty Affairs Committee on Mental Health forward to be reviewed by the CUSF GB. We also discussed issues and ideas brought forth by faculty.

Awards Committee

Chairperson- Dr. Ben Arah, Bowie State University

The committee has completed their work.

Education Policy Committee

Chairperson- Dr. Mary Crowley, University of Maryland Global Campus

The Education Policy Committee is continuing their work on the AI conference, *Incorporating Generative AI into Learning Experiences: A Virtual Showcase*, which will take place via Zoom on Friday, April 26, 2024, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm ET. The event is being organized by the Kirwan Center, CUSF, MarylandOnline, and Montgomery College. It will focus on how college and university faculty across the state are adapting their assignments and learning activities to meet the challenges of generative AI. The presenters will be selected from two-year, four-year, public, and independent colleges and universities in the state.

Registration for the AI showcase was closed, as there were 550 attendees. For those who couldn't get in, there is a form available to request the links to the recording and handouts afterward. They will also be posting the recording and materials for public view on the Kirwan Center website. Since demand was so high, there is talk of doing a second AI showcase next fall or spring,

Faculty Affairs Committee

Chairperson- Dr. Doris Santamaria-Makang, Frostburg State University

The committee continues to work on the broad topics of Diversity Equity & Inclusion (DEI) and Academic Support Personnel. Moreover, the Faculty Concerns Committee is continuing their work within their subcommittees, which are Campus Safety, Affirmative Action, and Adjunct Faculty and Graduate Assistants. The committee brought forth a white paper on Mental Health to be reviewed and supported by CUSF Executive Committee.

Legislative Affairs Committee

Chairperson- Dr. Holly Brewer, University of Maryland, College Park

The Legislative Affairs Committee had about ten members attend Annapolis Day 2024, where the group met with legislators. The committee continues to work on legislative affairs business.

Research Committee

Chairperson- Drs. Tom Abrams and Mirosław Janowski, University of Maryland, Baltimore

The Research Committee is currently focusing on three topics. First, they are working on intercampus research portals. Second, they are discussing ways in which a welcoming environment for foreign-born researchers can be created. The International Researchers Subcommittee is organizing a round table, which will include both USM and national leaders. Third, The Animal Care Subcommittee is developing a report with specific recommendations on how to streamline IACUC protocol approval.

Rules and Membership Committee

Chairpersons- Dr. Jay Zimmerman , Towson University and Dr. Nagaraj Neerchal, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

The committee is working on proposed changes to the CUSF Constitution, which will be an update to USM institution names. This document has had a first read with the CUSF GB and will be voted on at our next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Heather Rogers Haverback

CUSF Chair