



**University System of Maryland  
Student Council**

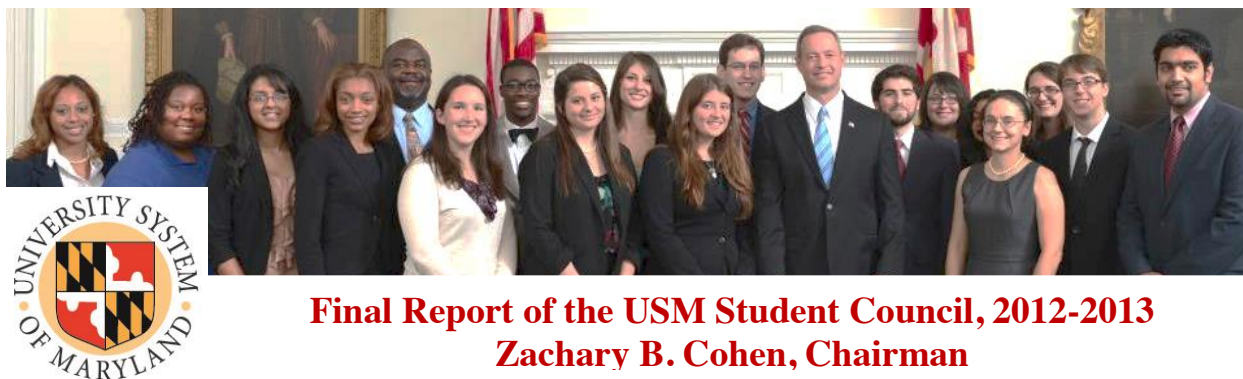
June 10, 2013

Dear members of the Board of Regents:

Please find my final report for the 2012-2013 school year attached for your review. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions about this report or any other matters at my new email address: [zbc4cf@virginia.edu](mailto:zbc4cf@virginia.edu).

Respectfully submitted,

Zachary Cohen,  
Chairman



## **Final Report of the USM Student Council, 2012-2013** **Zachary B. Cohen, Chairman**

### **I. Introduction**

The 2012-2013 session of the University System of Maryland Student Council was one of the most successful sessions of the Council since its founding in 1988. Over the past year, the Council has addressed issues ranging from academics to student life, has been an active participant in the policy-making process both within the System and at the state-level, and laid the foundation for the Council to further expand in its mission and effectiveness through internal reforms.

It is with great pleasure that I submit this final report detailing the work of the Council. The Council has undoubtedly served its mission of advancing student interests at the System and state levels, and, most importantly, has created a solid foundation for future Councils to expand upon our successes.

On a personal note, it has been a privilege to serve alongside so many dedicated and passionate student leaders from across our System. I would also like to thank Chancellor Kirwan and the System Office, the Board, and each of the Presidents for their support of our initiatives. We owe a substantial portion of our success to the culture of collaboration and cooperation in our System. While my time as Chairman will conclude on June 30<sup>th</sup>, I hope to stay in touch with everyone who has made this year so exceptional (my new email is [zbc4cf@virginia.edu](mailto:zbc4cf@virginia.edu)).

Respectfully submitted,

Zachary B. Cohen

## **II. Officers**

### 2012-2013

Chairman: Zachary Cohen, UMCP

Vice Chairman: Richard Lucas III, BSU

Secretary: Theresa Card, UMB

Student Member of the Board of Regents: Steven Hershkowitz, UMCP

Director of Governmental Affairs: Caitlin Leiter-Mason/Meghan Carpenter, UMBC

### 2013-2014 (Elect)

President: James Jalandoni, UMCP

Vice President for Graduate Affairs: Jesse Fox, UMBC

Vice President for Undergraduate Affairs: Zac McGee, Towson

Student Member of the Board of Regents: Samim Manizade, Salisbury

## **III. Meetings**

The University System of Maryland Student Council met and attained a quorum eight times during the 2012-2013 school year on the following dates at following locations:

September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012: Hidden Waters, Pikesville, MD

October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012: University of Maryland, Baltimore

November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012: University System of Maryland, Hagerstown

December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012: University of Maryland, Baltimore County

February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013: Lowe House Office Building, Annapolis, MD

March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013: Bowie State University

April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013: University of Maryland, Eastern Shore

May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013: Towson University

The Council thanks each of the host institutions for their hospitality.

