



BOARD OF REGENTS
SUMMARY OF ITEM FOR ACTION,
INFORMATION, OR DISCUSSION

TOPIC: Overview of Undergraduate Enrollment, Persistence, and Success at the University System of Maryland

COMMITTEE: Education Policy and Student Life

DATE OF COMMITTEE MEETING: March 8, 2016

SUMMARY: Three annual reports are included under this cover and will be discussed as part of this topic. The three reports are as follows:

- *SAT Percentile Distributions of First-Time Undergraduates;*
- *Retention and Graduation Rates of First-time Full-time Degree Seeking Undergraduates; and*
- *Transfer Students to the University System of Maryland: Patterns of Enrollment and Success.*

When looked at as a whole, the three reports provide a useful overview of undergraduate enrollment within the USM, including the various pipelines that feed undergraduate enrollment, the academic profile of incoming first-time students (as measured by SAT scores), student success and persistence after enrollment, and, in the end, bachelor degree attainment. This information can be helpful as regents seek to understand or make decisions about our student population.

SAT Percentile Distributions of First-Time Undergraduates

For new freshmen, a key admissions component correlated with student success is the entering students' SAT scores. SAT scores are also used by external organizations for various purposes, including quality rankings. It is important to note, however, that some students do not take the SAT. Differences in SAT scores can partially explain differences in student success across the USM. Institutions with the highest SAT scores are also those with the highest graduation rates. Overall, although we are competitive with our peers, SAT scores at institutions with enrollment challenges are not as competitive. Regents should also be aware that admitting students with lower SATs often yields challenges for the completion agenda.

Retention and Graduation Rates of First-time Full-time Degree Seeking Undergraduates

First-time, full-time new freshmen at USM continue to be an academically strong group. Although there were declines at some institutions, the USM's second-year retention rate is strong, and the six-year graduation rates are at all-time highs. Overall, USM is maximizing this pipeline by producing nearly seven graduates for every ten that enter as new freshmen. The increased attention to completion and closing the achievement gaps has increased student success. This is a point of pride for universities and one that required over six years of steady commitment to see the results. From a board perspective, the continuation of initiatives that emphasize completion and decrease time-to-degree should be encouraged.

Transfer Students to the University System of Maryland: Patterns of Enrollment and Success

Overall, transfers comprise approximately two-thirds of the new students who enter USM institutions in a fiscal year. Over 28,000 students transferred into USM in FY 2015. Of those Maryland community college transfers who enrolled in FY 2012, 55% graduated within four years. It should also be noted that the number of Maryland community college transfers at the regional centers has been growing, and those students are graduating at the same or higher rates than first-time, full-time new freshmen at USM institutions. In the charge of ensuring access and completion, USM is meeting its goals via the transfer pipeline.

ALTERNATIVE(S): This is an information item.

FISCAL IMPACT: This is an information item.

CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION: This is an information item.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Information Only

DATE: March 8, 2016

BOARD ACTION:

DATE:

SUBMITTED BY: Joseph F. Vivona

301-445-1923

jvivona@usmd.edu



Undergraduate Student Input and Success

Presentation to Education Policy and Student Life Committee
March 8, 2016

*Prepared by Institutional Research
Office of Administration and Finance/
Chief Operating Officer*



Overview

Three annual reports:

- *SAT Percentile Distributions of First-Time Undergraduates*
- *Retention and Graduation Rates of First-Time, Full-Time Degree-Seeking Undergraduates*
- *Transfer Students to the University of Maryland: Patterns of Enrollment and Success*
- *USM Enrollment Projections 2014-2023*

Highlights three major undergraduate pipelines:

- New freshmen (fall only)
 - Academic profile (SAT) and level of success (retention and graduation)
- Maryland community college transfers (Fiscal Year)
 - Preparedness and level of success
- Other new transfers (Fiscal Year)

Slide 2



Key Points

- You are what you measure
- Institutional reputation is based primarily on freshmen
- USM is 2/3rd new transfers contributing over half of the degrees
- Graduation rates correlates with quality & preparedness
- The path to 28,000 is both input & success

