



UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
of MARYLAND

NOVEMBER 2023

REGENTS REPORT

Greetings from the Board of Regents

As we approach Thanksgiving, we have much to be grateful for. We're grateful for our mission: To educate and serve the people of Maryland; to advance equity, justice, and opportunity; to produce the research and scholarship that improve our lives. We're especially grateful for our people, 200,000+ strong, who live this mission every day and make it real.

At the same time, this Thanksgiving comes as wars around the world claim innocent lives and tear communities apart. The USM isn't insulated from the turmoil and brutality. As violence continues in the Middle East, many of our students, faculty, and staff have friends and family in Gaza and Israel, and in countries where the conflict is spilling over.

Our perspectives on this war are shaped by who we are, of course, by our lived history and that of our loved ones, those here today and our ancestors before us. But we are committed, this System is committed, to ensuring that our people feel safe no matter who they are. And that requires dialogue, community, connection. It requires civility, even when—especially when—that feels so difficult. It requires that we engage with one another across our differences and without incendiary speech; that we share and listen.

We're not naïve enough to hope for agreement. But we are optimistic enough to hold out for the very things that higher education promises us: to draw on our shared humanity and our shared values, to bridge divides, to model empathy and practice compassion.

Our universities are offering services to students who are struggling. They're offering opportunities to gather and comfort one another, to talk and to reflect, to remember the dead and pray for the living. This season, as we give thanks for the blessings in our lives, our greatest hope is that we emerge from this agony more committed than ever to using our work for light and for peace.

Sincerely,





Linda R. Gooden
Chair
USM Board of Regents



Jay A. Perman
Chancellor
University System of Maryland

Board Actions & Decisions | November 10, 2023

The USM Board of Regents met at Towson University on November 10, 2023, with public viewing available in-person and via [livestream](#). At this meeting, the key actions included:

Presentation of the New Recurring “Safety Moment” Report. Reflecting the USM’s heightened focus on campus safety issues, the Board of Regents has added a new standing “Safety Moment” report to the agenda of each regularly scheduled meeting. At Friday’s meeting, Chief Charles “Joe” Herring of the Towson University Police Department provided the [first Safety Moment report](#), which focused on the importance of building strong lines of communication between the university’s top leadership and its campus safety personnel. At TU, this is accomplished by giving the Office of Public Safety a seat in the president’s cabinet.

Presentation of the USM Fall 2023 Enrollment Update. The Board received an [update on Fall 2023 enrollment](#) from the Committee on Finance and Chad Muntz, USM associate vice chancellor for decision support and chief analytics officer. Across the USM, enrollment reached 164,802 students. This represents a 1.3% increase since Fall 2022 and reverses the four-year enrollment decline that began at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. This fall, our universities welcomed 15,388 new first-time, full-time new undergraduates, which is an all-time record for the System. Bowie State University, Coppin State University, and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore— reported a combined enrollment growth of 5.1%, marking the second year of increased enrollment at the USM’s historically Black institutions.

Approval of the University of Maryland, College Park’s 2023 Campus Facilities Plan. Following the recommendation of the Committee on Finance, the [Board approved](#) the University of Maryland, College Park’s [2023 Campus Facilities Plan](#), which builds upon recommendations from prior planning efforts and sets forth a framework for the future development of the campus. The plan emphasizes sustainable growth as it advances the development of an accessible, people-first, and connected campus mobility network that is integrated with the greater College Park community. Highlights include plans for higher-density development and redevelopment in the campus core; new and updated residential, dining, and recreation-wellness facilities; and activation of the Discovery District Innovation Corridor through mixed-use development that supports the university’s research enterprise and strategic partnerships.

Approval of the Renovation of Carver Hall at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. The Board voted to approve a [\\$7.1 million repair and renovation project](#) that will address recurring water intrusion issues and modernize the undergraduate teaching laboratories in Carver Hall, the university’s primary science building. The project involves renovation of the building’s exterior envelope, including replacement of roofing, windows, doors, and masonry to seal the exterior of the building. The interior renovations will update two biology laboratories and several associated spaces, and provide improved environmental quality and safety systems in the building.