## **IV. Primary Council Initiatives**

The Council pursued the following primary initiatives during the past year:

**1. State relations:** The Council was very active this year both in advocating for a favorable operating budget, both before and after it was introduced by Governor O'Malley, and advocated for the best outcomes in legislation that impacts students.

To support the operating budget, the Council began with a roundtable discussion on higher education affordability with Governor O'Malley in October (see the section on special

events for more details). Once the budget was introduced, the Council leadership testified on the USM budget in both houses and most of the student body presidents whose institutions had hearings testified in at least one house. In addition to substantial individual lobbying by Council leadership, the Council held the first ever USM-wide advocacy day, which included approximately 200 students that represented each institution in the System (see the section on special events for more details).

The Council was additionally very active on several other pieces of legislation, most notably SB 740, the College Completion and Readiness Act. While the Council had significant reservations about many sections of the bill, our greatest objection was to the implementation of block scheduling for all first-time full-time freshmen. In response, Chairman Cohen drafted and advocated on behalf of an amendment acceptable to students, the System, and the legislature, which was eventually adopted and incorporated into the final bill.

Chairman Cohen testified on behalf of the Council at the following hearings:

- USM Overview Hearing (House/Senate)
- HB 52/SB 704: Sales and Use Tax – Tax Free Periods – University and College Textbooks
- HB 224/SB 279: Election Law – Improving Access to Voting
- HB 833/SB 740: College Completion and Readiness Act
- SB 714: Income Tax – Subtraction Modification – Student Loan Debt

**2. Student Civic Engagement:** The Council took a keen interest in improving the civic engagement around the System by increasing access to voting. During the year, the Council pursued two main objectives: first, to test and, if successful, implement in-house voter registration systems across the System, and second, to support the implementation of same-day voter registration.

#### *In-House Voter Systems*

During the 2012 legislative session, the General Assembly passed legislation that enabled institutions of higher education to create in-house online voter registration systems to register students to vote. Following passage, College Park, in consultation with the State Board of Elections, began development of software to integrate the existing data in the student information system data warehouse (SIS) with an in-house voter registration application.

Ultimately, the system was created where a student would log on to a university-owned website, log in with his/her user name and password, and the form would be filled in using

the information in the student's SIS file. He or she then could edit any information on the form and complete other sections (such as party affiliation) and submit. During the sixteen days between the launch of the site and the end of the voter registration deadline, nearly 2,500 students registered to vote. On Election Day, the on-campus precinct broke the record set in 2008 by nearly 500 students. *Baltimore Sun Coverage at: <http://bit.ly/106p63x>. To see screenshots of the College Park System, please see Appendix B.*

With the success of the pilot at College Park, the Council unanimously decided to support the implementation of such systems state-wide. We have been in touch with the Chancellor's office, the Vice Presidents for student affairs, and the Office of the Governor about the implementation of such systems and hope that they will be ready in time for the 2014 gubernatorial election. The Division of Student Affairs at College Park has offered to assist any institution with the implementation of the in-house system.

#### *Same-day Voter Registration during Early Voting*

During the past legislative session, Governor O'Malley's legislation expanding early voting and permitting same-day voter registration was approved by the General Assembly. The law provides, among other things, that any eligible voter can register to vote and vote at the same time during the early voting period and that counties with more than 450,000 residents were to open three additional early voting centers.

Because of the research that demonstrates that same day voter registration dramatically improves student voter turnout, the Council unanimously approved a resolution calling on our institutions to pursue placement of early voting centers on campuses. While we realize that there would be some administrative burdens and inconvenience caused by the monopolization of a site for the duration of early voting, the importance of providing students convenient access to voting cannot be overstated. Towson University is the only institution that we are aware of that had an early voting center on campus during the 2012 election.

**3. Promoting Responsible Action in Medical Emergencies:** The top cause of death of college student apart from suicide is the overconsumption of alcohol. During the 1990s and 2000s, a trend emerged at universities across the United States to create "medical amnesty" policies whereby students would not be cited under university policy if they summon emergency services for a friend in a life-threatening condition brought on by the overconsumption of alcohol and, at some institutions, the use of drugs (the student in need of assistance additionally is granted amnesty). To be eligible for the program, students must successfully complete an alcohol or drug program offered by the university.

