



UNIVERSITY SYSTEM of MARYLAND

Regents Report | June 2022

Greetings from the Board of Regents

The USM educates Maryland. We graduate 40,000 students each year, prepared for citizenship, for leadership, and for professional success.

The USM is a research powerhouse, attracting \$1.5 billion annually in grants and contracts. We translate that research into pathbreaking products, innovations, and companies.

The USM makes money for Maryland. For every dollar the state invests in the System, we return nearly \$3 to Maryland's people, families, and communities.

The USM improves lives. Every day, we use our influence, assets, and expertise in service of Maryland citizens.

And so, without question, the future of Maryland is tied to the future of the University System. That's why our new strategic plan, [Vision 2030: From Excellence to Preeminence](#), is so important—to *all* of us.

Higher education is at an inflection point. We're facing pressures on enrollment, exacerbated by the pandemic. We're facing disruption within the sector—from technology, from for-profit and not-for-profit companies. Expectations are changing among students about the very nature of learning and work—where it happens, and when, and how. And as college costs rise and student debt balloons, there's growing skepticism about the value of a degree.

What these existential challenges require of us isn't a mere tweaking of our business model. They require a fundamental shift in what we do and how we do it.

We've identified five priorities that will drive this transformation.

- **Academic Excellence and Innovation:** We will invest in our people, our ideas, and our institutions.
- **Access, Affordability, and Achievement:** We will give every learner the chance to succeed.
- **Workforce and Economic Development:** We will drive Maryland's prosperity.
- **Research:** We will develop the ideas that change the world.
- **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion:** We will achieve equity and justice within the USM and advance them in the communities we serve.



Vision 2030 is, by intention and design, more than a plan to sustain what has been. It is a promise to transform what will be. We hope you'll join us on this journey.

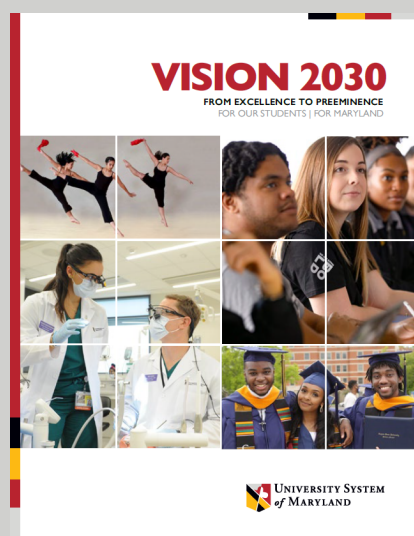
Sincerely,

Linda R. Gooden
Chair
USM Board of Regents

Jay A. Perman
Chancellor
University System of Maryland

Board Actions & Decisions | June 17, 2022

The USM Board of Regents met at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore on June 17, 2022, with public viewing available in-person and via [livestream](#). At this meeting, key actions by the Board included:



Approval of the USM Strategic Plan, Vision 2030: From Excellence to Preeminence.

In 2021, the USM launched an expansive planning process to reimagine instruction, scholarship, and discovery across the University System. This inclusive process brought together institutional leaders, faculty, staff, students, alumni, elected officials, education partners, business leaders, community groups, and other stakeholders to create a shared vision for the future of the USM. The resulting strategic plan, **Vision 2030: From Excellence to Preeminence**, will center the USM on the needs of students and learning outcomes, bringing a fundamental shift to how the System identifies and achieves new priorities in teaching, research, and economic development. The plan, which was unanimously approved by the Board, can be viewed at www.usmd.edu/vision2030.

Approval of the USM FY 2023 Operating Budget. The Board voted to approve the System's [FY 2023 USM Operating Budget](#) as authorized by the Maryland General Assembly. The \$6.8 billion budget includes \$223.6 million for cost-of-living, merit, and benefit increases for USM employees; \$22.3 million in lawsuit-settlement funds for the USM's HBCUs; and \$20 million in additional need-based financial aid for Maryland students.

Approval of the FY 2023 System Funded Construction Program. The Board approved \$41.6 million for the planning and construction of facilities, and funding of equipment in FY 2023. This represents the first year of the proposed FY 2023-2027 [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 2023 projects include residence hall renovations at Salisbury University, Towson University, and the University of Maryland, College Park.

