



Regents Report | December 2021



Greetings from the Board of Regents

On Friday, during the Board of Regents' final meeting of 2021, USM Venture Development Director Lindsay Ryan shared the University System's latest [economic impact analysis](#). The report details the extent to which the USM contributes to Maryland's economy—in workforce development, research and innovation, and

the earnings of its graduates, who put those earnings back into their communities, supporting local businesses and jobs.

In what's regarded as a conservative estimate, the USM generated \$10.4 billion in economic impact this fiscal year and supported 57,500 Maryland jobs. For every dollar the state invests in us, we return \$2–\$3 to Maryland, enriching its towns and cities, its people, its families.

While this return on investment is impressive, it's important that we look, too, at the investment itself. The USM is deeply proud to serve a state that has long valued public higher education, that has long *supported* public higher education, that has looked at its University System as central not only to the state's prosperity but also to the social mobility that gives everyone a chance—that lifts everyone up.

Maryland's economy and quality of life are the envy of other states. And that's because the USM and state leaders have worked together over decades to build one of the most educated, most innovative, most entrepreneurial, and most successful populations in the country.

The USM is still doing this work. Despite extraordinary challenges over the last two years, we're still fueling every day a strong, resilient economy and graduating the people who make it run. As we look to a New Year and an economy being reshaped by a global health

crisis, we'll sustain—and adapt—this work to keep Maryland in its enviable position of strength.

We wish all of you a restorative holiday season and a 2022 marked by health, peace, and happiness.

Linda R. Gooden
Chair
USM Board of Regents

Jay A. Perman
Chancellor
University System of Maryland

Board Actions & Decisions | December 10, 2021

The USM Board of Regents met at Bowie State University on December 10, 2021, with public viewing available via [livestream](#). At this meeting, key actions by the Board included:

Adjustment of USM Nonexempt Salary Structure to Bring All Pay Ranges to \$15 Minimum Hourly Pay.

At the recommendation of the Committee on Finance, the Board voted to adjust the nonexempt pay structure for hourly workers to increase the minimum wage to at least \$15 per hour in all pay ranges. This systemwide adjustment will go into effect in January 2022. "We rely every day on hard-working, highly skilled employees. And if we don't pay them a competitive wage, we risk losing them to other organizations," said Chancellor Perman in a [statement](#) thanking the Board for approving the increase.



Approval of a New Doctorate of Business Administration Degree at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP). After reviewing the recommendations of the Committee on Education Policy and Student Life, the Board voted to approve UMCP's plan to establish a [Doctorate of Business Administration](#) program (pending the approval of the Maryland Higher Education Commission), which is designed for senior executives and researchers in industry and government who seek to develop research skills in analyzing business problems. The program provides more advanced skills in leadership and problem-solving than one would earn in a master's degree, while also providing a more practical application approach than would be part of a Doctor of Philosophy program.

Presentation of the USM Economic Impact Report. USM Venture Development Director Lindsay Ryan presented the findings of a new study conducted by the Jacob France Institute on the [USM's economic impact on the state of Maryland](#). The study is an in-

depth analysis of the USM's many contributions to the Maryland economy, including workforce development, research and innovation, and the lifetime earnings of its graduates. The study concludes that the USM generated an impressive \$10.4 billion in estimated economic impact for Maryland during FY 2021 and supported 57,505 Maryland jobs. Chancellor Perman summarized the report's findings stating, "For every dollar the state invests in us, we return nearly three times that amount back to Maryland's communities."

Approval of Towson University's Facilities Master Plan. At the recommendation of the Committee on Finance, the Board voted to approve the [Towson University \(TU\) Facilities Master Plan](#) (FMP) for 2020-2030. The plan builds upon the framework established in the 2015 FMP and is the first to align directly both with the TU Strategic Plan as well as the recently completed Self-Study for Middle States re-accreditation. The new plan will address the university's existing space needs, support future enrollment growth, and build upon its commitment to develop a more sustainable campus.

For more information about the December Board of Regents meeting, you may view the [meeting agenda](#), [video archive](#), and [full report by Chancellor Jay Perman](#).

Other News from the System

The BlueTech Maryland Partnership Forms to Advance Aquaculture Innovations.

In October, TEDCO announced the launch of the BlueTech Maryland partnership, which included three USM-affiliated institutions as founding members: bwtech@umbc, the [Institute of Marine and Environmental Technology](#), and the [Maryland Momentum Fund](#). Last month, [BlueTech Maryland held its inaugural event](#) at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB), where partners spoke on opportunities to collaborate on innovations in aquaculture, flooding management, offshore wind, urban waterfronts, and more, with the ultimate goal of making Maryland one of the nation's top three blue tech clusters.

