

**UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND
BOARD OF REGENTS
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION POLICY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 17, 2012**

PUBLIC SESSION

The Committee on Education Policy of the University System of Maryland Board of Regents met in public session on Wednesday, October 17, 2012 in the Atrium of the Wilson H. Elkins Building (USM Office), 3300 Metzert Road, Adelphi, Maryland, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Present were Ms. Gonzales, Chair; Dr. Florestano, Mr. Hershkowitz, Chancellor Kirwan, Mr. Slater, Dr. Vance, and Dr. Young. Also attending were Dr. Boughman, Mr. Cartier, Mr. Collins, Ms. Doyle, Dr. Foster, Ms. Hollander, Ms. Jamison, Ms. Knepler, Dr. Lee, Mr. Lurie, Ms. Marionni, Ms. Moultrie, Mr. Muntz, Dr. Rankin, Dr. Rhodes, Dr. Rous, Dr. Saper, Dr. Shapiro, Dr. Spicer, Dr. Stuart, Mr. Vivona, Dr. Ward, Dr. Watson, Dr. Wolfe, Dr. Zimmerman, members of the press, and other observers.

Ms. Gonzales called the meeting to order. Dr. Joann Boughman, senior vice chancellor for academic affairs, made introductory comments. Joan Marionni was applauded and sincerely thanked for her many years of dedicated service to USM and the Education Policy Committee; she was given warm wishes upon her retirement. The agenda items were discussed in the order reported in the minutes; copies of materials distributed at the meeting are on file with the official minutes of the meeting.

1. New Academic Program Proposal: UMBC: MA in Language, Literacy, and Culture.

The PhD in Language, Literacy, and Culture was approved in 1998; lack of MA degree-granting authority has been problematic. The MA is intended to be a “milestone” for those students who for one reason or another leave the program without having completed a dissertation; there is no intent for the MA to be a stand-alone degree, and students will not be admitted to the master’s program. It was suggested that, moving forward, Academic Affairs staff initiate discussion of including such a milestone master’s in proposals for doctoral programs when letters of intent for new doctoral programs are received. Motion for approval made by Dr. Florestano, seconded by Dr. Young, approved unanimously.

2. Role and Function of the BOR Education Policy Committee.

Discussion focused on role of committee regarding both academic and student affairs matters. Specific areas suggested for further consideration include:

- Ensuring that some mechanism exists to give credit to RHECs for students using their facilities and resources (on-line courses, libraries resources, test-taking facility) who are not enrolled in courses offered by the RHEC.
- Status, role, and numbers of adjunct faculty in the USM.
- Participation in experiential learning, data on number of credits earned, educational value.
- Global position of USM, population and experience of non-US high school graduates at USM institutions in both undergraduate and graduate programs, strengths and weaknesses of students and programs to support them, international reputation of graduate programs.
- Role of EPC in addressing academic issues related to intercollegiate athletics (in light of new BOR workgroup).
- What is it that the BOR can contribute to the institutions in terms of student life issues (alcohol and drug use and abuse, safety and security, campus experience)?

- Challenges with Middle States Accreditation processes, particularly special challenge meeting standard on measurement of student learning outcomes.
- Partnerships/formal relationships between USM (as a system and as individual institutions) with international universities, systems, and governments.
- Assessment of prior learning.

3. Tentative Annual Agenda 2012-2013.

Discussion of prior topic continued; Committee members were invited to provide additions to or comments on annual meeting either at meeting or to staff at a later time.

4. Report on Financial Aid.

Committee received on-screen presentation on financial aid data and progress in meeting recommendations of USM Financial Aid Task Force (FY 2005). The materials are available upon request. The major points of the presentation responded to the task force recommendations.

Financial aid from all sources continues to increase:

- The debt burden to lower income students is decreasing, but work continues.
- Institutional funds continue to be shifted toward need-based aid, but there is more to be done.
- Need to assess USM institutions in comparison to peers to adopt successful strategies
- Focus must continue on community college transfer students in need.

5. Report on Program Actions Delegated to the Chancellor, 2011-2012.

Report showed approval by the Chancellor of 24 new certificates and concentrations and the suspension and discontinuance of nine degree programs, certificates and areas of concentration.

6. Adjournment.

Committee adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise Michaux Gonzales
Chairperson