College Park is the only institution thus far that has adopted a policy that covers both alcohol and drugs and Towson is the only other institution that has adopted a policy that applies strictly to alcohol.

These policies are extremely important as fear of campus sanctions is the second most common reason stated (behind not knowing that the person was experience health complications) why students did not call authorities to assist a person in need. Campus officials at College Park have confirmed that they believe that the policy has been effective and, additionally, research has shown that such policies do not increase in the incidence of dangerous behavior.

*A draft policy that has been submitted to the Chancellor's Council can be found in Appendix C.*

**4. Internal Reforms:** After six-months of markups and deliberations, the Council discussed and ultimately passed changes to our by-laws and constitution that will assist the Council in our progress towards greater effectiveness, greater inclusion/representation, and greater legitimacy in our role advising the Chancellor and Board of Regents and in our role advocating at the state level.

The genesis of the Council's changes to the constitution and by-laws was the creation of the Shared Governance Workgroup during the fall of 2012. The workgroup, which was open to all members of the Council or any designee of their choice, discussed and researched ways to improve the structure of the Council, in addition to other tasks. This included doing research on the structure of other like councils in other states, discussions with students in those other councils about how the structures work in practice, and discussions with students on our Council about what they felt could be improved.

Ultimately, the Workgroup suggested several substantial changes to the Council. Briefly, they include:

- Changing the appointment process so that the student body president and, where applicable, the graduate student body president is the default Council member. If that person cannot or does not wish to serve, he/she may appoint someone to serve with the advice and consent of the institution's President.
  - This change was adopted for several reasons. First, our by-laws were ambiguous as to who has appointment powers (one section said it was the student body presidents and another said that it was the institution's president). The Council felt that the students that were elected by their peers would be the best representatives of their constituents. To ensure that institutions retained some control and know who their

representatives are, we maintained that appointments must be done through the institution's president.

- Secondly, we have found that having SGA Presidents serve dramatically increases the buy-in that we receive from the constituent SGAs. Generally speaking, the institutions with SGA presidents serving on the Council have much greater participation in Council initiatives than other institutions, even those that had high-level SGA members present. For example, at the USM Advocacy Day, institutions that have SGA presidents serving on the Council were generally much better represented than institutions whose president does not serve on the Council.
- Creating an executive branch for the Council that consists of several director positions while eliminating other director positions that are unnecessary.
  - Under the old by-laws, the Council had nearly a dozen director positions that generally went unfilled because they were not well defined or needed. First, the Council felt that there should be only four director positions -- government affairs, communications, outreach, and financial affairs. These positions were common in councils similar to ours, and were considered to be the most valuable by Council members.
  - Secondly, unlike in the past, any student in the System will be able to hold director positions. This will allow for the most qualified and passionate students to hold these positions, even if they are not members of the Council. This is especially important considering our goal that SGA presidents will mean that Council members will have less available time.
- Change the name of the Chairman to President and create a Vice President for Graduate Affairs and a Vice President for Undergraduate Affairs.
  - Based on our survey of other systems and experience in Maryland, we felt that changing the name of the chief executive of the Council to President would provide that person with more name recognition, especially considering the creation of the Council's executive branch.
  - One of the chief concerns of current Council members was the lack of focus on issues relating to graduate students. To fix this problem, the Council split the position of Vice President, creating a Vice President for Graduate Affairs and Vice President for Undergraduate Affairs, to ensure that academic affairs and student affairs issues that affect each constituency are properly addressed.

- Additionally, each Vice President will chair a break-out committee at each Council meeting to further permit specialization within the Council and promote issues impacting each group individually to be pursued.

While the by-laws changes are currently in effect, the Council has submitted changes to our constitution to the System for approval by the Chancellor and Board of Regents. Though there are many other changes, these are the most dramatic. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns about any of these changes.

Additionally, we will be requesting that the Vice Presidents for Student Affairs request that the student body president, and, where applicable, the graduate student body president serve on the Council where they do not already.

