

REGENTS REPORT



Greetings from the Board of Regents

Last month, at commencement ceremonies across the state, our USM universities awarded 40,000 undergraduate and graduate degrees. These degrees mean quite a lot to the students who earned them—payoff for years of hard work, proof that their faith in themselves is well-founded, promise of an easier path forward.

College is the surest way to social mobility. Year after year, the data bear out the value of a higher education. Four-year college graduates earn 52 percent more than their same-age peers who have only a high school

diploma. And the individual wealth a degree confers becomes family wealth, generational wealth.

Of course, personal prosperity is only part of it. Education in the aggregate makes communities richer. And richer communities make their citizens healthier, happier, safer—with higher salaries feeding a larger tax base that supports public programs and services. Simply put, communities with the resources to take care of their people tend to do just that.

But the benefits of a higher education transcend dollars and cents. Education fosters feelings of empowerment. It reinforces community connection and trust. It improves population health. It enhances civic engagement, community service, and charitable giving. It builds empathy and reduces crime.

Some of our newest graduates may not be thinking about their role in making Maryland healthier, wealthier, or more content. And that's fair. But leaders in America's richest state—Maryland is No. 1 in household income—have an obligation to ensure that everyone shares in its prosperity.

The USM can help. To do that, we must go back to the beginning: Ensure that every Maryland learner who wants a college degree can get one. Make our education accessible and affordable to all. Open our doors to as many students as possible, from all backgrounds and experiences, and provide them an education that builds prosperity—in every sense of the word.

Sincerely,

Linda R. Gooden
Chair
USM Board of Regents

Jay A. Perman
Chancellor
University System of Maryland

Board Actions & Decisions | June 16, 2023

The USM Board of Regents met at Frostburg State University on June 16, 2023, with public viewing available in-person and via [livestream](#). At this meeting, key actions by the Board included:

Recognition of the Recipients of the 2023 Board of Regents Student Excellence Scholarships.

This [new scholarship program](#) honors exceptional achievement by USM students in four categories: Academics, Scholarship, and Research; Innovation and Creative Activity; Leadership and Advocacy; and Outreach and Engagement. Within each category, the Board presented a \$2,000 scholarship to one freshman/sophomore recipient, one junior/senior recipient, and one graduate or professional school recipient. Last month, the winners celebrated their achievements at a special breakfast ceremony with Board Chair Linda Gooden, Chancellor Jay Perman, and the presidents of several USM institutions.



2023 Board of Regents Student Excellence Scholarship Winners. *Back row, from left:* Issac Omodia, Mason Yang, Megan Spicer, Sasvi Kulasinghe, Sonny Tu, Mary Natalie Alexander Samokhvalova. *Front row, from left:* Chancellor Jay Perman, Vainavi Gambhir, Monerah Al-Dubayan, Kendra Welborn, Madeline Alizadeh, Arsalan Siddiqui (President, USM Student Council), Board of Regents Chair Linda Gooden. *Not shown:* Scholarship recipients Mark Andrew McMichael and Margo Settles.

Approval of the USM FY 2024 Operating Budget. The Board voted to approve the [FY 2024 USM Operating Budget](#) as authorized by the Maryland General Assembly. The \$7.1 billion budget includes \$2.3 billion in state support, representing an 19.8 percent increase in state support compared to FY 2023. The state funding level enables the USM to hold the resident undergraduate tuition rate to a modest 2 percent increase. The operating budget includes cost-of-living, merit, and benefit increases for USM employees and \$36.2 million in lawsuit-settlement funds for the USM's HBCUs.

Approval of the FY 2024 System Funded Construction Program The Board approved \$55.7 million for the planning and construction of facilities, and funding of equipment in FY 2024. This represents the first year of the proposed [FY 2024-2028 System Funded Construction Program](#) (SFCP), which outlines the intended progression of each System construction project. A priority of the SFCP is housing to retain students and FY 2024 projects include residence hall renovations, athletic facility construction and improvements, and student recreation facilities at various USM institutions.

Approval of Six New Academic Programs. After reviewing the recommendations of the Committee on Education Policy and Student Life, the board approved the following new undergraduate and graduate academic programs, which will be offered pending the approval of the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

- Master of Arts, [Communication and Advocacy](#), Towson University
- Master of Science, [Clinical Professional Counseling](#), University of Maryland Global Campus
- Master of Science, [Cybersecurity](#), University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC)
- Master/Doctor of [Social Work](#) (joint program), Coppin State University
- Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.), [Counselor Education and Supervision](#), Bowie State University
- Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.), [Sustainability and Environmental Change](#), Towson University

Establishment of an up to \$150M Quasi-endowment Fund to Provide Need-Based Student Financial Aid. During the 2023 Session of the General Assembly, legislation was passed and signed into law that permits the Board of Regents to establish a [quasi-endowment fund](#) (up to \$150 million) and use the investment income produced to provide need-based financial aid for in-state Maryland students. The Board approved the establishment of the fund, which will provide spendable income up to approximately \$6.4 million annually, depending on the amount invested by the institutions.

