



# REGENTS REPORT



## Greetings from the Board of Regents

Without question, this spring was a challenging one. We saw anger and pain on our campuses; protests and demonstrations. But it's in times of challenge that we take strength in our mission. Because our job is exactly this: To educate for democracy. To educate for citizenship.

From the academy's earliest days in America, this has been foundational to who we are. Our work is to produce citizens who are confident of their rights, prepared for their responsibilities, and engaged in civic life in a way that strengthens not only our national sovereignty and self-rule but global cooperation and peace.

Our work is to prepare the leaders who can make good and productive change; to provide the space to engage with one another across our differences; to connect people who have the desire, the ability, and the empathy to solve our most persistent, most complex challenges.

And so putting college out of people's reach doesn't just threaten our notions of equity and equality. It actually harms our democracy. It harms our ability to defend the values on which our nation was built, and to ensure that represented in our system of governance are the perspectives and interests of our citizens—*all* of our citizens.

Because, in a democracy, education correlates with participation. College graduates are more likely to vote and volunteer and work for meaningful change. Education influences how empowered we feel to shape the direction of our communities and our country; how connected we feel to one another in this work; and how much trust we place in each other to look out for everyone else.

A country "of the people, by the people, for the people" requires that those people be equipped to protect and *perfect* the democracy we hold dear.

And so we're grateful to the faculty and staff across our universities, who proved this challenging spring their unfaltering fidelity to our most important mission. And we're grateful to our students, who understand that education is power, and that—in a nation of, by, and for the people—that power belongs to us all.

Sincerely,

Linda R. Gooden  
Chair  
USM Board of Regents

Jay A. Perman  
Chancellor  
University System of Maryland

## Board Actions & Decisions | June 14, 2024

The USM Board of Regents met at Salisbury University on June 14, with public viewing available in-person and via [livestream](#). Highlights from the meeting include:

**Recognition of the 2024 Board of Regents Student Excellence Scholarship Recipients.** This 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 presents a \$2,000 scholarship to one freshman or sophomore, one junior or senior, and one graduate or professional student. Last month, the USM celebrated [the winners](#) at a reception with Board Chair Linda Gooden, Chancellor Jay Perman, and university presidents.



**The 2024 Board of Regents Student Excellence Award Recipients.** *Back row, from left:* Jens Wira and Jonas Raphael Miller. *Middle row, from left:* Rose Pagano, Bradley Aurora Powers, and Elizabeth Ji-Woo Brown. *Front row, from left:* Board of Regents Chair Linda Gooden, Emilia Jane Germain, Anna Tovchigrechko, Stephora Alberi, Dariush Aligholizadeh, and Chancellor Jay Perman. *Winners not present:* Emma Barrett, Jade Leschack, and Katherine Maria Raja.

**Approval of the USM FY 2025 Operating Budget.** The Board approved the [FY 2025 USM Operating Budget](#) as authorized by the Maryland General Assembly. The \$7.5 billion budget includes \$2.3 billion in state support, a 4.4 percent increase over FY 2024. The funding enables the USM to hold the resident undergraduate tuition increase to 2 percent. The operating budget includes cost-of-

living, merit, and benefit increases for USM employees and \$35.5 million in lawsuit-settlement funds for the USM's HBCUs.

**Approval of the FY 2025 System-Funded Construction Program.** The Board approved \$75.8 million for facilities planning and construction and equipment funding in FY 2025. This represents the first year of the proposed [FY 2025-2029 System-Funded Construction Program](#) (SFCP), which outlines the intended progression of each USM construction project. A priority of the SFCP is housing to retain students, and FY 2025 projects Systemwide include residence hall renovations, student recreation facilities, athletic facility upgrades, and HVAC renovations.

**Approval of the Contract Extension for Athletic Team Sponsorship at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD).** The Board approved UMD's request to [extend its contract](#) with Under Armour for an additional 12 years. The current contract has been in place for 10 years and will expire at the end of the month. This is a revenue-generating contract that will provide \$98 million to the university throughout the contract period, as well as additional benefits, such as a brand ambassador program for student-athletes, internships, and experiential learning.

**Approval of a New Undergraduate Degree at Bowie State University.** After reviewing the recommendations of the Committee on Education Policy and Student Life and Safety, the Board approved BSU's proposal for a new [Bachelor of Science in Virtual Reality and Gaming](#) (pending approval by the Maryland Higher Education Commission). This interdisciplinary program between the departments of Computer Science and Fine and Performing Arts develops expertise in computing, design, and visual and media arts, and prepares graduates to create immersive gaming systems and experiences.

