



FEBRUARY 27 AND MARCH 3, 2023
RESPONSE TO DEPARTMENT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES
HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE (APP)
CHAIR, BEN BARNES
VICE CHAIR, MARK CHANG
SENATE BUDGET AND TAXATION (B&T) COMMITTEE
CHAIR, GUY GUZZONE
VICE CHAIR, JIM ROSAPEPE
FY 2024 LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY
DR. HEIDI M. ANDERSON
PRESIDENT, UMES



The University of Maryland Eastern Shore expresses sincere gratitude to former Governor Hogan and the Maryland Legislature for prior year funding. We presently want to thank Governor Moore and the Maryland Legislature for the proposed fiscal year 2024 fiscal and capital resources.





WE SOAR ABOVE AND BEYOND.

As a public 1890 land-grant Historically Black University that embraces diversity, UMES is committed to serving first-generation and underserved students and providing educational, research, and community engagement opportunities to transform the lives of its students who will impact the state, region, and the world.



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If you can't fly then run, if you can't
run then walk, if you can't walk then
crawl, but whatever you do you have to
keep moving forward.

Martin Luther King, Jr.



Unique Funding Needs of UMES as an HBCU

- UMES serves primarily first-generation college students who need scholarship funding to complete their degree.
- Serving the unique needs of Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) in the STEM fields.
- Meeting students from minority, educational and economically underserved communities with wrap-around services to help them be successful.
- While UMES has had explosive growth in the endowment, we still lag behind other schools in the USM for advancement activities and historic lower incomes of our graduates.
- Years of deferred maintenance that have deteriorated beyond short of significant investment to repair and maintain. Meeting the needs of our land grant
- mission through agricultural research and extension.

HBCU Settlement Funding

- In alignment with its mission to provide an affordable quality education for all students, the University will provide academic scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students.
- Funds have been allocated for student success initiatives, such as advisors and tutors to assist in continuing to increase enrollment and retention. It will also provide financial support for students to participate in experiential learning projects and to present their research at regional and national conferences.
- The University has allocated funds for faculty/staff professional development. The funding provides an opportunity for the majority of the faculty to participate in workshops and seminars to help them maintain competence in their respective disciplines and to develop new techniques to enhance student success efforts.
- The University has also begun the process for expanding, improving, and maintaining existing programs: Including hiring new faculty, a recruiter, a transfer coordinator, and staff to assist with specialized program accreditation. A writing center will also be established to assist with thesis and dissertation development for graduate students.
- Lastly, the University has committed funding to support the start-up of 10 new academic programs and marketing.



Recently Added Programs

- BS - Engineering Technology - online modality approval for an existing program
- BS - Hospitality and Tourism Management - online modality approval for an existing program
- BS - Construction Management Technology - online modality approval for an existing program
- BS - Human Ecology - Child Development concentration - online modality approval for an existing program
- BS - Fashion Merchandising and Design - new degree program
- BS - Biomedical Engineering - new degree program
- MS - Data Science and Analytic Engineering - new degree program and online modality approval
- MS - Human Ecology - new degree program and online modality approval
- MS - Electrical and Mechatronics Engineering - new degree program
- PhD - Applied Computing and Engineering - new degree program



Programs Under Construction...

- BS in Aviation Science Professional Pilot
- BS in Computer Modeling and Simulation Engineering
- BS Criminal Justice and Social Work - dual degree
- BS Veterinary Science Technician
- DVM in Veterinary Science



ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT FALL 2022

2,520

INCREASING ENROLLMENT

Fall 2022, 1,933
undergraduate students;
587 Graduate/Professional
an increase of 5.5%

RETENTION RATE

2nd year retention for the
fall 2021 cohort represents
a 10% increase over prior
years

70.9%

3.24

Average GPA

NEW PROGRAMS

UMES will be launching
new programs in Fall of
2023 and Spring of 2024

10

UMES is Soaring Enrollment Management

- UMES received an over \$2M investment from Partnership for Education Advancement. UMES is leveraging that investment assisting with enrollment management strategies and investment in career services for students.
- UMES increased its U.S. News and World Report ranking for the third year moving to 16th among HBCUs.



Investment in Underserved Communities

- Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation is helping to create small, minority owned businesses in Princess Anne and surrounding areas.
- Men of Color Program is working to create a pipeline of male teachers of color to increase representation in classrooms.
- School of Pharmacy and Health Professions graduates are assisting in providing health care workers in Health Professional Shortage Areas and/or a Medically Underserved Areas.
- 1890 Land Grant programs are helping rural farmers be more successful in solving the food insecurity and environmental issues.
- Howard Hughes Medical Institute Driving Change award is working to support STEM in a culturally-sensitive learning environment and helping with diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) initiatives in the sciences. UMES the only HBCU to receive this prestigious competitive funding.
- Aviation Maintenance Program is addressing workforce needs as well as addressing DEI in the aviation industry.
- UMES is partnering with Republic, Piedmont, and Alaska Airlines to provide funding and support to our students to address the workforce needs for pilots.



Agricultural Research and Education Center (AgRec) Building

The most recent projected cost for the AgRec Facility is \$31,244,000. A total of \$14,319,600 has already been secured from the USDA.