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



On May 16, 2023, Governor Wes Moore signed legislation authorizing USM Board of Regents to establish quasi-endowment funds and use investment income to provide student financial aid. *Individuals attending the signing include, back row, from left: Vice Chancellor Emeritus Joann Boughman; Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, Zakiya Lee; Vice Chancellor for Government Relations, Patrick Hogan. Front row, from left: Lt. Governor Aruna Miller; Senate President Bill Ferguson; Governor Wes Moore; and House Speaker Adrienne A. Jones.*

Welcome and Farewells



Salisbury University Student Josiah Parker Named Student Regent.

A marketing major at Salisbury University, [Josiah Parker](#) was appointed by Governor Wes Moore to serve as a student member of the Board of Regents beginning on July 1, 2023. He is an active presence on campus, participating in the Black Student Union, Sociology Front, Marketing Excellence Club, Food for the Flock, Sea Gull Sports Network, and several other activities. He plans to be an advocate for transfer students from Maryland's two-year institutions, following his own successful transition from Anne Arundel Community College. He also hopes to advocate for increased enrollment and graduation rates and the development of new degree programs.

Board Recognizes the Exemplary Service of Departing USM Leaders. At the June meeting, the Board issued resolutions recognizing the outstanding contributions of the following USM leaders--two presidents and three regents--who are leaving or have recently left their positions within the USM.

[Gary Attman](#) served as regent from April 2009 through June 2023, a tenure which included leadership as both treasurer and vice chair. The USM also benefitted from his leadership as the inaugural chair of the Committee on Economic Development and Technology Commercialization, chair of the Committee on Finance, and chair of the Effectiveness and Efficiency Workgroup.

[Joe Bartenfelder](#) served as an ex officio member of the Board while serving as Maryland Secretary of Agriculture from January 2015 through January 2023. He served on both the Committee on Audit and the Committee on Economic Development and Technology Commercialization.

[Mike Gill](#) served as an ex officio member the Board while serving as Maryland Secretary of Commerce from January 2022 through January 2023. He served on both the Committee on Economic Development and Technology Commercialization and the Committee on Education Policy and Student Life.

[Ed McDonald](#) served as regent from July 2022 through June 2023 and was a member of both the Committee on Advancement and the Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics and Student-Athlete Health and Welfare.

[Julie Oberg](#) served as regent from July 2022 through June 2023 and was a member of both the Committee on Economic Development and Technology Commercialization and the Committee on Governance and Compensation.

[Ayotola Oludayo](#) served as student regent from July 2021 through June 2023. He served on both the Committee on Education Policy and Student Life and the Committee on Audit.

Other News from the System



USM TO CELEBRATE NAMING OF BALTIMORE IMET BUILDING AND USM HEADQUARTERS FOR RITA ROSSI COLWELL

On June 22, more than 200 academic and regional leaders will come together in Baltimore to officially celebrate the naming of the [Rita Rossi Colwell Center](#), home to the Institute of Marine and Environmental Technology (IMET), as well as the official headquarters of the USM. Dr. Colwell is an internationally renowned microbiologist and marine scientist with strong connections to the USM and IMET. She currently holds the position of Distinguished University Professor at the University of Maryland, College Park. Dr. Colwell was the first woman to lead the National Science Foundation.

THE MARYLAND MOMENTUM FUND INVESTS IN TWO BALTIMORE-BASED COMPANIES WITH TIES TO USM INSTITUTIONS

The USM Maryland Momentum Fund recently announced the addition of two new companies to its growing portfolio. In May, the Fund joined a funding round for [SIMPLi](#), a Baltimore-based, mission-driven regenerative organic food company with ties to Salisbury University. In June, the Fund joined a seed funding round for [Astek Diagnostics](#), a medical device company with connections to both UMBC and University of Maryland, Baltimore.



USM INSTITUTIONS AWARD 40,000 DEGREES FOR SEVENTH STRAIGHT YEAR

Last month, the USM celebrated the [achievements of the Class of 2023](#) at commencement ceremonies across Maryland and, in the case of University of Maryland Global Campus, in countries across the globe. Together, our 12 institutions awarded approximately 40,000 undergraduate and graduate degrees, including 25,000 bachelor's degrees. USM institutions produce more than 75 percent of all bachelor's degrees issued in the state; 82 percent of bachelor's STEM (non-health) degrees; 79 percent of education degrees; and 81 percent of both business and health degrees.

THE LANGENBERG LEGACY PROGRAM WELCOMES ITS SECOND COHORT OF STUDENT FELLOWS

Named in honor of former USM Chancellor Donald N. Langenberg, the [Langenberg Legacy Program](#) provides student fellowships that encourage civic engagement on USM campuses. In the second year of the program, the USM selected 10 student fellows who will lead year-long, action-oriented, campus-level initiatives that address a range of issues, such as promoting educational equity in early childhood and assisting ex-offenders to reenter society.

