

REGENTS REPORT



Greetings from the Board of Regents

Fall 2024 has come with change and with challenges. In this moment, they invite us to be equal parts ambitious and pragmatic, visionary as we dream and circumspect as we plan, nimble in our work and steadfast in our mission.

At the University System, it's time to do what we do best. We put a college education—and college success—within reach of every Marylander. We prepare our students for careers that enrich their lives and strengthen

the state. We create the knowledge that illuminates our greatest problems and the answers that solve them. We ensure that our opportunities include all and our progress benefits all.

And nothing we do is more important than making the leaders who will navigate the changes and challenges to come, who will guide us through them and into a world where we're smarter, stronger, and more resilient; where we're more certain of the work to be done, more confident in our ability to do it, and more willing, every day, to do it better.

This Thanksgiving, we're grateful for this work and all the people who are deeply dedicated to it. We wish you a peaceful and joyous holiday, the chance to renew the relationships that restore you, and plenty of time to give thanks for all the good things in your life.

Sincerely,



Linda R. Gooden
Chair
USM Board of Regents



Jay A. Perman
Chancellor
University System of Maryland

Board Actions & Decisions | November 22, 2024

The USM Board of Regents met at the Universities at Shady Grove, with public viewing available in-person and via livestream. Highlights from the meeting include:

Presentation of the USM Fall 2024 Enrollment Update. Chad Muntz, USM associate vice chancellor for decision support and chief analytics officer, delivered positive news on [Fall 2024 enrollment](#) and recent trends across the USM. Total enrollment reached 171,396 students, a 2.8% increase over Fall 2023. Enrollment by first-time, full-time new students increased for the fourth consecutive year, setting a new USM record at 15,478 students. The increase among first-time, full-time students is notable because, nationally, enrollment by this group fell 5% for Fall 2024. The combined enrollment at the USM's three historically Black institutions—Bowie State University, Coppin State University, and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore— increased for the third consecutive year and their combined first-time, full-time enrollment reached an all-time high.

Approval of the Amendments to the USM Policy on Tuition. The Board approved revisions designed to modernize the tuition structure, enhance institutional flexibility, and increase transparency for both students and universities. The USM conducted a comprehensive review of the policy that included benchmarking against the tuition policies found at peer systems and institutions and consulting with USM stakeholders and shared governance groups for their input. Under the [revised tuition policy](#), universities are still expected to prioritize Maryland residents when setting tuition rates, ensuring affordability and access for in-state students. The revisions also establish a new process to seek the Board's approval of differential tuition rates under a special provisions section. The policy allows universities to set tuition rates for out-of-state students and graduate programs that are competitive within the market while ensuring affordable rates for in-state students.

Approval of the University of Baltimore's 2024 - 2034 Facilities Master Plan. The Board approved the [University of Baltimore's ten-year plan](#), which aligns the vision for UBalt's physical campus in Midtown Baltimore with the university's mission and strategic goals and the needs and preferences of its students. The plan will modernize and enhance the teaching, learning, and working environment to foster academic success, renew underperforming buildings, implement energy performance and decarbonization requirements, improve campus identity and pedestrian safety, and contribute to the continued revitalization of Midtown and the neighborhoods near Penn Station.

Approval of the Amendments to Staff Leave Policies. The USM Office conducted a review of [existing policies applicable to exempt and nonexempt staff](#), comparing them to employment terms and conditions contained in Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) across the System. The changes included increasing the annual leave accrual rate for nonexempt staff; increasing annual leave carry-over for exempt and nonexempt staff; providing staff with one additional personal day during a leap year; providing staff with one additional holiday beginning in calendar year 2026; and permitting institutions to create an institutional employee leave donation or leave bank program.

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

Other News From the System



FOUR EXEMPLARY FACULTY MEMBERS RECEIVE PRESTIGIOUS ELKINS PROFESSORSHIPS

The USM announced the recipients of the [2024-2025 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. Rabiya Akande (University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law), Dr. Mahnaz Moallem (Towson University), and Dr. Miao Yu (University of Maryland, College Park). These endowed professorships provide funds to support the recipients' research, which includes work focused on the relationship between law and colonial power, racial and gender disparities in computing, and robotics for the study of marine ecosystems. In addition, the USM awarded the Elkins Academic Transformation Professorship to Dr. Rosemary Shumba (Bowie State University) to investigate the creation of an Experiential Learning Center to improve computing education access, affordability, and quality for underrepresented students.



THE MARYLAND LAUNCH FUND'S LATEST FUNDING ROUND BOOSTS USM-AFFILIATED ENTREPRENEURS

In the second year of the program, the USM's Maryland Launch Fund [awarded grants totaling \\$260,000](#) to ventures affiliated with USM universities. The grantees included students, faculty, staff, and alumni of USM universities, as well as ventures based on USM intellectual property or located in places affiliated with USM universities. The winning ventures represented a broad range of product and service areas, including education, health, and environmental technologies; career and financial services; food and personal products; and a community-building sports program. Seven USM universities also received microgrants to support and grow entrepreneur support programs on campus. The Maryland Launch Fund is in its second year and will distribute \$700,000 (including a \$100,000 contribution from the USM Foundation) during the three-year pilot program.