The Council pursued other initiatives ranging from mental health to support for several of the 2012 election referendums. Progress on those initiatives is indicated in the resolutions section.

## **V. Special Council Events**

During the year, the Council hosted two special events. The first was the roundtable meeting with Governor O'Malley held in late October and the second was the USM Advocacy Day, which was held in late February.

*Governor O'Malley Roundtable:* The goal of the roundtable with Governor O'Malley was to thank the Governor for his work and commitment to affordable higher education in Maryland and to request that the tuition increase budgeted in fiscal 2014 be held to 3%. In consultation with the Governor's office, we decided that the student body presidents from across the System would attend the roundtable in person in Annapolis and that other student government association members and any other interested students would be able to join the meeting through a Google hangout.



Despite several technical difficulties that made it difficult for students participating in the Google hangout to fully participate, the event was extremely successful. The Governor was extremely pleased by our gratitude and was very pleased to receive our resolution thanking him. At the roundtable, the Governor furthermore stopped just short of promising that tuition would be held once again to 3%, which we would later confirm when the budget was released. A special thanks to Vice Chancellor Hogan for his assistance in setting up this event. The Council looks forward to holding this event again.



Maryland Student Advocacy Day: The second major Council event was the Maryland Student Advocacy Day on February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013. At the event, 200 students, representing each of the institutions in the System, converged to hear speakers, watch the session, lobby lawmakers, and attend a rally on lawyer's mall.

The event began with speakers, including Chairman Bohanan and Vice Chancellor Hogan, before the students went to watch the session. Following session, students went with pre-assigned groups to meet with lawmakers (appointments were made by the Council in advance). Following a pizza lunch, a rally was held on lawyers mall that included Governor O'Malley, Lieutenant Governor Brown, and Chairman Madaleno.

One of the highlights of the day was the "Invest in US(M)" shirts conceived by Salisbury and provided by the System Foundation.

While there were some difficulties encountered because of the gun legislation that was being considered that day (which was out of our control) and several other logistical problems, we were very pleased by the event. While there were definitely lessons learned, we look forward to holding this event again next year.



## **VI. Looking Forward**

The progress of the Council this year has laid a great platform for future platforms to begin their work from. While we are very proud of work this year, there are several items that remain unfinished. These include the implementation of the responsible action policy, the adoption of in-house voter registration systems and establishment of early voting centers on campus, and the implementation of the recommendations in the shared governance document. We look forward to continuing our work with the Chancellor, the System Office, each institution, and the Board of Regents next year, and continue to be happy to respond to any inquiry that is made of us.

## Appendix A. Council Resolutions

Item	Title	Outcome	Description	Implementation
Special Action 1	Council Schedule 2012-2013	Passed with Amendments	Establishing the schedule of Council meetings for the 2012-2013 school year.	Schedule was adopted. Several subsequent changes were made to accommodate various institutions.
Action Item 1	Creating the Select Committee on Shared Governance	Passed	Created a workgroup for the evaluation of shared governance practices in the USM and at constituent institutions.	The committee met and issued recommendations to the Council. Those recommendations were by in large adopted by the Council during our Omnibus By-laws and Constitution Reformation Act.
Action Item 2	Creating the Select Committee on Differential Tuition	Passed	Created a workgroup for the evaluation of differential tuition policies.	The committee was abandoned following the inclusion of STEM Enrollment funding in the FY2014 budget.
Action Item 3	Reconvening the Council into Executive Session	Passed	Statutory requirement before entering executive session for the purpose of interviewing student regent candidates.	
Action Item 4	Omnibus By-Laws and Constitution Reform Act	Passed with Amendments	Amended the Council's By-Laws and Constitution in accordance with the report of the Shared Governance Committee.	The by-laws changes have taken effect contingent upon the approval of the constitutional changes by the Chancellor and Board of Regents. The constitutional changes have been submitted to the Board for review.
Action Item 5	RHEC Application for Full Membership	Passed	Granting the Universities at Shady Grove full membership to the Council for the 2013-2014 school year.	
Action Item 6	RHEC Application for Full Membership	Passed	Granting USM Hagerstown full membership to the Council for the 2013-2014 school year.	

