

CUSF Executive Committee Minutes

October 4, 2011

In Attendance: Joyce Shirazi, Jay Zimmerman (phone), Robert Kauffman, Virletta Bryant, Steve Mount and Irwin Goldstein (guest). All members were in attendance.

The Executive Committee of CUSF meeting was convened at 12:30 AM by Joyce Shirazi in the downstairs meeting room at the System headquarters in Adelphi. Jay Zimmerman attended on a phone connection. The meeting was divided into three major components. The first part of the meeting was normal committee business before the arrival of Irv. The second phase was the traditional update provided by Irv, and the third phase was the completion of committee business after the departure of Irv from the meeting. No motions were made and no motions were passed during the meeting.

Strategic Plan - Joyce will be providing feedback on the Strategic Plan at the Board of Regents Retreat on October 6th. She requested feedback on the plan from individual campuses by Wednesday if possible.

UMCP/UMB Merger Study - After a brief discussion on the merger, Joyce noted that the three CUSF representatives on the study were: Martha Siegel (TU), Nagaraj Neerchal (UMBC), and Virletta Bryant (CU).

UMCP Senate Committee on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion - The University of Maryland University Senate Committee on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) sent a request to CUSF requesting a written response in support of its recommendations regarding the expansion of employee benefits and policy coverage to include same-sex domestic partners. For the most part, this matter was handled by email prior to the meeting and the Executive Committee concluded that the matter was currently an internal matter at College Park since it has not yet been passed by the Senate and that at this time it would be inappropriate for CUSF to act upon the request.

UMUC Issues - The Executive Committee continued with its email discussion regarding UMUC and the issue of "*unfettered communications.*" The group discussed the merits of the issue, and the desirability of continuing the pursuit of the issue. In general, the group concluded the following points. First, it was generally agreed that providing faculty with the ability to communicate with each other was foundational to the concept of shared governance. The issue was what is the appropriate mechanism to do this. Second, although the discussion focused on email, there may be other alternatives to provide the adequate communications such as the website. Third, it was suggested that at UMUC the faculty should have control of the content of their website (i.e. the faculty's website). Fourth, it was important for the Executive Committee and CUSF to differentiate between internal issues and more broad based policy issues that affect shared governance at all institutions. Fifth, in principle, the executive committee was interested in continuing to pursue the issue of unfettered communications as it relates to shared governance. Sixth, the group indicated that it needed more research on the issue.

Irv joined the meeting at 1:09 PM about halfway through the previous discussion on unfettered communications. He agreed that it may be appropriate to investigate the issue further and that it may be appropriate to meet with Brit on the issue in the future.

Coppin Report - First, Irv indicated that the Coppin study was completed.

Baltimore City Study - Second, Irv provided an update on the Baltimore City Committee that was formed by Coppin, UB, and the Baltimore City Community College. Robert Kauffman offered his expertise to Irv, if needed. He has considerable programmatic experience developing programs between four year comprehensive universities and community colleges. As part of the discussion, it was noted that the new *COMAR regulations* have been published.

UMCP/UMB Merger Study - Irv noted that substantively nothing has changed regarding the merger study. The structure to create the report for the Legislature is in place and people are meeting as needed on the report topics. The report will be completed this fall.

Athletics - Fourth, Irv provided a brief update on the three separate committees involving Intercollegiate Athletics (See the September 2011 General Body Meeting of CUSF for a discussion of this topic when it was first introduced).

Legislature - Fifth, Irv briefly discussed the next legislative session. He noted that the mood of the Legislature was not predictable, particularly with the possible loss or significant changes in Federal funding that may occur.

Public Corporation - Next, the System is an autonomous public corporation. The operative term is how autonomously is the System. The System is reexamining the original legislation regarding this issue.

Faculty Salaries - Seventh, Irv briefly updated the committee on this issue. Furloughs are off the table. They are looking at the possibility of merit and COLAs. There is nothing substantive to report at this time. The issue is one of retaining faculty, particularly preventing their loss to the private institutions.

Attending the meeting on a phone connection, Jay left the meeting to give an examination at 1:50 PM. Shortly thereafter with the completion of his report to the committee, Irv left the meeting at 2:00 PM.

October General Body Meeting - The Executive Committee briefly discussed the upcoming October General Body Meeting at Frostburg. Agenda items were discussed. The *commercialization item* was discussed (See September 2011 General Body minutes for a discussion of this topic). A discussion of this item will be added to the agenda, and Steve will explore the possibility of generating a motion on this topic item.

November General Body Meeting - The group briefly described the November meeting at UMCP. There is the possibility that the Governor may attend.

Committee Reports - Interspersed in the discussions on the General Body Meeting, Steve (MHEC FAC), and Virletta (BOR Ed Policy) provided brief reports on the committee meeting they attended this past month. (Note: Two items were not addressed at this time: The need to change UMBI in the CUSF Constitution by the Membership and Rules Committee, and an update on the Awards Committee.)

Adjournment - The next meeting of the Executive Committee will begin at 12:15 PM. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert B. Kauffman

Robert B. Kauffman
Secretary

Approved