News From Our Universities



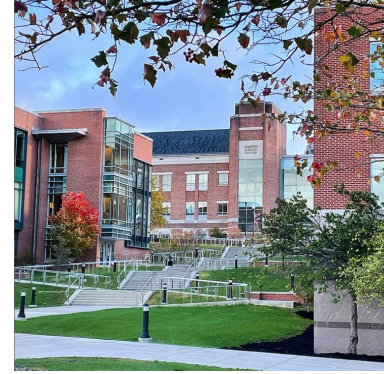
BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY

BSU signed an agreement with the [U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service](#) to expand career opportunities with the agency for BSU students interested in environmental conservation.



COPPIN STATE UNIVERSITY

CSU President Anthony Jenkins was honored by the Baltimore Teacher Network with the [2024 Champion of Education](#) in Service to the Community Award.



FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

FSU held its second annual [Regional Bobcat Innovation Launch Pad](#) competition with the theme of “Revive & Thrive: Reimagining Rural Resilience.”



SALISBURY UNIVERSITY

Governor Wes Moore joined SU leaders on campus at a groundbreaking ceremony for the [\\$60 million renovation of Blackwell Hall](#) into a student service center.



TOWSON UNIVERSITY

For the fifth year in a row, TU was recognized by *INSIGHT Into Diversity* magazine with a [Higher Education in Diversity \(HEED\) Award](#).



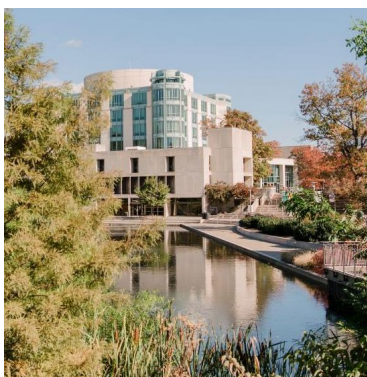
UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE

For the third time since 2016, UBalt has received a [Gold Campus award](#) from the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge.



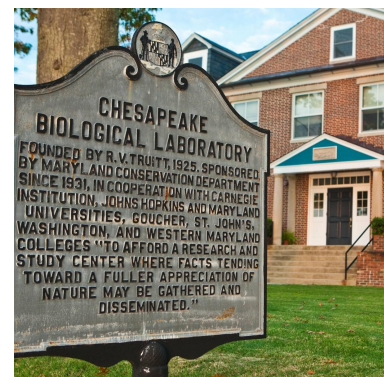
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE

The School of Social Work broke ground on a new [\\$120 million facility](#) and became the only accredited social work program in Maryland to offer eligible Washington, D.C. residents [in-state tuition](#) for the Master of Social Work program.



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE COUNTY

The UMBC-led Goddard Earth Science Technology and Research (GESTAR) II center has been awarded a [two-year, \\$47 million extension](#) to continue its cooperative agreement with the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center.



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

UMCES's Chesapeake Biological Laboratory has announced a landmark [\\$1 million donation](#) from longtime supporters Brian Hochheimer and Marjorie Wax to establish the Lab's first endowed professorship.



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK

In the 2025 rankings issued by *The Princeton Review* and *Entrepreneur* magazine, UMD placed 7th across all institutions—and 5th among public universities—for [promoting student entrepreneurship](#).



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE

UMES was designated as the first [Patent and Trademark Resource Center](#) on the Eastern Shore, bringing valuable new resources to aspiring entrepreneurs at the university and throughout the local community.



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND GLOBAL CAMPUS

UMGC launched a [Credit for Military Rank program](#), a new initiative that awards academic credit based on experiences and skills that servicemembers gain as they rise through the ranks in the military.

News From USM Regional Centers



THE UNIVERSITIES AT SHADY GROVE

USG once again hosted the annual [Montgomery County Business Hall of Fame](#) induction ceremony. Over the past dozen years, this event has raised more than \$1.7 million for scholarships here at USG, benefitting more than 2,500 students.



UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND HAGERSTOWN

USMH announced its [2024-25 Scholarship Recipients](#). Twenty-six students from USMH's partner universities received over \$84,000 in scholarship funding.



UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND AT SOUTHERN MARYLAND

The MATRIX lab in the SMART building at USMSM, hosted an [Autonomy Summit](#). More than 300 representatives from academia, industry, and government joined this conversation about ensuring the trustworthiness of Autonomous Systems.

NEXT MEETING

December 20, 2024

University of Maryland Global Campus
8:30 a.m.

[FULL MEETING SCHEDULE](#)

[VIDEO ARCHIVE](#)

LEADERSHIP CONTACTS

[MEDIA CONTACTS](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA





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