This 25,231 sq. ft. complex will provide a wide range of enhancements to the UMES Ag teaching and research capacity. It includes a Genomics/Molecular Biology laboratory, Animal Science equipment, teaching spaces, and includes a hydroponic greenhouse. The AgRec facility will also accommodate a Microbiology/Plant Pathology laboratory that provides critical resources for regional agricultural business such as grain producers, vintners, and others.

This critical new resource will benefit the teaching and research mission of UMES, and also serve to support local businesses such as Perdue Foods, Mountaire, and affiliated family growers who produce for these larger companies.

Legislative Priorities



Federal Appropriations for Research, Extension and Forestry: Status of Maryland State Match

Legislative Priorities

UMES agricultural research and extension programs are focused on helping Marylanders address a range of challenges:

- **Agriculture and Food with a Focus on Food Security** – Crops, poultry, small ruminants, precision agriculture, small scale and urban agriculture, food safety and quality, Agribusiness and economic development.
- **Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability** – water quality, watershed management, Maryland Coastal Bays - Maryland's natural resources underpin a range of economic activities such as forestry-based industries, tourism, fisheries etc. and supporting quality-of-life issues.
- **Human Health and Development** – Our nation faces a growing health challenge of obesity. Youth development, health, and nutrition instruction are essential to promote a healthy future.

Funding

- The authorization for Extension and Research appropriations for 1890 universities, requires that “the State shall provide matching funds from non-Federal sources.”



School of Pharmacy and Health Professions (SPHP) - Phase II including Veterinary Sciences

Legislative Priorities

- Phase II of the Health Professions Complex will be a 100,000 sq. ft. building that increases opportunities for students and faculty, integrates resources, maximizes interprofessional education, and supports increased student enrollment to meet regional and national needs.
- The UMES SPHP provides learning and research opportunities for nearly 400 students each year, supporting the health care needs of thousands of Maryland citizens.
- Each county in the Delmarva region is designated as a Health Professional Shortage Area and/or a Medically Underserved Area, largely due to a lack of providers and the impediments of patients who lack the financial means to address their basic needs.
- There are only 33 veterinary colleges across the nation with a current estimated demand for an additional 7,500 - 10,000 veterinarians.
- It will include specialized labs and collaborative learning spaces. Like Phase I, the second facility will not only bolster UMES' educational offerings, but will also benefit the community.



Responses to DLS Comments

The President should discuss UMES' strategies to improve graduation rates.

Utilization of the Mathematics Supplemental Instruction program

Using supplemental instruction (SI) to assist with academic support is a well-researched process that has yielded positive outcomes on student success and retention. Using student tutors in the classroom provides a more personalized approach to assisting students with their academic needs.

Summer Bridge Program

Summer Bridge is a comprehensive, four-week program that provides participants the opportunity to earn full admission to UMES through a program that consists of enhanced instruction in reading, writing, mathematics, critical thinking, and study skills. Students will also be exposed to leadership training, career path development, and community engagement.

Future Outstanding Cohort of University Students (FOCUS)

The FOCUS partnership is designed to assist students with addressing concerns that contributed to difficulties in academic performance, i.e., falling below the minimum 2.0 grade-point average. The partnership provides students with individual attention through academic coaching sessions throughout the semester with a Center for Access and Academic Success (CAAS) advisor.

HAWK Mentors Program

All first-year students are assigned a mentor upon entering UMES who will assist in academic and social support services. The mentors meet the students where they are to assist in the successful transition to the campus community.

Responses to DLS Comments

The President should discuss the reason for the increased expenditures in instruction and institutional support.

The increases in this area are a direct result of the HBCU funding and the 10 new additional programs that have been added as a result of this funding (see new programs listed on slide 7).

The President should address how the ARPA funds will be expended.

UMES is spending these funds for continued student financial support assisting students to remain in school despite continued financial hardships from the pandemic.

Funds are also being used for rebuilding and stabilization of the information technology infrastructure to ensure we are poised for any future shift of teaching modalities in the future.

Funds are also used to address health and safety issues remaining from the pandemic.

The President should comment on how UMES plans use to the remaining additional \$3.1 million of State funding.

This funding is allocated for fringe benefit increases and statewide adjustments based on the DBM summary provided to us. These are mandatory costs due to rate hikes in health insurance and other benefits provided to state employees.

Responses to OLA Audit Findings

The President of UMES should comment on what actions have been taken to address the findings of the December 2022 audit report. The President should also specifically comment on what actions have been taken with regard to the audit's repeat findings and repeat recommendations.

UMES hired a compliance auditor in January 2023 to provide ongoing review of the issues addressed in the OLA Audits. In addition the new VP of Administration and Finance (arrived September 2022) has over 15 years of audit experience and is bringing best practices to the team to assist the implementation of the recommendations. All repeat findings have been addressed and are being reviewed on a regular basis.

The President should address the status of the Hawk Plaza and the return of funding from the foundation.

Hawks Plaza was sold in December of 2022 and based on our review issues with funding were addressed prior to the current senior leadership team tenure with the University.