



# MSL CAUCUS

*A newsletter for and by Maryland Student Legislature Alumni members*

Volume I, Issue 2

February, 2001

## Issue #2 Arrives!

Hello again members! Thanks for all of your continued interest and support in MSL. The first issue of "Caucus" was mailed and received successfully. Hopefully, Issue 2 will be just as enjoyable for you. Here are some of the highlights:

- News about two new colleges rejoining the MSL family
- Highlights from the Fall 2000 IA
- A new alumni association committee
- News from the Board of Directors

Once again, I welcome your contributions. Like MSL itself, the more input the better. Hope to hear from you soon. Happy Spring!  
-Kristen G. Fraser,  
Editor  
WMC Class of '00

## Important MSL Upcoming Events:

**March 4<sup>th</sup>**, 10-6: Leadership Training Institute/Interim Assembly, UMCP

**April 2<sup>nd</sup>**, 6-8pm: MSL Lobby Day  
Lawyer's Mall,

Annapolis

**April 17<sup>th</sup>**, 6pm:  
Legislative Reception  
Senate Office Bldg

**April 20<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup>**:  
Annual Session  
State House,  
Annapolis

**April 22<sup>nd</sup>**: Alumni  
Reunion, State House,  
Annapolis

**May 19<sup>th</sup>**, Noon: MSL  
Celebration/Turnover  
MSL Office, Annapolis

LOOK FOR MORE  
DETAILED INFO!!

### ABOUT "CAUCUS"

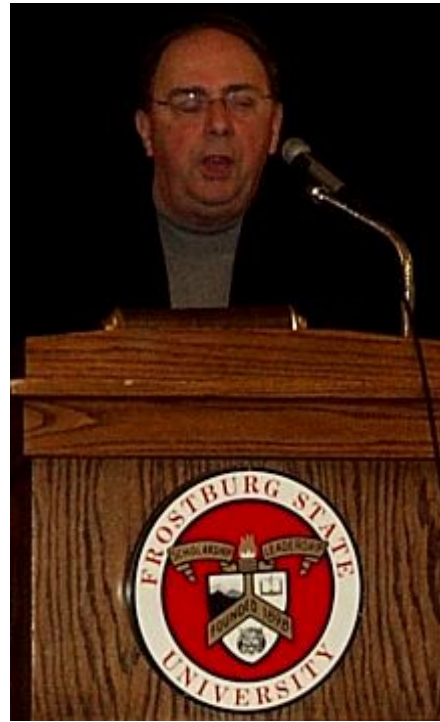
"Caucus" is a quarterly newsletter published through the Maryland Student Legislature Alumni Office.

The "Caucus" editing staff welcomes your submissions. Any submissions may be edited for length, clarity, or relevance at the discretion of the editorial board.

Submissions may be sent to the following address:

Maryland Student Legislature  
Attn. Alumni Association  
222 Main St. Suite 140  
Annapolis, MD 21401-2005

# Interim Assembly Photo Highlights



(Left) Seth Schraier leads caucus. (Right) Speaker Casper Taylor speaking to the group

(Bottom) Students gather for assembly.



(Below) Speaker Ken Shepherd opens.



## News from the MSL Governor

As most of you Alumni may recall, travel time and distance have been an impediment for MSL for its entire existence. This did not seem to bother the seventy students that descended on Frostburg University last November 11th and 12th. The Frostburg State University Delegation, headed by DCP Liz Burlas, was eager and confident that FSU would be the right place for the IA. The Governor's theme, "Go the Distance," was taken very literally for many students, some from seven hours away!

The enthusiasm to debate and the interest in policy was "electric." Some fifty pieces of legislation were produced for the IA. This year, there was an increased emphasis on the "political climate" that has surrounded the last Presidential Election. The debate was intense, often requiring the increased use of the new MSL Caucus System. The Frostburg Delegation also hosted a buffet dinner that featured Speaker of the House Casper R. Taylor, Jr. as keynote. He highlighted the importance of what we, as student delegates, are currently doing, what we can

achieve, and how to use the MSL to get there! FSU faculty also commented on the Presidential Election - which ruffled the feathers of many in the room.

The Board of Directors were also present, as well as many Alumni who also made the trek to FSU for the 1st Alumni Association Reunion (Those that missed it, shame on you and we'll see you at Annual Session in April!).

Our esteemed Governor, Jeremiah Kelly, delivered his first speech to the Assembly since his inauguration last April. He remarked about the impressive UMCP rejuvenation, with 30 people present, and the attendance of the first two of ten schools the Governor and Lt.

Governor hope to deliver to Annual Session, Hood College and John Hopkins University.

The weekend ended with the passing and signing of two pieces of Legislation, with ten other voted down in the Assembly.