Action Item 7	Reconvening the Council into Executive Session	Passed	Statutory requirement before entering executive session for the purpose of officer elections.	
Resolution 1	Thanking Governor O'Malley for his Support...	Passed	Thanked Governor O'Malley for his investment in the USM for presentation at the roundtable.	Resolution was presented to Governor O'Malley at the roundtable.
Resolution 2	Supporting Marriage Equality in Maryland	Passed	Supporting a vote in favor of the same-sex marriage referendum in support of LGBT students.	The Council forwarded our support to groups including Equality Maryland and advocates including Senator Madaleno. Various SGAs promoted marriage equality as well.
Resolution 3	Supporting Governor O'Malley FY 2014 Budget	Passed	Supported the Governor's FY 2014 Budget and set the basis for the work of the Council in support of the budget.	The Council held the USM Advocacy Day on Feb 28 <sup>th</sup> and various Council members testified before the budget committees on behalf of the System and individual institutions.
Resolution 4	Adopting the Shared Governance Report	Passed	Adopting the final report of the Shared Governance Workgroup. This document includes the changes in the Omnibus Act and those changes that are not yet ripe to be adopted. Additionally includes best practices.	The Shared Governance Report is being edited by Chairman Cohen and a final copy will be presented to the Chancellor by the end of the term.
Resolution 5	Supporting In-House Voter Registration Efforts	Passed	Supporting the implementation of a system similar to the College Park pilot by all USM institutions.	
Resolution 6	Supporting Lifesaving Medical Amnesty Policies	Passed	Supporting the creation of a medical amnesty policy to apply to all System institutions.	A draft policy has been submitted to the System for review and feedback before beginning the Board approval process.

## Appendix B: Demonstration of the Online Voter Registration System.

Terrapin Electronic Voter Reg x

www.sga.umd.edu/umdvotes/index.cfm?action=voter.step1&tkn=88557ADE-F004-9515-21F9316159E22AD1

Wednesday, October 3, 2012

### Terrapin Electronic Voter Registration Application System

Go through all of the steps below to complete your voter registration application. Click the button at the end of each step to save your changes and complete the step.

Any relevant form fields labeled with an asterisk (\*) are required. Some of the form fields will be pre-populated with information pulled from your University Directory record.

**Step 1: Name, Birthdate, and Gender**

**Step 2: Residential Address**

**Step 3: Mailing Address**

**Step 4: County and Polling Place**

**Step 5: Political Party**

**Step 6: Contact Information**

**Step 7: Oath and Signature**

**Step 8: Review and Submit**

#### Step 1: Name, Birthdate, and Gender

Provide your current legal name, your date of birth, and gender. In most cases, the fields should already have the correct information based on your University Directory record, and you can simply click the button at the bottom to proceed.

\* First Name:

Middle Name:

\* Last Name:

Name Suffix:

For example, Jr., Sr., III, etc. Do not use this field for titles such as Mrs. or Dr.

\* Date of Birth:

Must be in the format "mm/dd/yyyy" (example: 01/01/2001).

\* Gender:

**Next Step**

To complete this step, click this button.

Terrapin Electronic Voter Reg x1101 w main st crisfield - G x

www.sga.umd.edu/umdvotes/index.cfm?action=voter.step2&tkn=88557ADE-F004-9515-21F9316159E22AD1

complete the step.

Any relevant form fields labeled with an asterisk (\*) are required. Some of the form fields will be pre-populated with information pulled from your University Directory record.

Step 1: Name, Birthdate, and Gender ✓

Step 2: Residential Address

Step 3: Mailing Address

Step 4: County and Polling Place

Step 5: Political Party

Step 6: Contact Information

Step 7: Oath and Signature

Step 8: Review and Submit

### Step 2: Residential Address

Displayed below are the two Maryland addresses listed for you in the University Directory, formatted to match the street addresses recognized by the Maryland State Board of Elections. Select the address that you wish to register under, make any necessary changes, then click the button at the bottom.

Use your campus address if you wish to vote on campus.

**Please be informed of how changes to your residency information may impact any scholarships you are receiving.**

All text will be automatically converted to uppercase.

☒

\* Street/House Number: 1

\* Street Name: TURNER HALL

Apartment Number:

\* City: COLLEGE PARK

\* Zip Code: 20742

Either a 5-digit or 9-digit zip code is acceptable.