Other News from the System



THE USM HOSTS SYMPOSIUM ON CIVIC EDUCATION AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AT TOWSON UNIVERSITY

On November 3, about 200 students, faculty, and staff from across the System gathered for the [USM Symposium on Civic Education and Civic Engagement](#) and exchanged ideas regarding the role and work of higher education in developing civic-minded citizens to strengthen our democracy. This day-long event featured sessions led by U.S. Sen. Ben Cardin and Sec. Paul Monteiro of the Maryland Department of Service and Civic Innovation, as well as speakers representing the American Council on Education, the Civic Learning and Democracy Engagement Coalition, the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement at Tuft's University, and civic engagement initiatives at several USM universities.

THE USM PROMOTES NATIONAL "COLLEGE IS WORTH IT" CAMPAIGN LED BY THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SYSTEM HEADS (NASH)

Along with 10 other state university systems, the [USM is sharing the good news](#) of NASH's College Is Worth It campaign, a digital marketing initiative designed to start a dialogue about the value of a college education. NASH is the association for the chief executives of public higher education systems and USM Chancellor Jay Perman serves on its Board of Directors. The [College Is Worth It campaign](#) will run advertisements in all 50 states to highlight the benefits of earning a bachelor's degree, including higher earning power, better employability, increased volunteerism, and longer life expectancy for college graduates.



SUSAN LAWRENCE JOINS THE USM AS VICE CHANCELLOR FOR GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Last week, Chancellor Jay Perman announced the [appointment of Susan F. Lawrence](#) as the USM's next vice chancellor for government relations. Lawrence comes to the USM office from the University of Maryland, Baltimore, where she currently serves as the director of government affairs. She brings nearly 30 years of experience working with the Maryland General Assembly in Annapolis, where she held several prominent positions in the Maryland Senate, including chief of staff to the Senate Finance Committee chair and legislative assistant for the Budget and Taxation Committee. As vice chancellor, she will be the chief adviser to Chancellor Perman and the Board of Regents on government relations policies and strategies at both the state and federal levels, and will chair the USM's State Relations Council. Her first day is December 4.

FIVE EXEMPLARY FACULTY MEMBERS RECEIVE PRESTIGIOUS ELKINS PROFESSORSHIPS

The USM announced the recipients of the [2023-24 Wilson H. Elkins Professorships](#), honoring the following faculty members whose professional and scholarly endeavors have made a positive impact at their institutions and beyond: Dr. Karen Cook-Bell (Bowie State University), Dr. Norbert Myslinski (University of Maryland, Baltimore), Dr. Michèle Schlehofer (Salisbury University), and Dr. Miao Yu (University of Maryland, College Park). In addition, USM awarded the Elkins Academic Transformation Professorship to Dr. K. Halimeda Kilbourne (University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science). These endowed professorships provide funds to support the recipients' research, which includes work focused on African American studies, support for youth with brain disorders, ethics in community-based research, robotics for the study of marine ecosystems, and learning outcomes for environmental science programs.

News from USM Institutions



BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY

BSU has received [three new grants](#) from the Department of Education, totaling almost \$3.5 million, that support scholarships for future teachers and leaders focusing on special education.



COPPIN STATE UNIVERSITY

Last month, the university celebrated the grand opening of its [new, \\$45.8 million College of Business building](#).



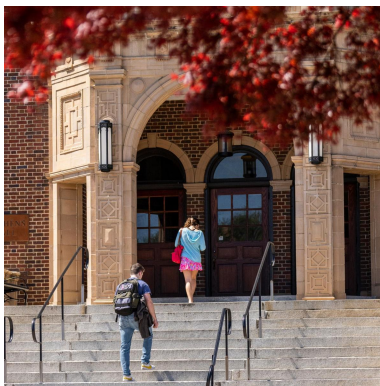
FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

The West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine and Frostburg State University have entered into a [partnership to better prepare FSU students](#) for careers in osteopathic medicine.



