

CUSS Meeting July 20, 2021 @ UMCES (Virtual)

Call Meeting to Order (10 AM)

Welcome

President Goodwin

Currently working on re-accreditation.

Thank you to the committee for their efforts and persistence. Very impressed how the staff has responded throughout the USM system which is commendable.

Thank you for selecting Julianna Brush for BoR award.

Because of COVID, UMCES field and labs were shut down except for animal care.

90% of faculty and staff have been vaccinated and we are going through the transition to bring people back and stressing the importance of getting vaccinated.

President Goodwin gave the committee a well-informed presentation of UMCES, established in 1925; the earliest science university and the catalyst for environmental issues throughout the state ensuring that the best are here for science.

Chancellor Liaison's Report

COVID-19 Vaccination Card/Exemption Reminder

Many of you are experiencing mixed feelings in returning to the office ranging from "oh my goodness, I don't want to be here" to "I'm so happy to see my coworkers in person again" and everything in between. You are not alone!!!

Part of the hesitancy in returning to work is the feeling of the USM and your respective Institutions creating a safe environment for all employees. Your respective institutions are all rolling out or have already provided information for employees to certify that they have received their vaccines or ways to request an exemption. All employees need to upload their COVID vaccination cards or make a request for an exemption. You will find everything you need to complete these processes in the various communications from your campus.

Telework Policies and Procedures

During this last year of mandatory telework, many of you have reported experiencing benefits such as stress reduction, increased productivity, and having more time with family. It is also important to understand that while each of you have proved that you can get the job done (often going above and beyond) while working from home, telework is not an entitlement or USM Office-wide benefit. The USM is committed to having employees physically present to engage with our community as a higher education system.

Many of the Institutions are working on updated telework policies and agreements, they may not be

Effectiveness and Efficiency

Julie Leary, Exempt Staff TU

Crystal Kelly, Exempt Staff SU

Inclusion, Multiculturalism and Social Justice

Amanda Preperato, Exempt Staff UMCP

Communication & Marketing

Attendance: Dawn Stoute, LaVern Chapman, Paul Gasior, Kerby Francesca, and Rubin Stevenson.

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--Speakers at meetings - who to ask to speak and when (Chancellor, USM staff, etc.)

--When to do invites - do them seasonally/semesterly

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Old Business

Adjourn

Motion - Vonzella McQueen

Second - Paul Gasior

Next Meeting virtually August