☐

\* Street/House Number: 1

\* Street Name: MAIN ST.

Apartment Number:

\* City: CRISFIELD

\* Zip Code: 21817

Either a 5-digit or 9-digit zip code is acceptable.

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Any relevant form fields labeled with an asterisk (\*) are required. Some of the form fields will be pre-populated with information pulled from your University Directory record.

**Step 1: Name, Birthdate, and Gender** ✓

**Step 2: Residential Address**

**Step 3: Mailing Address**

**Step 4: County and Polling Place**

**Step 5: Political Party**

**Step 6: Contact Information**

**Step 7: Oath and Signature**

**Step 8: Review and Submit**

### Step 3: Mailing Address

Provide the address where you want your voter notification card sent.

All text will be automatically converted to uppercase.

☒ Use my Maryland residential address (from the previous step) as my mailing address.

☐ Use the following address as my mailing address (if selected, all fields are required):

Mailing Address: 1 TURNER HALL

Mailing City: COLLEGE PARK

Mailing State: MD

Mailing Zip: 20742

Either a 5-digit or 9-digit zip code is acceptable.

**Next Step**

To complete this step, click this button.

## Terrapin Electronic Voter Registration Application System

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Any relevant form fields labeled with an asterisk (\*) are required. Some of the form fields will be pre-populated with information pulled from your University Directory record.

**Step 1: Name, Birthdate, and Gender** ✓

**Step 2: Residential Address**

**Step 3: Mailing Address**

**Step 4: County and Polling Place**

**Step 5: Political Party**

**Step 6: Contact Information**

**Step 7: Oath and Signature**

**Step 8: Review and Submit**

### Step 4: County and Polling Place

Use the form below to select the Maryland county you will be voting in and whether or not you need assistance at the polls or want to serve as an election judge.

For example, if you are registering to vote in College Park, you would choose "Prince George's" as your county.

\* County:

\* Do you require assistance at the polls?

\* Are you interested in being an Election Judge?

Election judges are responsible for administering voting procedures in their precinct and ensuring a fair and accessible election for all eligible voters. Duties include setting up and breaking down a polling place before and after voting hours. Other duties may include checking in voters, assisting voters, and overseeing all election procedures throughout the polling place.

**Next Step**

To complete this step, click this button.



## Terrapin Electronic Voter Registration Application System

Go through all of the steps below to complete your voter registration application. Click the button at the end of each step to save your changes and complete the step.

Any relevant form fields labeled with an asterisk (\*) are required. Some of the form fields will be pre-populated with information pulled from your University Directory record.

**Step 1: Name, Birthdate, and Gender** ✓

**Step 2: Residential Address**

**Step 3: Mailing Address**

**Step 4: County and Polling Place**

**Step 5: Political Party**

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**Step 7: Oath and Signature**

**Step 8: Review and Submit**

### Step 5: Political party

You must select a political party. If you do not wish to affiliate with a political party, select "Unaffiliated" from the list of political parties.

You must register with a party if you want to take part in that party's primary election, caucus, or convention. To vote for partisan contests in primary elections, you must affiliate with the Democratic or Republican party. If you affiliate with another political party or are "Unaffiliated," you are only entitled to vote in school board contests in primary elections.

\* Political Party:

UNAFFILIATED

Other Party:

If you choose "Other" in the preceding selection box, please enter your party name here.

**Next Step**

To complete this step, click this button.



## Terrapin Electronic Voter Registration Application System

Go through all of the steps below to complete your voter registration application. Click the button at the end of each step to save your changes and complete the step.

Any relevant form fields labeled with an asterisk (\*) are required. Some of the form fields will be pre-populated with information pulled from your University Directory record.

**Step 1: Name, Birthdate, and Gender** ✓

**Step 2: Residential Address**

**Step 3: Mailing Address**

**Step 4: County and Polling Place**

**Step 5: Political Party** ✓

**Step 6: Contact Information**

**Step 7: Oath and Signature**

**Step 8: Review and Submit**

### Step 6: Contact Information

Provide your contact information to allow election officials to follow up if more information is required (optional but recommended).