The friendly competition has never been so motivating, especially with no clear front-runner for "Best Delegation" at Annual Session. More Alumni presence will only increase the fun. Hope to see you there.

Caroline Ketzler

Press Secretary to the Governor

## **ATTENTION ALUMNI!**

**The MSL Alumni Office is looking for Alumni Updates! Send us your name, year, and school. Then tell us what you're doing now, where you're living, how much you miss MSL and we'll print it in next quarter's newsletter! Send all submissions to the MSL address on the back page or to Kristen Fraser.**

## **New MSL Alum Committee**

Chairman Brian Griffiths recently named four MSL alums to the newly formed Alumni Steering Committee. The purpose of the committee is to assist the Alumni Chairman in ideas and planning for the Alumni Association with an emphasis on Alumni Events.

"It is crucial that more than just one or two people plan these events," said Griffiths. "The more voices included in the planning process, the better planned and more enjoyable our alumni experiences will be." The Committee consists of the following members:  
Brian Griffiths, WMC, '00, Chairman [former Speaker Pro Tempore]

Dan Zubairi, UMBC, '98, MSL  
Corporate President  
Kristen Fraser, WMC, '00, Alumni  
Communications Director  
Peter Smith, Salisbury, '99 [former  
Governor]  
Andy Rittler, Salisbury, '99 [former  
Lieutenant Governor]

## **Notes from the Alumni Chairman**

Greetings! I hope that this finds you in good times as well as good spirits. Here's hoping that you had a joyous holiday season.

-Special thanks to those of you who attended our alumni meeting up at Frostburg on November 12th. We had a better turnout than expected and appreciate those of you who made the long trip.

It is my intention to hold these meetings at least twice a year, in conjunction with Fall IA in November and the General Assemblies in April.

- The Spring Leadership Training Institute and Interim Assembly will be March 4th at the University of Maryland College Park. For those of you who are unaware, a second Interim Assembly was added in conjunction with the Spring LTI in March 2000 in an attempt to clear the 3rd Reading Calendar to prepare for the new legislation submitted for the General Assembly.

This shows the growth of interest and legislative writing occurring in MSL!

- Speaking of the General Assembly, the next Alumni Association meeting is tentatively scheduled to take place Sunday April 22nd at noon in the Calvert Room in the State House in Annapolis. This will be an informal get together to bring old friends back together and to celebrate

another successful Annual Session. More concrete info will follow.  
- See pictures from this year's LTI and Interim Assembly! Peruse recent legislation! Check out the archive section! Don't forget to visit [www.msl.org](http://www.msl.org)!  
- Are you on the Alumni Information Electronic Network(ALIEN)? ALIEN is an e-mail listserv where you can be quickly notified of breaking MSL and MSL Alumni Events right on your desktop.

If you have not received e-mail communication from our listserv please drop me a line with your name and e-mail address to [briancgriffiths@yahoo.com](mailto:briancgriffiths@yahoo.com) or [alumni@msl.org](mailto:alumni@msl.org) to sign up immediately.  
Until we next speak...

Sincerely,

Brian C. Griffiths, WMC '00  
Chairman, MSL Alumni Association

## Alums Gather at Fall Interim Assembly



Corporate President Dan Zubairi, FSU alum Jessica Aiken Gray, Alumni Chairman Brian Griffiths and Board Chairman Troy Simmons discuss MSL at Alumni Event in Frostburg

## News from the MSL Board of Directors

Dear Alumni:  
Greetings! I hope all is going well with your varied careers. On behalf of the MSL, Inc., I want to welcome you to the future: Alumni Renaissance!  
Often, many people leave organizations and never hear from

them. Their contributions are forgotten and all the creative energy they brought fades into memory. Even if they are remembered, they are asked to "remain out of sight." We all did not develop MSL to be that kind of entity. From the beginning, we aspired to organize a family of dedicated individuals who, throughout disappointments and triumphs, would do the impossible to succeed. As we grew, we experienced many trials, some of which were caused by myself. We too often felt that one's quantity of contribution was more

important than one's quality of contribution. However, we came to an unmistakable conclusion- alone with singular interests we would fail; yet together we could and would develop what they said could not be done.

With this philosophy, MSL has grown by leaps and bounds. Gone are the divisiveness and petty jealousies of the past. We are in an era of expansion and progress. Now it is time to welcome home our devoted alumni.

Today in MSL we cherish the past and use it as a springboard for the future. From mentoring our young

students, assisting their delegation building, passing along our valuable experience at our LTI, MSL Alumni have prove to be valuable resources. Your input continues to sustain us toward our goal of being the premier collegiate organization in Maryland! We need you. Contact Chairman Griffiths and find out how you can get involved. No contribution, monetary or voluntary, is too small. MSL will always be a part of you as it is with all of us.

William Troy Simmons, Chairman

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Issue 2, February 2001

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