



## BOARD OF REGENTS

### SUMMARY OF ITEM FOR ACTION, INFORMATION OR DISCUSSION

**TOPIC:** Library Consortium Resources

**COMMITTEE:** Education Policy and Student Life

**DATE OF COMMITTEE MEETING:** October 15, 2013

**SUMMARY:** The University System of Maryland and Affiliated Institutions (USMAI) is a consortium of 16 libraries at the public universities and colleges in Maryland. USMAI's mission is to provide unified, cost effective, and creative approaches to the acquisition, sharing, and management of information and knowledge resources across the 16 libraries. The consortium supports the shared mission of its member campuses to contribute to the intellectual and cultural growth of our students, faculty, and staff.

The USMAI consortium is governed by the Council of Library Directors, which consists of the directors of the member libraries. This body develops policies, guidelines, and strategic directions for the consortium. Management and administration of the consortium's shared technical infrastructure is coordinated by the University of Maryland Libraries' Digital Systems and Stewardship office, located at UMCP.

Last spring, USMAI hired its first executive director to coordinate and lead the consortium in addressing challenges facing today's academic libraries. The Executive Director's office is located in USM Academic Affairs.

Today, representatives of the USMAI Library Consortium will share highlights of a recently completed new strategic plan (see attached overview). They also will summarize several current initiatives that reflect emerging priorities and opportunities for the libraries. The discussion also will include an update on issues of importance to academic libraries across the country, and consortial perspectives on these issues.

**ALTERNATIVE(S):** This is an information item only.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** This is an information item; there is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

**CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION:** This is an information item only.

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COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Information Only

DATE: October 15, 2013

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BOARD ACTION:

DATE:

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## Overview of USMAI Library Consortium Strategic Plan, FY2014-FY2016

ver. 2013 October 01

### **Goal One: Expand and preserve access to shared information in all formats [outward-facing]**

- Acquire and implement a next-generation integrated library system;
- Expand consortial licensing of resources;
- Increase coordinated storage and management of low-use print materials among USMAI libraries;
- Create shared infrastructure, services, and practices to support local and collaborative digital initiatives;
- Increase the opportunities for discovery and use of unique locally-digitized and born-digital collections;
- Introduce and promote Open Access through outreach events for targeted audiences;
- Support libraries promoting research data management planning among their institutions' researchers;
- Explore potential to reduce redundant technical processing activities across USMAI libraries.

### **Goal Two: Encourage library staff to develop and reach their potential in an ever-evolving learning environment [inward-facing]**

- Increase training opportunities - institute new training initiatives around strategic priorities;
- Leverage internal staff expertise to increase knowledge and skills across the consortium;
- Refocus working groups to intentionally cultivate communities of practice across USMAI libraries;
- Increase short-term mentoring for new hires to build familiarity with consortial peers and shared practices;
- Institute new USMAI leadership development and succession planning activities.

### **Goal Three: Improve visibility of the USMAI Library Consortium [multi-directional focus]**

- Develop and implement a multi-faceted consortial marketing plan;
- Leverage the consortial voice for endorsements, resolutions, announcements, and other advocacy that significantly advances library interests;
- Significantly improve consortial website;
- Increase, publicize and track publications and presentations about USMAI projects.

### **Assessment & Evaluation Vectors**

Innovation Indicators: Leverages existing national/professional consensus on best practices? Introduces new or previously untested methods that would interest other libraries? Potential for scaling and replication?

Collaboration Indicators: Broad “buy-in” by USMAI member libraries? Incentives for greater participation? New partnerships? Appropriate methods of dissemination and outreach?

General Evaluation: Outputs (what was produced/created/accomplished?) and Outcomes (what changes occurred in organizations, communities, and individuals?).

Note: The full plan and implementation details will be available soon on a new consortium website.