Phone Number: 3013141000

If you provide an international telephone number, please include the complete number, including country code.

Email: testudo@umd.edu

Election officials will only use your email address for election-related purposes. This may include registration follow-up, sending you information about your absentee ballot, and asking for feedback on your use of this online registration system.

Next Step

To complete this step, click this button.

## Terrapin Electronic Voter Registration Application System

Go through all of the steps below to complete your voter registration application. Click the button at the end of each step to save your changes and complete the step.

Any relevant form fields labeled with an asterisk (\*) are required. Some of the form fields will be pre-populated with information pulled from your University Directory record.

**Step 1: Name, Birthdate, and Gender** ✓

**Step 2: Residential Address**

**Step 3: Mailing Address**

**Step 4: County and Polling Place**

**Step 5: Political Party** ✓

**Step 6: Contact Information**

**Step 7: Oath and Signature**

**Step 8: Review and Submit**

### Step 7: Oath and Signature

Confirm that you meet the state's requirements (listed below) for being eligible to vote by checking the checkbox below.

Note: if the electronic signature displayed is not the signature you use to sign official documents, please do not continue. Visit the Mitchell Building on campus and ask to redo your student ID card signature.

Under penalty of perjury, I hereby swear or affirm:

- I am a U.S. citizen.
- I am a Maryland resident.
- I am at least 16 years old.
- I have not been convicted of buying or selling votes.
- I have not been convicted of a felony, or if I have, I have completed serving a court-ordered sentence of imprisonment, including any term of parole or probation for the conviction.
- The information in this application is true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

I hereby sign this oath via the electronic signature displayed below, which will be sent along with this application to the Maryland State Board of Elections:

\* Signature:

☐

Next Step

## **Appendix C: Responsible Action Draft**

### **POLICY ON PROMOTING RESPONSIBLE ACTION IN MEDICAL EMERGENCIES**

#### **I. PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

- A. Purpose: It is of paramount concern to the University System of Maryland to promote the health and safety of University students. It is recognized that in a situation in which either a student summoning or requiring help is under the influence of alcohol or drugs, the threat of disciplinary sanctions for violating institutional policies is a barrier to seeking help. In recognition of the barrier to seeking help, this policy establishes standards and requirements for relief from administrative or disciplinary actions in alcohol or drug-related cases associated with the summoning of institutional or other proper authorities for all USM students.
- B. Scope: This policy applies to all USM institutions and all USM students.

#### **II. DEFINITIONS**

- A. "Medical emergency" means any situation warranting the summons of emergency medical services.
- B. "Summons" for medical emergency services means contacting police, institutional staff, or other officials designated as emergency medical providers.

#### **III. POLICY**

- A. A student in possession or under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs who summons medical emergency assistance for him/herself or on behalf of a fellow student experiencing a medical emergency will not face disciplinary charges under any institutional rules or regulations, including any policy of resident life, for the possession or use of alcohol and/or drugs, with the exception of the exclusions noted below.
- B. In lieu of disciplinary charges and as a condition of such relief, students handled under this policy shall be required to be evaluated by an appropriate University entity and successfully complete an approved alcohol and/or drug intervention program.
- C. This policy also extends to the student for whom medical emergency assistance has been summoned.
- D. Exclusions
  - 1. The conditional relief from disciplinary charges described by this policy does not extend to charges other than the possession or use of alcohol and/or drugs. In addition, it shall not provide relief from disciplinary charges pertaining to the alleged possession or use of alcohol and/or drugs if it is proven that the violation involved the distribution of drugs or the or the provision of alcohol

to a person under the legal drinking age, or other aggravating factors determined by each individual campus.

2. Students with a prior disciplinary record of alcohol- and/or drug-related violations and students previously granted relief under this policy as the person for whom the emergency services were being summoned, shall only be eligible for relief on a case-by-case basis following an assessment by personnel specified by each individual institution.

#### IV. IMPLEMENTATION

- A. Implementation. The provisions of this policy shall be implemented at each institution no later than June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014.
- B. Procedures. Each institution shall create procedures for the execution of this policy.
- C. Communications. Each institution shall engage with appropriate student organizations and the university community to promote this policy and encourage responsible action in medical emergencies.