The Committee on Education Policy and Student Life (EPSL) of the University System of Maryland (USM) Board of Regents met in public session on Tuesday, January 14, 2014 in the Multi-Purpose Room of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County – Columbus Center, Baltimore, MD. The meeting was convened at 9:30 a.m. Committee members present were: Ms. Michaux Gonzales (Chair), Mr. Kinkopf, Mr. Manizade, and Mr. Slater. Regents Florestano, Reid, and Vance participated via conference call. Chancellor Kirwan and Regent McMillen were also present.

Also attending were: Dr. Allen, Ms. Bainbridge, Dr. Beise, Dr. Bishop, Dr. Boughman, Mr. Bowden, Ms. Brandenburg, Dr. Bryant, Mr. Chambers, Dr. Chandler, Dr. Cini, Mr. Crockett, Ms. Doyle, Dr. Foustan, Mr. Fox, Mr. Glovin, Ms. Green, Dr. Gregory, Ms. Haddon, Ms. Hollander, Dr. Jackson, Ms. Jamison, Dr. Jarrell, Dr. Klugh, Ms. Knepler, Ms. LaMaster, Dr. Lee, Mr. Leonard, Dr. Lilly, Mr. Lurie, Mr. Morgan, Dr. Moriarty, Dr. Moriera, Ms. Moultrie, Mr. Munza, Mr. Page, Dr. Rhodes, Ms. Ryan, Dr. Shapiro, Ms. Soren, Dr. Spicer, Dr. Takona, Dr. Travis, Mr. Uchacz, Ms. Verzinski, Mr. Vihona, Ms. West, Mr. Ward, Dr. Wolfe, Dr. Wood, and Dr. Zimmerman.

**Action Item**

**New Academic Program Proposal**

**University of Maryland, Baltimore: Master of Science in Law**

Ms. Haddon, Dr. Jarrell, and Ms. LaMaster presented UMB’s proposed Master of Science in Law, a degree designed for non-lawyer professionals who desire to enhance their careers by developing a competency in law. This program, a collaboration with UMCP, would be the first degree program out of the MPowering Initiative. The degree will be offered part-time and in the evening by UM Carey Law at the UMCP campus. The proposed program would be unique to Maryland and the region. The program’s goal is to enable working professionals with an undergraduate degree to gain fluency with legal structures, principles, concepts, and modes of analysis to complement and augment their existing specialized professional expertise. It is designed for highly qualified students with work experience who do not wish to pursue a J.D. degree, yet desire a more focused and detailed engagement with the law than is available in other
master’s degree programs. Those pursuing the degree will be required to specialize in one of four substantive areas: (1) health law, (2) environmental law, (3) crisis and emergency management, or (4) government law and the regulatory process. Regent Kinkopf expressed concern about students knowing where the line is drawn between themselves and those with law degrees. The presenters noted that professional responsibility and ethics would be stressed, so that students are aware of the extent to which they would be able to advise clients. Additionally, it was recommend that the program be broaden to have a more general course of study (i.e., real estate, tax) where additional legal knowledge could be beneficial.

The Chancellor recommends that the Committee on Education Policy and Student Life recommend that the Board of Regents approve the proposal from the University of Maryland, Baltimore to offer the Master of Science in Law. The motion was moved by Regent Slater, seconded by Regent Manizade, and unanimously approved.

**Information Items**

**New Program 5-Year Enrollment Review**

Ms. Hollander presented this report which includes actual enrollments in new programs approved since 2011. The data reflect that campuses provided fairly accurate enrollment projections when proposing new programs. This report gives the Board a more complete picture of the life cycle of a program, from the time of implementation through the first graduating cohort and the seven-year periodic reviews. Regents noted that the Committee may want to talk further about sustaining a program with less than 10 students and reassessing programs that aren’t meeting their projections. Ms. Hollander noted that the latter is occurring, as 30 programs were discontinued or suspended last year. She also indicated that six-year graduation data will be included in the 2017 report.

**Results of Periodic Reviews of Academic Programs**

Dr. Joann Boughman described the program review process. She noted that academic programs are reviewed every seven years and follow a review process that was approved previously by the Board of Regents. A format for the reports is standardized and includes information on enrollments and degrees awarded, internal and external reviews, and institutional recommendations and actions. USM academic affairs staff reviews drafts of each report, and comments are shared with the institutions for appropriate action prior to final submission to the Chancellor. This year, 32 bachelor’s, 21 master’s, and 7 doctorate programs and 7 post-baccalaureate certificates were reviewed. A few programs were identified as having enrollment or degree productivity concerns. When action is recommended, provosts and/or deans develop institutional action plans. The chart and today’s presentation offer a few highlights from each review and institutional recommendations. Copies of the complete program reviews are available from the USM Office of Academic Affairs.

