

UMCES Staff Council
Meeting Agenda
December 12, 2018
10 AM

INV Information: Conf # 803191

Call in (if no access to IVN): # 301-779-2901

Present: Katie Kline (AL), John Piasecki (AL), Amy Griffin (CA), Stacy Hutchinson (CBL), Brian Duke (CBL), Kurt Florez (HPL), Juliana Brush (HPL), Julia Bliss (HPL), Molly Pickel (IMET), Michelle Prentice (IMET), April Lewis (CA), Lisa Ross (CA), Lori Stepp (CA)

- Staff Council meeting with Dr. Goodwin has been set for April 10, 2019. It was shifted forward to minimize conflict with the state Legislative Session held in February.
- Best Practices Survey from CUSS (Amy Griffin)

Amy shared results from CUSS survey. Results indicated UMCES' support of shared governance. Our meeting frequency is comparatively sparse but it alternates with Admin Council.

One thing stood out in particular. Some institutions have a university senate which facilitates interaction between faculty, staff, students.

Results were impressive when comparing UMCES to other larger institutions - especially considering our challenges, like our council's age, our distributed campus, etc.

- Staff Council Open Forum Meeting this year

IVN/Zoom would be best option as the forum for this meeting to avoid lost time due to travel, but we also want to avoid it turning into a vent session. We think that it might be best to send out advance requests for questions or a poll to allow us to prepare to field questions/comments in advance. CUSS BOR meetings use advance questions.

It was suggested to hold open forum meeting in February in advance of elections and the meeting w/Dr. Goodwin.

Amy is going to follow up with the council members to solicit ideas for potential questions.

● Committee Updates

- Uberconference (Juli Brush)

Zoom, IVN, Email, and Uberconference are all options for holding your committee meetings. Uber is free and very easy to use. Contact Juli or Katie Kline with any questions

- BoR Staff Award/UMCES Staff Award

At CUSS, there is a communication buzz set to come out this week - providing tips for applications and reminders for important deadlines. Our UMCES deadline is 12/14. The committee is looking for more submissions. If you can think of anyone that should be recognized, feel free to nominate or mention them. New chair for CUSS committee - updates haven't been as frequent. Juli Brush noted that it is a good idea to mention at a faculty meeting as some faculty may not realize that they can nominate someone.

- Communications (Kurt Florez)

No recent meeting; trying to meet in January

- Staff Appreciation Day (Juli Brush)

Survey results were compiled. Overall responses were positive. Location & distance will always be a challenge; some were in favor of having ice breakers, while others were not. We should start thinking about looking at calendars for September 2019.

● Admin Council Updates (Kurt Florez)

MEES Colloquium is getting significantly larger, making it a challenge to host for some campuses. CBL offered to host Convocation in 2019; IMET will host Colloquium in 2019. There was also a discussion of the rising costs; CA has offered to help units with costs. It was suggested that the site rotation be set more in stone to help with planning. High praise was offered for Staff Appreciation Day and the Council's efforts to make it happen. There was also discussion of UMCES instituting a more formal

sexual harassment training process. The meeting also included planning for the Environmental Summit with respect to panel, logistics, technical/AV needs.

- Environmental Summit Recap - The major topics included: diversification across staff, faculty, students and discussion of how to do that, sea level rise and how to be even more of a leader and make it a focus moving forward, & more deepwater/land analysis. There was a very positive atmosphere with UMCES poised to continue to be a leader amongst ourselves and among “outsiders”. Event was recorded and will be made available in panel-related segments. Lori Stepp thanked Kurt for his efforts. There were 90-100 attendees at the Thursday dinner and about 160 attendees at the Friday Summit. Much positive feedback was received. Dr. Goodwin will be visiting labs in January to follow up on strategic plan. Kurt noted that the food was good. Lori encouraged everyone to watch Reneta Tull’s discussion on diversity/inclusion when video links are released.
- HR Updates (Lisa Ross) - MD charities campaign is wrapping up. We are about \$3,000 short of the UMCES goal and she will be sending out more reminders. Our participation rate is low. She noted that this is something that reflects on Presidents with the USM Chancellor. Everyone should have received a communication about the new SPS benefits system and there will be another one coming soon. After winter break, that will be the new system. Everyone will need to create a POSC account. You need the number to create the account through WorkDay. Unit reps won’t have as much access to WorkDay, but we are working on that for each lab. There will no longer be paper enrollment forms after January 1, 2019.
- CUSS Updates (CUSS members) - COLA’s & bonuses - The State met its revenue goals, so everyone will be getting a 2.5% increase as of January 1 and an additional .5% increase in April with a one time \$500 bonus. WorkDay program will be starting in the new year. MD General Assembly will be held in January and February - it will be an opportunity to learn more about new representatives. CUSS will be going to Advocacy Day along with other representation from UMCES. BOR Staff Awards nominations will be due in February. Ellen Herbst, Vice Chancellor of Admin and Finance, talked about what she does at USM, discussion of Regents meeting/shared governance. Shady Grove/Hagerstown/????? What is the significance?
- Lab Updates
 - Reminder to re-engage with staff in the new year

Legislative auditors will be here on Monday - business offices may get requests for back up, etc. Expect them to be here through January.

IMET - holiday party was held last week; there will be a public lecture at IMET in spring where they will be hosting Paul Greenburg at the Aquarium (author of "For Fish"). Open House will be held May 4th, 2019.

Next Meeting: February 13, 2019 at 10 AM