

Minutes
CUWMA Board Meeting
December 14, 2016

President and Chair Steven Knapp called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

ACTION ITEMS

Minutes from the September 14, 2016 Meeting

President Garvey moved, and President Shank seconded. Minutes approved as distributed.

Bylaws Revision

The Bylaws revision is to list the three new community college members (Montgomery College, Northern Virginia Community College, Prince George's Community College). Additional changes were to correct the numerical count of our members from 14 to 1, and to change the geographic jurisdiction definition of the Consortium to demarcate the District of Columbia and contiguous counties in Maryland and Virginia.

President Shank mad the motion to approve. President Garvey seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

FY16 Audit

President Garvey, Chair of the CUWMA Board Audit Committee, gave an overview of the audit with the assistance of staff from Raffa, the audit firm. The audit firm staff indicated that the audit was a "clean" audit with no concerns or material deficiencies. Discussion ensued about future rules changes in audit standards.

President Garvey moved, and President Knapp seconded the motion to approve. The motion passed unanimously.

IRS Form 990

Raffa provided an overview of the information reported in the IRS Form 990. There were no sections that raised any concerns, and no irregularities in operations to report.

President Garvey moved, and President Knapp seconded the motion to approve. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion Items

Sanctuary Campuses, DACA/DREAMers

The Issue Brief on DACA and Sanctuary Campus from the American Council on Education was distributed with the agenda materials. As noted in the brief, there is no legal meaning to the notion of “sanctuary campus.” Some campuses have said they will not enforce immigration law nor allow ICE officers on campus.

Several CUWMA institutions voluntarily signed onto a letter originated by Pomona College to support students currently protected under DACA.

Senators Durbin (D-IL) and Graham (R-SC) have indicated they will be filing a bill to protect DREAMers currently covered under the DACA executive order. Several CUWMA members signed onto a letter of support that was sent to both Senators. (NOTE: The National Defense University, National Intelligence University, and Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences are prohibited by law from advocating or lobbying.) CUWMA will continue to monitor and support this bill in the 115th Congress (with the continuing caveat pertaining to the federal universities.)

Discussion ensued on what specific steps member universities are taking to assist DREAMers.

Universal Paid Leave (UPL) Bill

UPL continues to track along in DC toward passage. Although it will not directly affect institutions outside DC, it would provide benefits to people who live in Maryland and Virginia and who work for private DC employers. Additionally, we are aware of efforts in MD to provide some level of paid leave.

The incoming Trump administration will have a significant impact. Secretary of Education nominee Betsy DeVos is a K-12 charter school supporter who has no higher education experience. Attorney General nominee Jeff Sessions has been strongly opposed to immigration reform, which could have a direct effect on higher education.

Congressional priorities are reasonably clear: HEA reauthorization, tax reform, and health care reform. We are optimistic about student financial aid at this time, but less sanguine on other matters.

Cross-Registration Community College Inclusion Update

The working group is making progress. They had a conference call last Friday, and are moving to reimbursement rates as the focus of their discussions. A proposal for consideration by the Chief Academic Officers is expected by their February meeting.

We will have a proposal to consider at the February meeting of the CUWMA Board. The goal is to put rules in place in time for Fall Semester. Conversation has been fruitful. There is considerable agreement on the policies and procedures for community college participation.

Discussion ensued on details of current policy and procedures and how they will be reinforced in the revision.

Global Cities Initiative (GCI) Update

The GCI Steering Committee is drafting the regional export plan. The draft will be reviewed and voted on in January. We will have met Brookings benchmarks for our first year of operation.

Memorandum of Agreement with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Government (COG)

The MOA with COG was included in the Board materials. This will help us get expertise at our member institutions placed on regional governmental commissions, task forces, council, and the like, and provide new and broader opportunities for the Consortium to partner with regional governments on projects and initiatives.

Federal City Council Metro Governance Proposal

Federal City Council (DC specific) has proposed a Metro governance approach that would restructure the system's oversight. A letter from FCC went to Board of FCC requesting them to have their respective organizations endorse this specific reorganization plan.

The Board of Trade (BOT) is attempting something similar, and has a subcommittee working on a proposal. President Cavanaugh attended a meeting of the group. BOT and FCC have agreed on a joint meeting to discuss a potential joint approach.

The CUWMA Board agreed to take a wait-and-see approach.

Greater Washington Partnership (GWP)

Russ Ramsey (Olympics 2024) has suggested a collaboration among regional business groups that would stretch from Baltimore to Richmond. Few details are available at this point. Questions concerning the articulation among GWP, The 2030 Group Roadmap, and the GCI remain to be answered.

There being no additional business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:59 a.m.