**Approval of Changes to the Policy on the Appointment, Rank, and Tenure of Faculty.** A task force of university provosts, USM Office leaders, and members of the Council of University System Faculty conducted a two-year review of [titles for non-tenure-track \(NTT\) faculty members](#). The task force proposed and the Board approved new titles for NTT faculty who are focused on teaching and those involved in certain kinds of field work.

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

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## Welcomes and Farewells



### YVETTE LEWIS JOINS THE BOARD OF REGENTS

[Yvette Lewis](#) is a lifelong grassroots activist who served two terms as chair of the Maryland Democratic Party (2011-15 and 2019-23). When elected in 2011, she became the second African American woman to serve in this role. In between her terms as party chair, she served as senior advisor to Sen. Chris Van Hollen (D-Md), leading outreach on issues such as consumer protection, financial literacy, health care, and public safety. She is also a professional opera singer and former music educator who taught in Baltimore City and Montgomery County public schools. Her term began in June 2024.

### **DHRUVAK MIRANI APPOINTED AS STUDENT REGENT**

A junior at the University of Maryland, College Park, Dhruvak Mirani is an Honors College student pursuing dual degrees in Computer Science and Government & Politics. He is a research assistant at the university's Applied Research Lab for Intelligence and Security. He also has served as a student liaison to the College Park City Council, a columnist for The Diamondback, and a fellow of the university's Do Good Institute. One of two student regents, he will become a voting member of the Board in the second year of his two-year term.



### **THE USM RECOGNIZES EXEMPLARY SERVICE OF DEPARTING REGENTS**

The USM issued resolutions of appreciation recognizing the following outgoing members of the Board.

[Farah Helal](#) has served as a student member of the Board since July 2022. She advocated on behalf of her fellow students with conviction and served on the Board's committees for Advancement, Finance, and Education Policy and Student Life and Safety.

[Robert D. Rauch](#) served as regent for 11 years, a tenure that included leadership as chair of the Committee on Governance and Compensation and vice chair of the Committee on Economic Development and Technology Commercialization. His expertise in engineering proved invaluable to the success of the Construction Cost Management Task Force and the NextGen Energy Program.

[Robert Wallace](#) served as regent for five years, using his voice to advocate for historically underserved students and the needs of Baltimore City. As chair of the Effectiveness and Efficiency Initiative 2.0 Workgroup, chair of the UMGC Workgroup, and member of several committees, he worked to strengthen transparency, accountability, and excellence across the USM.

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## **Other News From the System**

### **THE USM CELEBRATES COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WITH THE LANGENBERG LEGACY FELLOWS**

In 2022, the USM launched the Langenberg Legacy Program to grow student-led civic and community engagement programs throughout the System and honor the legacy of USM Chancellor Emeritus Donald N. Langenberg. In the first two years of the program, the USM named two cohorts of [Langenberg Legacy Fellows](#) and provided stipends and resources to support their projects— campus-level initiatives that help solve broader community issues. The program gives Fellows opportunities to network, share best practices, and build a community of civic leaders across the USM. Last month, these Fellows were invited to share their work and celebrate their achievements at a special reception with Chancellor Jay Perman and the Board of Regents.





*Back row, from left: Erica King, Caroline Creeden, Jaden Mikoulinskii, and Jamie Roberts. Middle row, from left: Britney Guillory, Rachael Michalski, Loren Nelson, and JoNai' Duncan. Front row, from left: Jakeya Johnson, Associate Vice Chancellor for Education and Outreach Nancy Shapiro, Danielle McNerney, Meghna Chandrasekaran, Board of Regents Chair Linda Gooden, and Chancellor Jay Perman. [View the full list of Langenberg Legacy Fellows.](#)*



### THE USM CREATES PLAN TO EXPAND INNOVATIVE PATHWAYS AND ALTERNATIVE CREDENTIALS

Dr. Alison Wrynn, senior vice chancellor for academic and student affairs, [briefed the Board](#) on efforts to grow and scale innovative pathways and alternative credentials, as called for in the USM's [Vision 2030 strategic plan](#). Innovative pathways include new learning sequences, such as stackable credentials, while alternative credentials are formal recognitions of knowledge and skill mastery outside of traditional degrees, such as certificates or

badges. Working with consultants at Huron, the USM has assessed the current state of these programs across the USM and solicited perspectives from leaders, faculty, and students Systemwide. In addition, through peer benchmarking and market analysis, the USM and Huron identified leading and innovative practices across higher education. Based on these internal and external analyses, the USM has built a [three-year action plan](#) to create innovative pathways and alternative credentials that remove barriers to higher education and support workforce development.