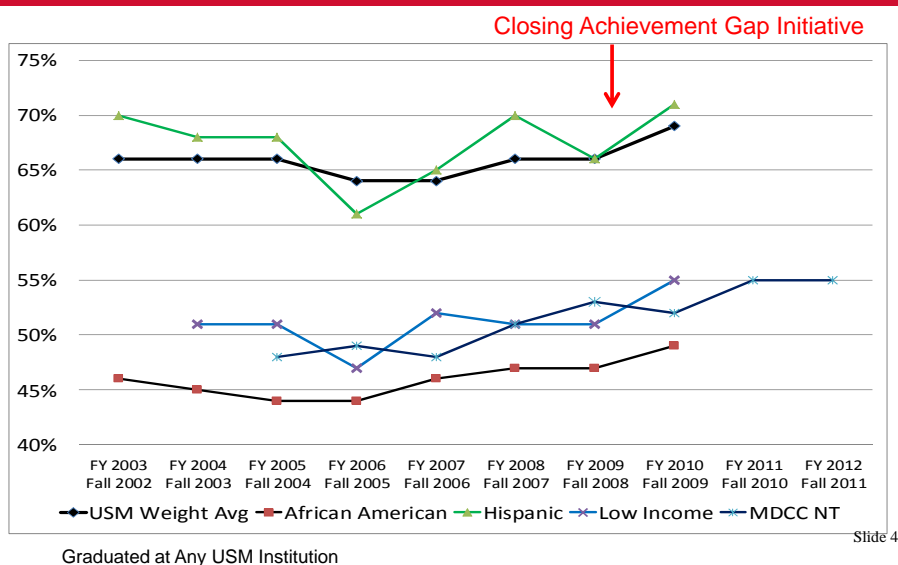
Context:

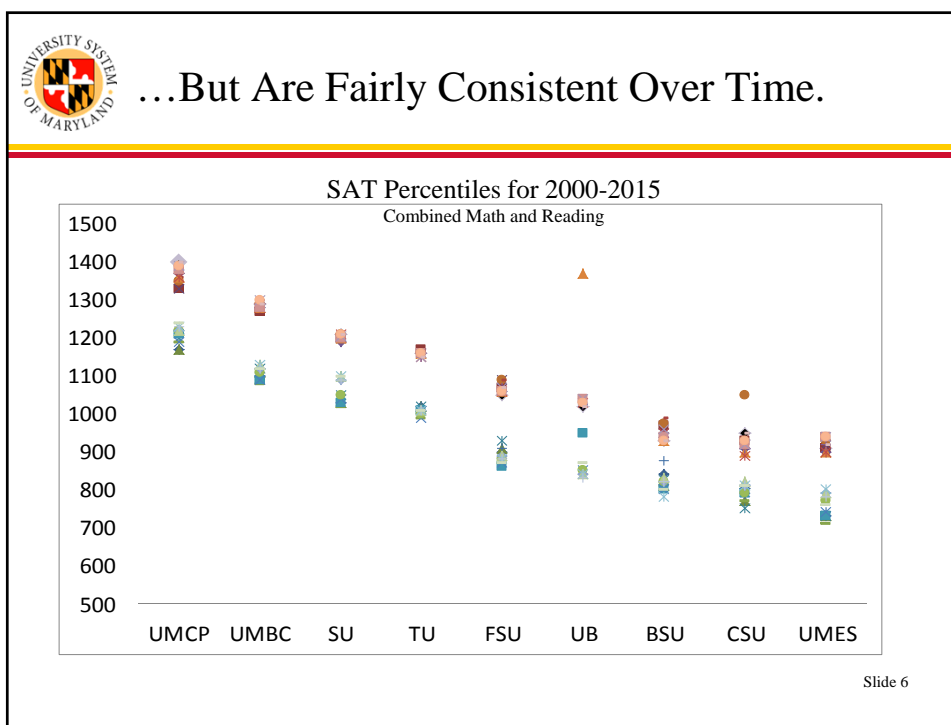
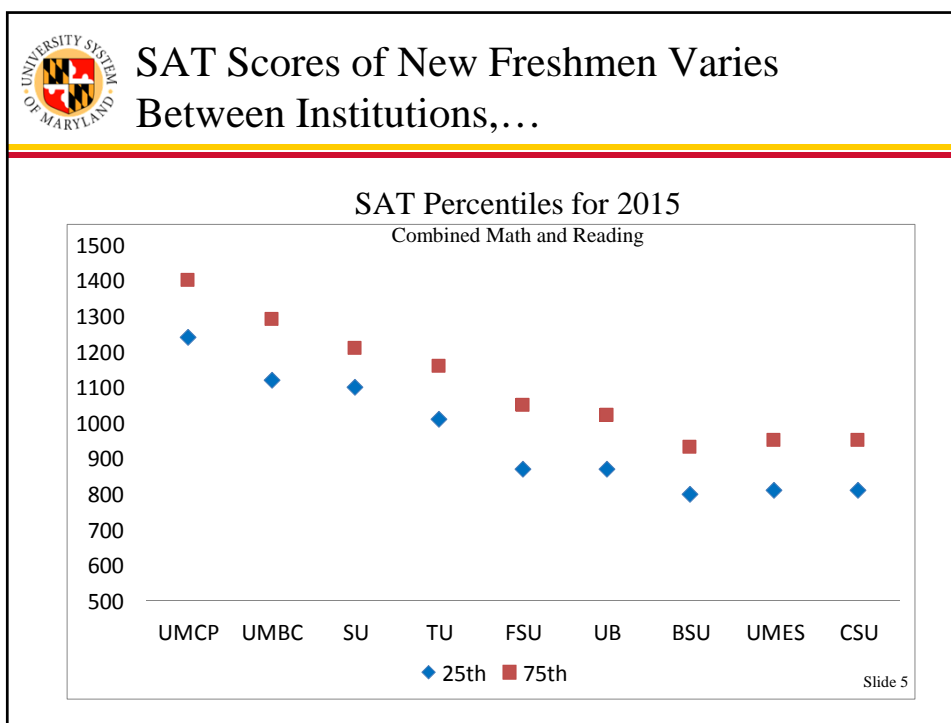
- Maryland HS Graduates are primary source of new students
- Maryland is a net exporter
- New student demand & outcomes vary by institution