News from USM Institutions



BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY
BSU celebrated its first [NSF CAREER grant](#). Dr. Jaqueline Smith, a chemistry professor in the Department of Natural Sciences, will be utilizing the \$800,000 grant to support her breast cancer research.



COPPIN STATE UNIVERSITY
CSU launched [Coppin Corner](#), a new on-campus resource committed to serving Coppin State students by providing basic needs to foster continued academic progress and increase the retention of students in need.



FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY
FSU will be hosting students from Allegany and Garrett Counties at the [Bobcat Academy](#)—a dual enrollment pilot program next fall.



SALISBURY UNIVERSITY
[Dr. Carolyn Ringer Lepre](#) was installed as Salisbury University's 10th president during a festive investiture ceremony on May 5, 2023.



TOWSON UNIVERSITY
TU was selected as the newest member of the [First Scholars Network](#) for commitment to improving experiences and advancing outcomes for first-generation college students.



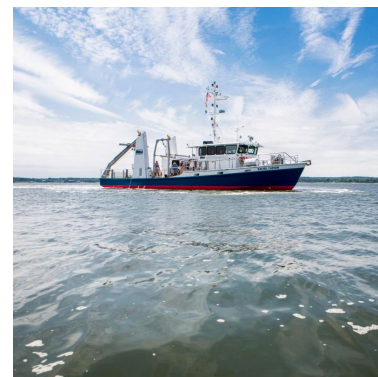
UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE
UBalt unveiled a [\\$158 million redevelopment project](#) planned for campus that will be transformative for both the neighborhood and the university.



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE
Supported in part by an \$18 million gift from Lawrence Hayman, UMB unveiled an ambitious plan to improve the



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE COUNTY
Dr. Valerie Sheares Ashby was inaugurated as the [sixth president of UMBC](#), becoming



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
UMCES issued its annual [Chesapeake Bay and Watershed Report Card](#), which

[quality of health care on Maryland's Eastern Shore.](#)

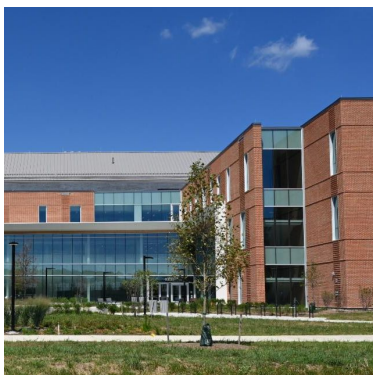
the first woman to serve as the university's leader.

—for the first time—included an integrated environmental justice index in the evaluation.



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK

The university announced that it will expand its efforts as the nation's first [Do Good campus](#), with new courses, additional faculty and staff positions, new research in philanthropy, and support for students with ideas to create a social impact.



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE

UMES officially opened the [Pharmacy and Health Sciences Complex](#). The 130,000-square-foot building consolidates the university's nine health programs, which are the most at any HBCU.



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND GLOBAL CAMPUS

UMGC has been awarded a new, [five-year contract by the U.S. Department of Defense](#) to educate U.S. troops across Europe. The award begins August 1, 2023, and runs through July 31, 2028.

News from USM Regional Centers



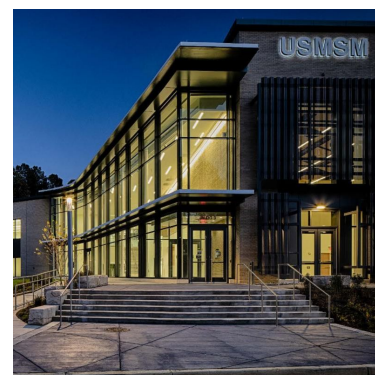
UNIVERSITIES AT SHADY GROVE

USG is offering a special, \$500 ["JumpStart Scholarship"](#) to all newly enrolled, undergraduate students who start this fall in any of the undergraduate programs offered by the nine partner universities at USG.



UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND HAGERSTOWN

Dr. Jacob Ashby—the new executive director of USMH—shared his [vision for USMH](#) as the hub for social mobility for Washington County and outlined his commitment to strengthen ties to the local community.



UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND AT SOUTHERN MARYLAND

USMSM hosted [BSU Day](#) to highlight and promote the degree programs Bowie State University is offering through the regional education center.

Dates to Remember

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

www.usmd.edu/regents/meetings/

Useful Resources and Contacts

Regents Meeting Video Archive: [View](#)

Board of Regents

Phone: 301.445.2701

SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

Committee on Education Policy and Student Life

9:30 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 7, 2023

Committee on Finance

10:30 a.m.

September 22, 2023

Board of Regents Meeting

University of Maryland Global Campus

9:00 a.m.

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