USM Institutions Honored for Excellence in Voter Engagement. Seven USM institutions were honored at last month's [ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge award ceremony](#), which recognized institutions and individuals whose work drove historic voter turnout during the 2020 presidential election. Gold Seals went to institutions with a voter participation rate between 70 and 80 percent, including The University of Baltimore, TU, UMB, and UMCP. Silver Seals went to institutions with a voter participation rate between 60–70 percent, including Frostburg State University, Salisbury University, and UMBC. TU was recognized with a Campus Award for the Best Democratic Engagement Action Plan and UMCP's Alexandra Marquez was honored as the Standout Undergraduate Student.

News from USM Institutions

Bowie State University. The university kicked off its ambitious \$50 million [strategic fundraising initiative](#), "BSU Bold: The Campaign for Excellence."

Coppin State University. President Anthony Jenkins hosted the inaugural meeting of the [West North Avenue Development Authority](#), a collaboration among residents, business

owners and Coppin State focused on actualizing investment in and development of the West North Avenue region.

Frostburg State University. The ALL IN Challenge, which recognized higher education institutions, educators, and students for their extraordinary work in student voter engagement, presented a [Silver Seal](#) award to FSU.

Salisbury University. The university launched [Sea Gull Pell Promise](#), a new initiative to make it easier for freshmen who qualify for federal Pell Grants to attend SU by covering any tuition costs remaining after scholarships, grants, and benefits are applied.

Towson University. TU received a [five-star rating—the highest possible ranking](#)—from Campus Pride, a leading national organization working to create safer, more LGBTQ-friendly learning environments at colleges and universities.

The University of Baltimore. Ting Zhang, associate professor of economics at UBalt’s Merrick School of Business and associate director of the UBalt’s Jacob France Institute, has been awarded a [fellowship in Entrepreneurship Policy](#) from the Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management.

University of Maryland, Baltimore. Researchers at the UMB Institute of Human Virology received [\\$6.5 million from the National Institutes of Health](#) to streamline big data collection in Africa to address public health and pandemic preparedness.

University of Maryland, Baltimore County. UMBC is the lead partner on a new [\\$3 million Andrew W. Mellon Foundation grant-funded program](#), involving the University of Maryland, College Park and Morgan State University, to develop a pipeline to higher education leadership for scholars in the arts and humanities, with particular emphasis on women faculty and Black, Hispanic, and Indigenous faculty.

University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science. UMCES’s Horn Point Laboratory received a [“Community in Conservation”](#) grant from Waterfowl Chesapeake, Inc., to enhance and expand the laboratory’s education centers and trails.

University of Maryland, College Park. The university has been awarded [\\$32.5 million from NASA](#) to extend a cooperative agreement through which the university overseas the space agency’s data on asteroids, comets, meteorites, and other small objects in space.

University of Maryland Eastern Shore. UMES hosted the second annual [Man The Shore Summit](#), focused on bringing diversity to the field of education with an emphasis on bringing more men of color into the teaching profession.

University of Maryland Global Campus. UMGC was ranked first among universities in the [best employers for veterans category](#) of the Military Times’ comprehensive annual ranking of military-connected employment, benefits, and support efforts.

News from USM Regional Centers

Universities at Shady Grove. USG held an event—featuring U.S. Senator Chris Van Hollen as speaker—[celebrating the achievements of first-generation students](#) at USG.

University System of Maryland at Hagerstown. Last week, the University System of Maryland at Hagerstown (USMH) held its annual Feaste at Yuletide, bringing together members of the community to raise more than \$53,000 in scholarship support for USMH students.

University System of Maryland at Southern Maryland. After the grand opening of the SMART Building, a WTOP reporter toured the facility with USMSM Executive Director Eileen Abel and her team, and reported on [the educational, research, and economic impact](#) the center will have.

Dates to Remember

Meetings below will be virtual unless a location is listed. For the complete meeting schedule, visit:

www.usmd.edu/regents/meetings/

DECEMBER 13, 2021

Committee on Audit

10:00 a.m.

JANUARY 11, 2022

Committee on Education Policy and Student Life

9:30 a.m.

FEBRUARY 3, 2022

Committee on Governance and Compensation

8:30 a.m.

FEBRUARY 3, 2022

Committee on Finance

10:30 a.m.

FEBRUARY 3, 2022

Committee on Economic Development and Technology Commercialization

12:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 10, 2022

Committee on Advancement

11:00 a.m.

FEBRUARY 11, 2022

Board of Regents Meeting

University of Maryland, Baltimore
8:30 a.m.

MARCH 14, 2022

Useful Resources and Contacts

Regents Meeting Video Archive: [View](#)

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Office of Communications & Marketing

**Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics
and Student-Athlete Health and Welfare**

1:00 p.m.

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University System of Maryland

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