SALISBURY UNIVERSITY

Salisbury is partnering with Wicomico County Public Schools through the [Maryland Tutoring Corps](#) to enhance middle and high school math proficiency, especially amongst historically underserved students.



TOWSON UNIVERSITY

For the fourth consecutive year, Towson University was recognized as one of the [nation's top universities for diversity and inclusion](#).



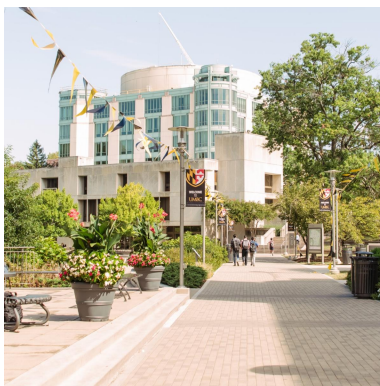
UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE

Professor Erica J. Suter, director of the Innocence Project Clinic at the UBalt School of Law—as well as several UBalt Law alumni—have been [appointed by Maryland Gov. Wes Moore](#) to judicial nominating commissions.



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE

UMB has launched the [Gibson-Banks Center for Race and the](#)



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE COUNTY

Along with her counterparts



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

UMCES announced that more

[Law](#) to provide a critical space for scholarship, engagement, and action on issues of race and the law.

from the University of Baltimore and Towson University, UMBC President Valerie Sheares Ashby was a [featured speaker at the Baltimore Banner's inaugural iMPACT Maryland event](#).

than [1.7 billion new juvenile oysters](#) have been planted in the Chesapeake Bay this year, surpassing the initial 2023 goal and setting a new record.



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK

The university's new [xFoundry@UMD initiative](#) will recruit students committed to doing good on a large scale and award up to \$2 million to students pursuing solutions to the world's biggest problems.



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE

Soaring into the stars aboard Virgin Galactic's Galactic 05 spaceship was a [payload designed by UMES's Dr. Aaron Persad](#) to test how confined fluid behaves in a low-gravity environment.



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND GLOBAL CAMPUS

In the [Military Times' 2023 Best for Vets rankings](#), UMGC is named the #1 Public Online or Combination University for veterans and service members—and the #3 college or university overall—as well as the country's #1 university in terms of best employers for veterans.

News from USM Regional Centers



UNIVERSITIES AT SHADY GROVE

USG hosted the 11th annual [Montgomery County Business Hall of Fame induction ceremony](#) last month. Over the years, this event has raised more than \$1.7 million for scholarships at USG, benefitting more than 1,200 students.



UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND HAGERSTOWN

USMH was the hosting institution for the Maryland State Office of Opioid Operational Command Center's [Washington County Town Hall Series](#) where the community learned about efforts by state and local agencies to address the overdose crisis.



UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND AT SOUTHERN MARYLAND

The unique offerings of the USMSM's [Southern Maryland Autonomous Research and Technology Building](#)—cutting-edge underwater, air, and land autonomous testing facilities—are helping develop Southern Maryland's future workforce.

Dates to Remember

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

www.usmd.edu/regents/meetings/

NOVEMBER 28, 2023

Committee on Advancement

11:00 a.m.

NOVEMBER 29, 2023

Committee on Education Policy and Student Life

9:30 a.m.

NOVEMBER 30, 2023

Committee on Governance and Compensation

8:30 a.m.

NOVEMBER 30, 2023

Committee on Finance

10:30 a.m.

NOVEMBER 30, 2023

Committee on Economic Development and Technology Commercialization

1:00 p.m.

DECEMBER 15, 2023

Board of Regents Meeting

University of Maryland, Baltimore

8:30 a.m.



Regents Meeting Video Archive: [View](#)

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