



**BOARD OF REGENTS
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Minutes from Public Session
October 9, 2014
UMB

Senator Kelly called the meeting of the Finance Committee of the University System of Maryland Board of Regents to order in public session at 10:04 a.m. Senator Kelly read the *Convening in Closed Session statement* citing State Government Article Subtitle 5, Section 10-508(a) of the Open Meetings Act to discuss issues specifically exempted in the Act from the requirement for public consideration. Senator Kelly motioned and Regent Gossett seconded to convene in closed session. In response to the motion, the Committee members voted unanimously to convene in closed session at 10:04 a.m. to consider and make a recommendation on the acquisition of real property. The session adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

The Committee reconvened in public session at 10:15 a.m. Those Regents participating in the session included: Senator Kelly, Ms. Ahmed, Mr. Gossett, Mr. Kinkopf, Ms. Motz, Mr. McMillen (via telephone) and Mr. Slater (via telephone). Also present were: Dr. Kirwan, Mr. Vivona, Dr. Boughman, Ms. Moultrie, Ms. Doyle, Assistant Attorney General Bainbridge, Mr. Miyares, Dr. Holden, Ms. Kropp, Ms. Schaefer, Mr. Shoenberger, Mr. Lockett, Ms. Delaney, Mr. Beck, Ms. Denson, Mr. Page, Mr. Salt, Mr. Lurie, Ms. McMann, and other members of the USM community and the public.

1. University of Maryland University College Facilities Master Plan (presentation and information)

Mr. Miyares gave an overview presentation on the update to the facilities master plan. He began by saying that the master plan focused on the current use of work space, and how work space will be utilized in the future. He explained that the plan is forward-thinking and avoids new development while reducing the travel distances and commuting times. One outcome of the plan will be a reduction of the University's carbon footprint and a commitment to climate neutrality by 2050. A goal of the plan is for UMUC to emerge as an *employer of choice* by offering flexible schedules and office locations.

Mr. Miyares described the current of state of UMUC's facilities. The University is comprised of 500,000 square feet of space located at its Adelphi campus and in Largo. The space has all been recently renovated and updated and is in great condition. UMUC also leases space in four locations, including Shady Grove, Southern Maryland, Dorsey and Quantico. As of today, 99% of UMUC's workforce (not including adjunct faculty) is considered "resident." All of these employees must be provided with offices or cubicles. Mr. Miyares then outlined three scenarios of how UMUC would respond to differing levels of growth in its workforce. In each scenario, 20% of the workforce would work remotely. This opportunity provides reduced commutes, reduced emissions, increased flexibility and improved employee satisfaction. When workforce expansion reaches a level of 20% and beyond, the plan calls for a mix of "resident" space and "mobile" space for 80% of UMUC employees. Offices will be reconfigured

and converted into space that can be reserved by day as needed by employees for office use—often referred to as *hoteling*—and rearranged in the evening and converted into classroom use. Mr. Miyares concluded by saying that the goals of the plan were to manage growth in its employee population, without requiring additional facilities while providing more flexibility to its future workforce. Regent Motz asked about the split of 80% (resident) / 20% (mobile) employees. Mr. Lockett responded that UMUC took a look at which jobs lend themselves to being performed remotely. He pointed out that industry standards show that on average, one in five jobs can be accomplished remotely, adding that currently a little more than 1% of UMUC’s employees work remotely. Senator Kelly questioned whether the shift of employees out of the regular office setting could impact their ability to develop relationships with one another and hinder collaborative interactions. Mr. Miyares responded that the younger employees are already very connected via social media. He indicated that when these employees come in to the office once or twice a week, they will be linked with other employees in collaborative areas which will facilitate working together. When asked about productivity and possible employee isolation, Mr. Miyares pointed out that managers will need to be trained accordingly, and that if managed properly, the innovative model brings benefits to both the employee and employer.

Senator Kelly thanked Mr. Miyares for the presentation and indicated that the Committee would consider the master plan for action at its next meeting scheduled in November, in line with the Board’s two-step process for review and approval.

The UMUC Facilities Master Plan will be on the November 20 agenda for consideration of approval by the Finance Committee.

2. Amendments to USM Policy VIII-2.70—Policy on Student Classification for Admission and Tuition Purposes (action)

Mr. Vivona summarized the item. The technical amendments to the policy are required to be in compliance with the federal law. Specifically, with the passage of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act by Congress, institutions must charge veterans a tuition rate that is the same as the in-state rate for residents. He further noted that costs are expected to be minimal, and in some cases, this action might help with enrollments.

The Finance Committee recommended that the Board of Regents adopt the proposed amendments to the USM’s Student Classification policy as presented.

(Regent Gossett moved recommendation, seconded by Regent Slater, unanimously approved)

3. University of Maryland, Baltimore County: Funding Authorization for Fine Arts Building Renovation (action)

Mr. Vivona explained that UMBC is seeking approval for the full funding of the renovation of its Fine Arts Building. The project was initially approved last June as a phased-funding project in the SFCP, however the University desires to award a single contract. The institution will use its own funds initially, and then replenish those funds with facilities renewal funds designated for this project. Mr. Salt indicated that the institution is not seeking additional funding, and that the authorized project cost will remain the same, at \$12.2 million.

The Finance Committee recommended that the Board of Regents approve a single project to renovate the Fine Arts Building at UMBC in the amount of \$12.2 million as described.

(Regent Gossett moved recommendation, seconded by Regent Kinkopf, unanimously approved)

4. Construction of Academic Facilities and Return on Investment (information)

Mr. Vivona stated that following the May Capital Workshop, some board members expressed an interest in looking at a return on investment regarding individual capital budget projects. Mr. Vivona explained that the current vetting process is very robust in documenting the need for new capital projects. For instance, USM institutions must prepare forward-looking facilities master plans and facility program documents for review and approval prior to receiving favorable consideration for funding of their projects. Metrics reported to the Board and the State currently include space deficiencies, classroom occupancy and utilization, as well as changes in enrollment, student performance and research grants. He went on to say that he and the staff will begin the process of working with institutions to develop ways to use these same measures to take a look backwards in an effort to evaluate how well these projects are fulfilling their intended purposes. He cautioned that many factors, however, go in to student success. He indicated that the effort would be matured and added to the thinking of the capital budget discussion in May. Regent McMillen raised the issue of faculty office space. He voiced an interest in understanding what percentage of space is designated as faculty offices on the campuses and how well that space is utilized. He pointed to UMUC's *hoteling* model as a very innovative way to handle office space at an institution for those faculty and staff who may not need to be on campus in a designated office each day.

The item was received for information.

The public session was adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Senator Frank X. Kelly
Chairman, Committee on Finance