Approval of 12 New Academic Programs. Following the recommendations of the Committee on Education Policy and Student Life, the Board voted to approve [12 new undergraduate and graduate degree programs](#) proposed by USM institutions (pending approval by the Maryland Higher Education Commission). The new programs include a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Cyber Operations Engineering at Bowie State University; a B.S. in Nursing at Frostburg State University; a B.S. in Fitness and Wellness

Leadership at Towson University; a B.S. in Health Science at Salisbury University; and a Master of Education in Teacher Leadership at Coppin State University.

Approval of Revisions to the USM Policy on Undergraduate Admissions. At the request of the Committee on Education Policy and Student Life, the USM Office of Academic and Student Affairs convened a workgroup of provosts and admissions representatives to consider the issue of test-optional admissions within the USM. This workgroup proposed [revisions to the USM Policy on Undergraduate Admissions](#), including removing the *systemwide requirement* for all first-year incoming students to submit a score on a nationally standardized examination such as the SAT or ACT. These revisions, which were supported by the universities' academic leadership, including all 12 USM presidents, and approved by the Board of Regents, allow USM institutions to establish test optional admissions policies; however, USM institutions may choose to retain testing requirements or other admissions criteria that are more rigorous than the new USM policy.

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](#).

Welcomes and Farewells



Carolyn Ringer Lepre Appointed as the Next President of Salisbury University. Dr. Lepre is currently the interim president of Radford University in Virginia, where she previously served as provost and vice president for academic affairs. She joined Radford University following a highly successful tenure at Marist College, where she served as dean of the School of Communication and the Arts and as the director of the college-wide Honors Program. Her appointment was announced by the Board on May 3 and affirmed at their meeting last Friday. [She will begin her tenure as president](#) on July 15, following the departure of President Charles Wight at the end of the month.

UMBC Student Farah Helal Named Student Regent.

Ms. Helal is a [rising junior at UMBC](#), where she is majoring in global studies and political science. She is a Sondheim Public Affairs Scholar in the Honors College and serves as director of the Government Affairs Committee for the undergraduate Student Government Association. As one of two student regents, she will represent the the USM student voice and serve as a voting member member of the Board in the second year of her two-year term, which begins July 1, 2022.



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.

[Dr. Freeman A. Hrabowski, III](#), president of UMBC, will retire from the university on July 31, 2022. During his 30-year presidency, UMBC earned Research 1 (R1) status, emerged as a nationally ranked leader in both undergraduate teaching and innovation, and became the nation's



top producer of Black bachelor's degree recipients who go on to earn PhDs in the natural sciences and engineering.

Dr. Charles A. Wight, president of Salisbury University, will retire from the presidency on July 14, 2022. Under his leadership, SU advanced partnerships to strengthen the Salisbury community; received recognition as a top producer of both Fulbright students and Fulbright scholars; and strengthened its commitment to diversity and equity by reinstating the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and dedicating SU's Center for Equity, Justice and Inclusion. This center was recently renamed in honor of President Wight.

Ada Beams, served as student regent from July 2021 through June 2022 and was a member of

several standing committees and the Strategic Planning Workgroup.

Gary Gill, served as regent from April 2021 through May 2022 and held the positions of chair of the Advancement Committee and vice chair of the Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics and Student-Athlete Health and Welfare.

D'Ana Johnson, served as regent from February 2016 through April 2022 and held the position of vice chair of the Committee on Education Policy & Student Life.

Other News from the System



USM Institutions on Track to Award 40,000 Degrees for Sixth Straight Year. During the 2021-2022 academic year, USM universities awarded approximately **40,000 undergraduate and graduate degrees**. The Class of 2022, which persevered through pandemic-related disruptions for more than two years, joyfully celebrated their achievements at in-person commencement ceremonies across the System. Because 80 percent of USM undergraduates are in-state students, these graduates often remain in Maryland, contributing to local economies and filling critical workforce shortages. The Class of 2022 included more than 11,000 degree

recipients in STEM fields and an additional 3,500 in health care professions.