**Report on Extramural Funding, FY 2013**

Dr. Boughman presented this report which provides information on extramural awards received by USM institutions in support of specific research, education, or service initiatives. In FY 2013, the System received $1,197,988,411.33 in extramural funding, a 6.6% decrease from FY 2012. UMB and UMCP garnered the largest extramural funding totals among System institutions. BSU, TU, UB, UMBC, and UMUC obtained higher levels of extramural funding than in FY 2012. Several institutions accounted for the overall decline in funding. In spite of the decline, it should be noted that once again, the proportion of the total budget accounted for by extramural
funding exceeded that accounted for by either state general funds or tuition and fee revenue. Furthermore, it is recognized that the amount of federal funding available has not been increasing. Federal funding agencies were significantly affected by the March 1, 2013 implementation of the Sequester. Those agencies prepared for and responded to the Sequester by either reducing the number of new awards made under competitions or canceling competitions. Institutions responded by submitting more proposals than were submitted in FY 2012, however, about the same number of awards were received. Ultimately, Dr. Boughman believes USM is still fairing well. Regents commended the institutions for their work.

**Update on Policies and Discussion on Hazing in Student Organizations**

Regent Gonzales addressed recent concerns about hazing. She noted that hazing is unlawful in Maryland and that the USM, institutions, and Board of Regents are unconditionally opposed to hazing. Regent Gonzales defined hazing and noted that although there is no USM policy on hazing, there is a Board of Regents Policy on Student Affairs (V-1.00) that addresses the establishment of rules and procedures for student organizations, the handling of student grievances, and the distribution and publication of related policies, rules, and regulations. She announced that the USM staff is and will continue to examine institutional documents, but that it is not the role of the Board of Regents to become involved in specific hazing incidents on campuses, especially if they are still being adjudicated. The USM staff will examine the issue from a larger level paying attention to adjudication procedures, collaboration with local law enforcement, compliance with FERPA when announcing information, policies, sanctions, and the effectiveness of policies and procedures.

Dr. Boughman described the complexities of managing students organizations and the increased complexity of managing sororities and fraternities which have structures that differ from most other student organizations. She noted, however, that the Vice Presidents of Student Affairs and their teams consistently work to enforce their institutions’ policies. She also noted that campus hazing policies and the codes of conduct apply to all student organizations, not just fraternities and sororities. Dr. Boughman confirmed that all campuses have appropriately clear and web-accessible statements defining and prohibiting hazing, policies and procedures about reporting and investigating hazing, processes for adjudicating hazing allegations, and possible sanctions. At Chancellor Kirwan’s request, the vice presidents for student affairs from Bowie, Salisbury, and Towson shared details of educational programs used to inform students about and prevent hazing. The VPs also answered other questions posed by the regents. Chancellor Kirwan noted that legislation will be introduced to increase the penalties for hazing. The Committee will receive updates as needed.

**Report: Intercollegiate Athletics**

The USM Policy on Intercollegiate Athletics (V-2.10) requires reporting on several items for the Board of Regents. The Board of Regents’ Workgroup on Intercollegiate Athletics reviews all of these materials, and now EPSL is reviewing academic affairs and student life aspects of the reports. During today’s public session, the Committee reviewed item G – Equity in Athletics Disclosure Act (EADA) reports. Prior to a review of campus EADA reports, Regent Tom McMillen, chair of the Intercollegiate Athletics Workgroup of the Board of Regents, updated the Committee on the Workgroup’s progress including, but not limited to:

- Reviewing materials collected under the policy,
- Aligning compensation with desired academic outcomes,
• Examining Title IX and gender equity,
• Developing possible procedures and processes for the distribution of ICA information to standing committees once the workgroup comes to a close, and
• Otherwise working to ensure that the regents are informed and satisfying their oversight responsibilities.

Dr. Zakiya Lee and Mr. Bob Page of USM reviewed the purposes of the EADA reports and noted that campuses are consistently working to achieve gender equity. Mr. Page specifically noted work being done at Towson to address this issue.

Regent Slater asked if EPSL would receive financial information as had been done in the past. Presently, the plan is to have financial information be reported to the ICA Workgroup and the Finance Committee. Regent Kinkopf commended the ICA Workgroup on its work and requested that the Committee on Organization and Compensation be included in the standing committees to which reports from the ICA policy are presented, especially as it pertains to the compensation of athletics department staff.

**Action Item**

**Motion to Adjourn and Reconvene in Closed Executive Session**

Regent Gonzales stated, “The Open Meetings Act permits public bodies to close their meetings to the public under certain circumstances outlined in Subtitle 5 section 10-508(a) of the Act. On this 14th day of January 2014, the Education Policy and Student Life Committee of the USM Board of Regents will vote to reconvene in closed session following the adjournment of the public session. As required by the law, we have a written statement to become part of the record, that the reason for closing this meeting is to discuss items under numbers 1, 2, and 13 of Article 10-508(a). In regards to the Regents’ Faculty Awards, honorary degree nominations, and Intercollegiate Athletics report, we will vote to close the meeting:

• To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction;
• To discuss any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals;
• To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals with respect to a matter that is not related to public business; and
• To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter.

Although we do not anticipate it, it is possible that once we convene in closed session, an issue could arise that we believe should be added to the closed session agenda for discussion; if that is the case, we would reconvene in open session for the purpose of voting to reconvene in closed session to discuss that item.”

Regent Gonzales called for a motion to adjourn and reconvene in executive session. (Moved by Regent Kinkopf, seconded by Regent Vance; in favor – Regents Florestano, Gonzales, Kinkopf, Manizade, Reid, and Vance; abstained – Regent Slater). Regent Gonzales adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.