



BOARD OF REGENTS

SUMMARY OF ITEM FOR ACTION, INFORMATION, OR DISCUSSION

TOPIC: Accreditation Update: Frostburg State University

COMMITTEE: Education Policy and Student Life

DATE OF COMMITTEE MEETING: September 20, 2016

SUMMARY: Accreditation of the USM institutions is through the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE), which sets forth standards for accreditation and provides support and guidance to meet those standards. New standards were adopted in 2014 and will be implemented for the first self-study cohort scheduled for review in 2017-2018.

In addition, in January 2016, members also endorsed a plan to review and revise the process whereby institutions engage in self-study and peer review. This plan called for replacing the current periodic and decennial reviews with an eight-year accreditation cycle that includes Annual Institutional Updates (AIU), and a Mid-Point Peer Review.

Several of our institutions underwent their decennial review during 2015-2016. The Committee will receive an update on Frostburg State University's review, which resulted in a warning that the institution's "accreditation may be in jeopardy because of insufficient evidence that the institution is currently in compliance with Standard 7 (Institutional Assessment), and Standard 12 (General Education)." It is critical to note that Frostburg remains accredited by the MSCHE while on warning. The report includes a summary of Commission actions, current status, and expected activities.

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

FISCAL IMPACT: This is an information item only.

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

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Information Only	DATE: September 20, 2016
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BOARD ACTION:	DATE:
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