Maryland Center for Computing Education (MCCE) Delivers Summer Professional Development Opportunities to Maryland's Teachers. MCCE is committed to advancing computer science education in Maryland's PreK-12 schools and preparing students for higher education and careers in this rapidly growing field. To support this mission, MCCE provides the state's teachers with professional development opportunities in computing education. This summer, MCCE will offer a full schedule of **professional development programs** in topics such as programming, cybersecurity, artificial

intelligence, and more. Last year, more than 1,000 Maryland PreK-12 teachers attended professional development training provided by MCCE.

News from USM Institutions

Bowie State University. Last month ground was broken on BSU's new [Martin Luther King Jr. Communications Arts & Humanities Building](#).

Coppin State University. A groundbreaking ceremony was held for the [KEYS Community Healing Village](#), a center where CSU faculty and students will provide mental health support, meals, financial literacy workshops, and other resources to members of the West Baltimore community.

Frostburg State University. Alumni, friends, and supporters stepped up with tremendous support on the first-ever [Bobcat Giving Day](#), with more than 1,200 donors providing almost \$150,000 in 24 hours.

Salisbury University. In a well-deserved tribute, SU's Center for Equity, Justice and Inclusion was renamed the [Charles A. Wight Multicultural Center for Equity, Justice and Inclusion](#).

Towson University. TU held its first ever [Doctoral Hooding ceremony](#), honoring 55 students from six doctoral programs.

The University of Baltimore. UBalt announced that this summer it will welcome 10th and 11th graders from Baltimore City Public Schools students to [Space Tech Camp](#), an initiative focused on augmented reality projects that is supported by NASA's Minority University Research and Education Project.

University of Maryland, Baltimore. The first cohort of [UMB's CURE Scholars](#), 17 students from West Baltimore, made history as the first to graduate from this groundbreaking program.

University of Maryland, Baltimore County. The Howard Hughes Medical Institute recently announced the [\\$1.5 billion Freeman Hrabowski Scholars program](#) to support diversity and innovation in biomedical research.

University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science. UMCES released its widely publicized [annual report card on health of the Chesapeake Bay](#).

University of Maryland, College Park. Hundreds of people attended the university's dedication ceremony for the new [Lt. Richard Collins III Plaza](#), which honors the legacy of the Bowie State University student killed in an act of hate in 2017.

University of Maryland Eastern Shore. UMES and four other HBCUs announced a [partnership with Princeton University and the United Negro College Fund](#) to promote research between HBCU faculty and counterparts at the Ivy League school.

University of Maryland Global Campus. In partnership with the Capital Region Minority Supplier Development Council, UMGC has launched the [Minority Business Pandemic Recovery Academy](#), a transformational six-week executive education program to assist minority business CEO's as they navigate the post-pandemic economy.

News from USM Regional Centers

Universities at Shady Grove (USG). As the headquarters of the new [READY Institute](#), USG will collaborate with partners Montgomery County Public Schools and Montgomery College to build data-informed higher education pathways that lead students to rewarding careers and support the region's workforce needs.

University System of Maryland at Hagerstown (USMH). USMH opened registrations for its [University Spirit Run](#), a 5K event held on September 10 in downtown Hagerstown (plus virtual 5K, 10K, and half marathon options) to benefit the USMH Scholarship Fund.

University System of Maryland at Southern Maryland (USMSM). Senator Ben Cardin, House Majority Speaker Steny Hoyer, and representatives from Senator Chris Van Hollen's office recently [toured the USMSM's new SMART building](#) and learned about the autonomous technologies research conducted there.

Dates to Remember

Meetings below will be virtual unless a location is listed. For the complete meeting schedule, visit: www.usmd.edu/regents/meetings/

SEPTEMBER 7, 2022

Committee on Governance and Compensation
8:30 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 7, 2022

Committee on Finance
10:30 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 16, 2022

Board of Regents Meeting
University of Maryland, College Park
9:00 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

Committee on Education Policy and Student Life
9:00 a.m.



Useful Resources and Contacts

Regents Meeting Video Archive: [View](#)

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University System of Maryland

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