



COUNCIL of UNIVERSITY SYSTEM FACULTY

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

*Welcome to our Council of University System Faculty
Fall Newsletter 2018*



Dr. Patricia Westerman

CUSF Mission:

“To strengthen higher education in the State of Maryland through shared governance.”

CUSF represents :

The interests of faculty across University System of Maryland,
Engages in activities to facilitate positive change,
Enhances awareness of concepts to encourage innovations across campuses and faculty, and
Informs the Board of Regents and the Chancellor on topics and concerns of faculty for teaching, learning, and related matters.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR:

- 1) *Academic integrity*
- 2) *Faculty evaluation*
- 3) *BOR faculty award selections*
- 4) *Faculty salary report*
- 5) *Legislative activities*

CUSF has been busy!

THEMES:

- 1) Preparing faculty for the future of higher education; Interprofessional, interinstitutional, and interdisciplinary education
- 2) Incorporation of new technologies and approaches, including artificial intelligence, virtual reality, and augmented reality; in teaching, learning, and academic program development

VISION 2018/2019:

CUSF’s vision is to help make USM a model for all university systems around these matters by providing our recommendations to the Chancellor and the BOR regarding faculty development and academic program development.

HIGHLIGHTED ACTIVITY:

October 2018 Senate Chairs’ meeting.

Senate Chairs meet twice a year, along with the CUSF executive committee, and has become one of the hallmarks of CUSF’s work. These meetings are consistent with CUSF’s mission of enhancing communication with campuses and supporting shared governance structures at the institutions. This meeting is always compelling. We share information but, more importantly, the attendees have the opportunity to discuss their perspectives on our activities. As such, we discussed the items mentioned above and gained some important insights; which our committees will use in their work. In addition, Senate Chairs, several of whom are brand new to the role, were instructed about the shared governance survey. This survey, which was initiated by CUSF several years ago is completed by Senate Chairs after consultation with their faculty. The survey consists of an assessment of institutional presidents’ engagement in shared governance with the faculty, and its results are used by the Chancellor in his evaluation of the presidents. This is a very ambitious agenda, but, with the commitment and hard work of our CUSF representatives, we are making steady progress toward our objectives.

Theme:

Preparing faculty for the future of higher education: Interprofessional, interinstitutional, and interdisciplinary education

Dr. Karen Clark UMB
CUSF Member At-Large



During our fall meeting at the Universities at Shady Grove, a USM Regional Center, I provided a presentation entitled: “True Leaders Fill the Gaps: Preparing our Students by Preparing our Faculty” in our work to raise awareness.

The objectives of this presentation included development of knowledge and understanding about:

- 1) concepts of interprofessional/interdisciplinary,
- 2) expectations in undergraduate programs,
- 3) academic University System of Maryland programs,
- 4) existing partnerships,
- 5) gaps, barriers, and constraints,
- 6) accreditation needs,
- 7) faculty perceptions, and
- 8) potential ideas for future partnerships.

A panel of experts in this arena from the University of Maryland, Baltimore (three disciplines); Coppin State; and University of Maryland, Baltimore County assisted Dr. Clark in her presentation.

The lively and interactive discussion led to a clear recognition that healthcare disciplines are engaged in this model and that faculty in other disciplines, in some settings, do reach out and cross boundaries to engage different disciplines. However, it is also evident that interdisciplinarity is not implemented in many of our academic programs.

This is as an area for potential growth in addressing the needs of employers and others.

By raising awareness, we are beginning to encourage exploration of interprofessional teaching and learning across universities, disciplines and programs.

CUSF plans to revisit this objective in the spring of 2019.

The Joint Meeting of Council of the University System Faculty (CUSF), Council of the University System Staff (CUSS), and University System of Maryland Student Council (USMSC) was held at UMCP on November 16, 2018.



Dr. Zakiya Lee &
Dr. Jay Zimmerman



USM Chancellor Caret

Panel Presentation on Academic Integrity: CUSF's Ed Policy committee began its academic integrity campus conversation initiative with a panel discussion on the face of academic integrity on our campuses today. The panel featured members of CUSF, CUSS, and USMSC.

Introducing the discussion of the panel was an interactive PowerPoint highlighting the challenges facing academic honesty on our campuses. It outlined the types of academic dishonesty that are prevalent on university campuses; such as the complicating factor of big business involvement in the misconduct efforts, the disruptive technology entering the classrooms, and societal influences that question the nature of the ethical premise behind academic integrity. The panel discussion focused on two main questions:

1. Has today's goal driven society produced a university environment that places barriers to honesty on campus,
2. Does advancing development of technology provide impetus for students to cheat or does it provide a service to educators and students analogous to the slide rule, calculator, or PC?

The purpose of the joint council initiative was to illustrate the need for all campus members to be aware of the magnitude and complexity of the issues facing academic honesty on our campuses and the need for us to work together to tackle the challenge.

The panel discussion is the model of a series of similar conversations that CUSF members will be bring to their campuses across the system. It is also a part of the preliminary discussions to be held on USM campuses in anticipation of the Academic Integrity Convening that CUSF, the Kirwan Center Innovative learning and USM will hold on March 26, 2019.

Meet:

Dr. MJ Bishop from the University System of Maryland's Center for Academic Innovation

Dr. MJ Bishop
Associate Vice Chancellor and Director, Kirwan Center for Academic Innovation



Dr. MJ Bishop directs the University System of Maryland's Kirwan Center for Academic Innovation, established in 2013 to enhance USM's position as a national leader in higher education transformation. The Kirwan Center conducts research on best practices, disseminates findings, and supports the system's institutions as they develop innovative academic programs. Prior to USM, Bishop was Associate Professor of Instructional Design and Technology at Lehigh University. She has received several awards for her research and innovative teaching, including Lehigh's prestigious Stabler Award, conferred by students to faculty who have mentored them to "excellence as human beings and leaders of society."

Above submitted for the newsletter by email communication from Dr. MJ Bishop. For more information visit <https://www.usmd.edu/cai/center-staff>