At 12:14 p.m., Regent Attman read the Statement Regarding Closing a Meeting of the Committee on Economic Development and Technology Commercialization. Regent Attman then made a motion to convene in executive session under State Government Article Section 10-508(a), which was seconded by Regent Gossett and unanimously approved. The Committee on Economic Development and Technology Commercialization convened in executive session at 12:17 p.m.

The regents in attendance were Mr. Attman, Mr. Gossett, Mr. Kelly, Mr. McMillen, Mr. Rauch, Ms. Turner, and Dr. Vance (by phone). Also participating in the meeting were Chancellor Kirwan, Mr. Vivona, Mr. Balakrishnan, Dr. Boughman, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Darmody, Ms. Doyle, Mr. Hughes, Ms. Moultrie, and Assistant Attorney General Bainbridge.

Mr. Eric Chapman, Assistant Vice President of Research at UMCP, briefed the Committee on the NIST Cyber Security FFRDC initiative. FFRDCs, or Federally Funded Research and Development Centers, are unique independent nonprofit entities sponsored and funded by the U.S. government to meet specific long-term technical needs. FFRDCs typically assist government agencies with scientific research and analysis and bring together the expertise and outlook of government, industry, and academia to solve complex technical problems.

The Cyber Security FFRDC is expected to be headquartered in Montgomery County, Maryland and the USM will be teaming with a not-for-profit partner to respond to the forthcoming NIST Cyber Security FFRDC Request for Proposals (RFP). USM offers collective broad expertise in cyber security and will be pursuing academic affiliates to build a geographically diverse, national team of experts.

The final RFP is expected to be issued in March with proposal submission likely due by the end of May and the award announced in the September/October 2014 time frame. The initial award will be for five years, with four, five-year renewal options. As such, the winning team could lead the FFRDC for the next 25 years and significant regional and national competition is expected for this award. If selected, the USM will have a leading role in guiding and directing the research, evaluation, and technology aspects of the FFRDC.
Regent Attman called for a motion to adjourn and convene in public session. The motion was moved by Regent Vance; seconded by Regent Gossett; and unanimously approved. The executive session was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary L. Attman, Chair
Committee on Economic Development and Technology Commercialization