



COUNCIL of UNIVERSITY
SYSTEM FACULTY

CUSF Executive Committee
Zoom
Wednesday January 3, 2024
12:00 -1:26 P.M.
FINAL MINUTES

Attendee	Modality
Heather Haverback - Chair (TU)	Zoom
Tom Abrams – Vice Chair (UMB)	Zoom
Holly Brewer – Past Chair (UMCP)	Zoom
Lorenda Naylor – Secretary (UBalt)	Zoom
Atma Sahu – Member at Large (CSU)	Absent
Nagaraj Neerchal – Member at Large (UMBC)	Zoom
Alison Wrynn – (USM)*	Zoom
Zakiya Lee – (USM)*	Zoom
Erica Kennedy (FSU)* Former ExComm; Guest	Zoom

*Non-Voting ExCom Members.

12:00 -12:03 Call to Order

Heather Haverback called the meeting to order.

12:03-12:05 Approval of December 2023 CUSF ExCom minutes

Minutes approved as is.

12:05 -12:25 USM Report

Zakiya Lee, USM Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs and Chief of Staff to Dr. Alison Wrynn

Zakiya reported the search for a new UMCES President is moving forward. The Maryland legislative session starts January 10, 2024. Zakiya clarified that Andy will host Monday morning phone calls, starting a couple weeks after the session begins (end of January). Faculty can choose to receive the legislative newsletters. On a sad note, USM Board of Regents member, Doug Peters, who served on the Ed Policy and Student Life Committee, passed away over the holidays. He made a positive, lasting impact on the BOR.

Dr. Alison Wrynn, USM, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs,

Dr. Wrynn advised that she will have to attend to legislative session obligations in Annapolis and will miss a couple of CUSF meetings over the next few months.

12:25 -12:40 – CUSF Chair Updates

CUSS information – working with Kalea to collaborate on items, possibly looking at a proposal to add a faculty and staff member to the BOR. Would need an exception to the rule that regents aren't compensated since faculty and staff are paid state employees; BOR members cannot be paid state employees. Alison reminded CUSF members that the Governor makes the decision on who serves on the BOR. Zakiya suggested seeing what other state systems are doing; good place to find precedents. Faculty and staff are seeking a place at the table via representation on the BOR; 2) Kalia will discuss her survey.

Committee Work: Heather encourages written resolutions. The Education Policy Committee, led by Mary Crowley-Farrell, is hosting a statewide artificial intelligence (AI) webinar.

Other Updates – Holly Brewer, on behalf of the Legislative Affairs Committee, will present two resolutions on collective bargaining at next CUSF general meeting. This will require two separate votes. There was a good discussion on documenting attendance and votes. Zakiya offered to do the roll call and take the count. Zakiya advised that it is important to follow the bylaws. Alison suggested taking roll call at the beginning of the meeting.

Holly Brewer & Tom Abrams – Legislative Affairs: 1) the committee will draft a prescription benefits resolution. The state can negotiate “gap coverage” that is not otherwise negotiable (at the individual level). Need to retain the benefit due to possible significant economic impact on retirees. Heather advised that ExComm needs to review the draft resolution by January 12th. Tom Abrams – wants CUSF to address the conflict in the Middle East. Tom is proposing a remote discussion on Middle east issues. The aim is to promote collegiality and reduce conflict on USM campuses. Alison advised that all campuses are discussing this issue in different ways.

12:49 - New Business

CUSS Survey - Kalia Patricio, CUSS Chair: Kalia advised that CUSS is seeking to increase awareness on shared governance (including unionization) using a survey. She shared the survey

questions via a slidedeck. On behalf of CUSS, Kalia is inviting CUSF to participate in the survey. Nagaraj Neerchal stated that she should not ask for email list serves from each campus, but rather have each campus send out the survey via email. Kalia advised they will send out the survey to shared governance members in January 2024 and one to the CUSF audience/members later. Kalia advised that Ellen Herbst (USM Senior Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance) notes there might be a general USM distribution list, which Kalia might be able to access. CUSF will wait to hear back from Kalia if the USM distribution list or campus access is viable.

Faculty Concerns. - Mental Health (Erica Kennedy at FSU): Erica reported on the mental health white paper and CUSF survey her committee completed last year. Access to mental health services is important to all campus members (students, staff, and faculty). Holly Brewer reported she shared the Mental Health report/white paper with the BOR, and that MHEC has also created a committee on mental health. Heather advised that Erica should share the report with Faculty Concerns to see if it is endorsed by CUSF before sharing with external groups such as MHEC.

General Body Meeting Agenda. Meeting will be held in Adelphi.

Adjourned 1:26 pm.

Holly Brewer made motion to adjourn. Nagaraj Neerchal seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 1:26 pm.