



UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

OF MARYLAND

WOMEN'S

F O R U M

Annual Report

July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014

HISTORY

A new era began in Maryland in 1988 when the State created the University System of Maryland (USM), uniting eleven separate universities and colleges and two research institutes. A new era began for the women in the new System when Fay-Tyler M. Norton, wife of Interim Chancellor James A. Norton, founded the Women's Forum on December 3, 1989.

At that time, most campuses had no organized group that addressed issues of special concern to women. The Forum encouraged the formation of campus chapters and galvanized women across the System in an unprecedented way. It provided an opportunity for networking and gave women a system-wide impact on issues affecting women employees. This was the first organization to represent the various communities of women - staff, faculty, students, and their partners - of the new University System of Maryland.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Women's Forum is to bring together the women of the University System of Maryland in order to enhance the status of women, to foster networking among women and to encourage the participation of women in all facets of the System.

It is the express purpose of the Women's Forum to respect and to value the diversity and richness of the perspectives and experiences of all communities of women within the System.

GOALS

Goals consistent with the purpose of the Women's Forum are:

1. To increase interaction among System women and to encourage and provide opportunities for active participation of women in the System in affairs important to women System wide.
2. To review, study and make recommendations to the Chancellor about the development of programs, structures and policies that address issues of concern to women.
3. To exchange and disseminate information about women within the System that will assist women in reaching personal and professional goals.
4. To serve as advocates for issues and concerns of the communities of women within the System.
5. To recognize and foster the achievements of women within the System by providing awards to promote research, scholarship, and professional development.

GOALS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS	OUTCOMES
I. Funding	
Milestone 1: Solicit financial support from each USM campus	2 campuses provided financial support to the Form (UMCES and SU). TU provided support for the conference.
Milestone 2: Achieve 100% participation in donations to the USMWF from current Executive Council	50% participation achieved
Milestone 3: Maintain consistent audience size/participation at annual conference	\$11, 022 generated from Annual Conference at Towson
II. SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS	
Milestone 1: Publicize availability to increase applications	5 student scholarships were awarded in 2013 representing 4 separate campuses.
Milestone 2: Continue funding pursuits	Ongoing
Milestone 3: Create electronic and hard copy brochures announcing availability of awards	Applications for every award are now on the USM Women's Forum web site for easy access.
III. SYSTEM-WIDE REPRESENTATION	
Milestone 1: Increase representation from across USM campuses	6 new members joined while we lost 2 from retirement, 1 from leaving USM and 2 stepped down. Currently FSU, UMCP and USMO are unrepresented. Bylaws require a minimum of two representatives from each campus - one staff and one faculty appointed by the President.
Milestone 2: Diversify representation to include faculty and staff	8 faculty; 14 staff members currently. Each campus is allowed a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 4 members
IV. PRESENCE ON CAMPUSES & NETWORKING	
Milestone 1: Establish campus chapters	While no new campus chapters were established, there continues to be a presence at SU, Towson and UMES.
Milestone 2: Networking with Other women's groups	Established a relationship with Women in Maryland Higher Education group (WMHE)
V. MARKETING	
Milestone 1: Increase awareness of USMWF on campuses	Ongoing: semi-annual newsletters, campus announcements, annual conference, and web site enhancements

VI. EVENTS AND PROGRAMMING	
Milestone 1: Maintain a wide range of events and programs that address Women's Issues	Ongoing: Women's History Month recognitions; Annual Executive Council retreat; pre-conference social reception
	Annual Conference Theme: Redefining Having It All; 257 attended in 2013 at Towson

2013/2014 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

This was another exciting year with new Executive Council members onboard and new projects underway.

Funding

	Coppin Operating Account	Foundation	Endowed Fund (Spendable)	Endowed Fund (Non-Spendable)	
Beginning Balance as of 6/30/13**	\$ 30,771.98	\$ 777.15	\$ 976.00	\$ 19,820.02	\$ 52,345.15
Revenues Collected 7/1/13-06/30/2014	\$ 21,033.22	1,560.00	706.00	1,687.68	\$ 24,986.90
Accounts Receivable	\$ -				\$ -
Total Estimated Revenues	\$ 51,805.20	\$ 2,337.15	\$ 1,682.00	\$ 21,507.70	\$ 77,332.05

Scholarships and Awards

The USMWF scholarships and awards are open to any person regardless of sex, race, color, religion, age, national origin, sexual orientation, marital status, veteran status or disability.

The USMWF recognizes and fosters the achievements of all students within the USM.

2013 STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS (\$500 each)

Ashly James, Salisbury University

Shaunelle Moon, Bowie State University

Kristin Gavigan-Simpson, University of Baltimore

Devon Taliaferro, University of Maryland Eastern Shore

Mirande Laure Fassi, Salisbury University

Professional Developmental Awards (\$500 EACH)

This program provides one (1) funding to eligible vested USM staff members in the amount up to \$500.00 who are pursuing training and professional development opportunities which would enhance their current job skills and support career advancement.

No qualifying applications were received in 2013

Faculty Research Award (up to \$1,000)

The USMWF Research Award is designed to provide a funding opportunity for USM faculty who are pursuing research on women's experiences: the social, economic, political, and health conditions that impact women.

No award was dispersed in 2013; selected applicant received full funding from another source.

Marketing

The Marketing Committee continued to increase the USMWF visibility throughout the year.

- Produced 2 semi-annual USMWF Newsletters
- Promoted USMWF at institution-specific events
- Conducted an online survey following the annual conference to determine future needs and resources available.

Events and Programming

Our Annual Conference - Redefining Having It All - was held on November 15, 2013 at Towson University. There were 257 in attendance generating over \$11,000 in funds. Highlights include the Keynote address by First Lady, Judge Katie O'Malley, a panel on work-life balance and a special recognition of Maryland's first female Chief Judge, Mary Ellen Babera. Prior to the conference was a joint reception of Towson University conference financial supporters, workers and the Executive Council.

Annual Strategic Planning Retreat - The Executive Council held their Strategic Planning Retreat in May 2014. Highlights of the retreat included the development of the New Vision Statement for the Forum -The Vision of the USM Women's Forum is to serve as a leading organization within the USM promoting equity to all. – and a new 2014-2019 long-range plan.

WOMEN CELEBRATED DURING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Shawntae Ahmad, Food Service Aide, Salisbury University

Paula Morris, Faculty, Management and Marketing, Salisbury University

Barbara Jenkins, ORAA Proposal Coordinator, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science

Kelly Martin Broderick, Undergraduate Student, University of Maryland Baltimore County

Deb Moriarty, Vice President for Student Affairs, Towson University

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