



COUNCIL of UNIVERSITY
SYSTEM FACULTY

CUSF Executive Committee
Zoom
Wednesday March 6, 2024
12:00 Noon
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
Kelsey Beckett – (USM)*	Zoom

*Non-Voting ExCom Members.

1. Call to Order

12:00-12:03

Heather Haverback called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of February 2023 CUSF Executive Committee Minutes

12:04-12:06

Heather Haverback asked if anyone had edits or changes to the February draft minutes. Lorenda Approved reported that she received edits from Dr. Alison Wrynn and Kelsey Beckett, which were incorporated into the minutes. No additional changes reported. Minutes approved.

3. Report from USM

12:06-12:25

Alison Wrynn and or Kelsey Beckett

Dr. Alison Wrynn reported that the USM Student Success Summit was held last Friday. It very successful, excellent turnout (over 150 people), and great students panels. Heather reported that were numerous student affairs staff, but fewer faculty members, which had different perspectives. Dr. Wrynn is pending a lot of time in Annapolis providing testimony and attending meetings. Holly requested information on presidential bills. Alison reported there are two bills: 1) one is titled REAP bill; and 2) . No more bills can be introduced, currently there are 3,000. Tom Abrams asked about budget clarification. Alison advised that USM needs to use funding efficiently and we need to make up revenue, perhaps by increasing fees. Alison reported that are competing demands for the budget, which is typical.

4. Chair Updates

12:26-12:50

Heather asked about clarification on community college budgets. Alison reported that community college funding and small, private college is based on full time students and with lower enrollments there is less funding.

Heather reported that she has been attending meetings (Student Success Summit, Chancellor's Council – it focused on FAFSA issues and long-term enrollment; 10% top graduates bill getting into university's; AAAC – is the tuition policy right for USM, how does USM compare to other state systems, information gathering. Chad Muntz, USM, Associate Vice Chancellor for Decision Support and Chief Analytics Officer. Tom Abrams reported that the number of international students has decreased. For example, MICA has observed a significant drop in enrollment. Tom suggested that USM track the enrollment of international students. Kelsey Beckett reported that there is an IRIS system that tracks the number. Kelsey provided the following link in chat:

<https://www.usmd.edu/IRIS/DataJournal/Enrollment/?report=Headcount-by-Area-Of-Origin>

Holly Brewer requested that faculty workload for AY23. Kelsey provided the following link in chat:

<https://www.usmd.edu/IRIS/DataJournal/Enrollment/?report=Headcount-by-Area-Of-Origin>

CUSF and CUSS survey went to the chancellor, it was supported by the chancellor and contains four questions.

The April general meeting will be held on the Salisbury campus. Candace Caraco, USM, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, will be reporting at next meeting to discuss changes in titles (lecture I and II, full lecturer). These changes will be implemented at specific campuses. Nancy O'Neal, Executive Director, Kirwan Center will also present at the next meeting.

Mental Health Resolution passed through faculty concerns and Constitutional amendment had a first read in February 2024 and will have a second read in March 2024. These will be presented at the next meeting.

Research Committee: Tom Abrams reported they are still working on animal treatment policy at UMB. The committee is also still working on ensuring foreign born faculty are welcomed. Heather requested that Tom send her the Research Committee report to her so she can include it in her Board of Regents report.

Legislative Affairs: Holly Brewer & Tom Abrams, Co-Chairs, reported. Holly shared that CSUF had a great turnout at the USM Advocacy Day, about 35 people. Holly Brewer reported that the 2024 advocacy day went very well compared to during the pandemic. Heather Haverback reported that she had received concerns about the logistics of advocacy day that need to be resolved for next year. Holly shared she met with eight Maryland senators, discussed the resolutions passed by CUSF including the retiree drug benefit plan. She advised that the Maryland Senate President, Bill Ferguson's, chief of staff advised her the hold-up on getting the retiree drug benefit bill passed is the potential \$9 billion negative impact it would have on the state's AAA rating due to costs. Tom Abrams reported that the state was supposed to set aside money in a trust for retiree drug benefits but the money got utilized for a different project. Tom advised that we need a one-year extension on the drug benefit and faculty should contact their legislators to advocate for the bill. Tom stated that CUSF represents 16,000 faculty members across the state. Nagaraj Neerchal advised Tom that CUSF is NOT a faculty senate of 16,000 faculty, nor does CUSF represent 16,000 faculty members, as such it is important to be accurate to ensure our validity when providing testimony and engaging in advocacy. Tom retracted his characterization that CSUF represents

16,000 and is requesting that the CUSF, Legislative Affairs, update the retiree drug benefit resolution. Heather Haverback, chair, reported she could not do this because the changed language has to go through the established process of rules, which requires that faculty be given time to review the language change. A robust discussion took place among attendees on the retiree drug benefit resolution. Heather asked Tom Abrams to show ExCom the proposed modified resolution in writing.

Holly Brewer shared with ExCom that will be testifying tomorrow on the Maryland Collective bargaining panel tomorrow, 3/7/2024. This was news to ExCom. It was asked who is Holly Brewer representing at the panel. Holly Brewer reported that the AAUP invited her to the legislative panel and that she would be representing as the CUSF past-chair and CUSF Co-Chair of Legislative Affairs. Nagaraj Neerchal advised Holly that the CUSF general body should be given notice and input on who is representing CUSF when delivering testimony. CUSF ExCom advised Holly that she can only share the wording of the collective bargaining resolution, which was passed by the CUSF general body and ExCom. It established the right to collective bargaining at individual USM campuses, but does not require collective bargaining. Heather advised that CUSF is an advisory board to the chancellor and that collective bargaining is a sensitive subject, as such, Holly is only allowed to share the wording of the collective bargaining resolution that was passed by CUSF. Holly reported that CUSF is the only input into the state legislative process.

5. Old Business

12:50-12:51

None.

6. Adjourn

12:51

Holly Brewer made motion to adjourn. Nagaraj Neerchal seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 12:51 pm.