### MCCE DELIVERS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

The Maryland Center for Computing Education (MCCE) expands access to computer science instruction in Maryland's PreK-12 schools and prepares students for higher education and careers in the field. To support this mission, MCCE provides the state's teachers with professional development in computing education. This summer, MCCE offers a full schedule of [professional development programs](#) on topics such as programming, cybersecurity, AI, and library media. The





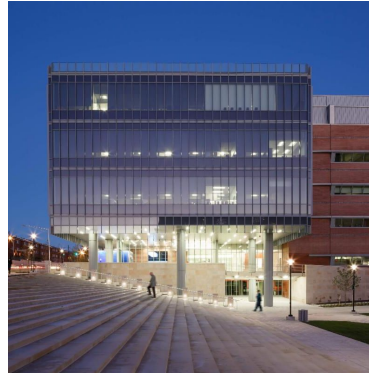
programs will be offered in person at Hood College, June 24-28, and online via Zoom, July 22-26.

## News From Our Universities



### **BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY**

Bowie State is teaming up with Anne Arundel County to bring educational programming, research, internships, and initiatives focused on health and wellness to the [Crownsville State Hospital](#).



### **COPPIN STATE UNIVERSITY**

CSU received a [\\$1.2 million grant](#) from the U.S. Department of Education to help fund Project SEQUEL, which aims to improve education and social-emotional outcomes for students with disabilities, particularly children of color and multilingual children.



### **FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY**

Frostburg State University has once again received the [Military Friendly School](#) designation, marking the 13th straight year FSU has earned this honor.



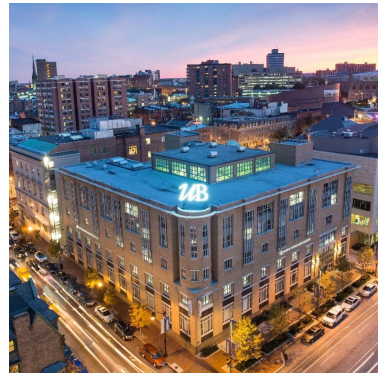
### **SALISBURY UNIVERSITY**

The university unveiled an ambitious plan to build a brand new [performing arts center in downtown Salisbury](#). The \$100 million proposal is spearheaded by SU, in partnership with the Wicomico County Public Library.



### **TOWSON UNIVERSITY**

TU launched the inaugural [Impact TU](#), previously known as The Big Event. More than 500 students took part in projects focused on environmental sustainability, economic security, and social well-being.



### **UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE**

UBalt's Merrick School of Business has introduced a new [Master of Science in Artificial Intelligence for Business](#), the first program of its kind in Maryland.





### UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE

The University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law at UMB celebrated its [200th Anniversary](#) during a reunion weekend full of events for alumni and their families.



### UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE COUNTY

UMBC's [Maryland Technology Internship Program](#), which pairs growing technology companies with paid college interns, is doubling its capacity with a \$700,000 investment from Gov. Moore and the Maryland General Assembly.



### UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

UMCES has forged a new [partnership with Allegany County](#) to provide access to cutting-edge research services and facilities at the Appalachian Laboratory, which will spark innovation and job growth in the community.



### UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK

The University of Maryland Applied Research Laboratory for Intelligence and Security announced the largest research contract in the university's history, [\\$500 million](#) from the U.S. Department of Defense.

### UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE

The UMES Department of Athletics was honored by the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference for having [the top academic progress rate](#) among all schools in the conference.

### UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND GLOBAL CAMPUS

UMGC commemorated [75 years](#) of providing higher education to service members, military families, and civilians in Europe.

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## News From USM Regional Centers



### THE UNIVERSITIES AT SHADY GROVE

The Universities at Shady Grove and Towson University are launching a [program to address ongoing teacher shortages](#) by helping paraprofessionals in Montgomery County Public Schools earn their teaching credentials.



### UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND HAGERSTOWN

Dr. Raegon Clutz, who earned his Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership from Frostburg State at USMH, was named [Maryland Principal of the Year](#) by the Maryland Association of Elementary School Principals.



### UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND AT SOUTHERN MARYLAND

The University System of Maryland at Southern Maryland [celebrated 16 graduates](#) this year (fall and spring) in the mechanical and electrical engineering programs offered by UMD.

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## Dates to Remember

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

[www.usmd.edu/regents/meetings/](http://www.usmd.edu/regents/meetings/)

**SEPTEMBER 3, 2024**

**Committee on Education Policy and Student Life and Safety**

9:30 a.m.

**SEPTEMBER 5, 2024**

**Committee on Finance**

10:30 a.m.

**SEPTEMBER 20, 2024**

**Board of Regents Meeting**

Rita Rossi Colwell Center

9:00 a.m.



## Contacts and Resources

**Regents Meeting Video Archive:** [View](#)

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