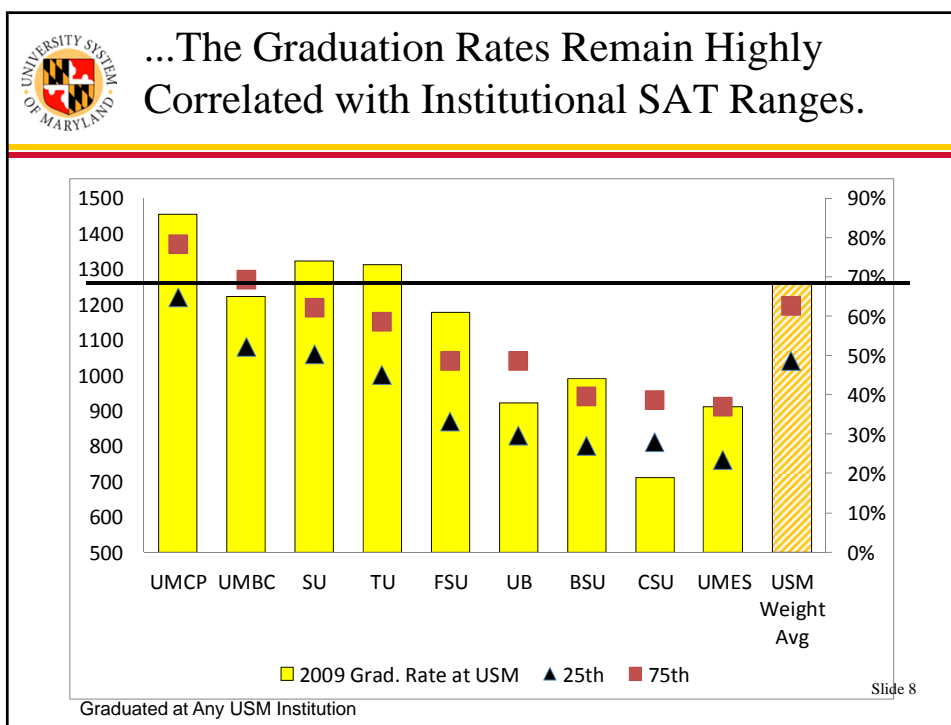
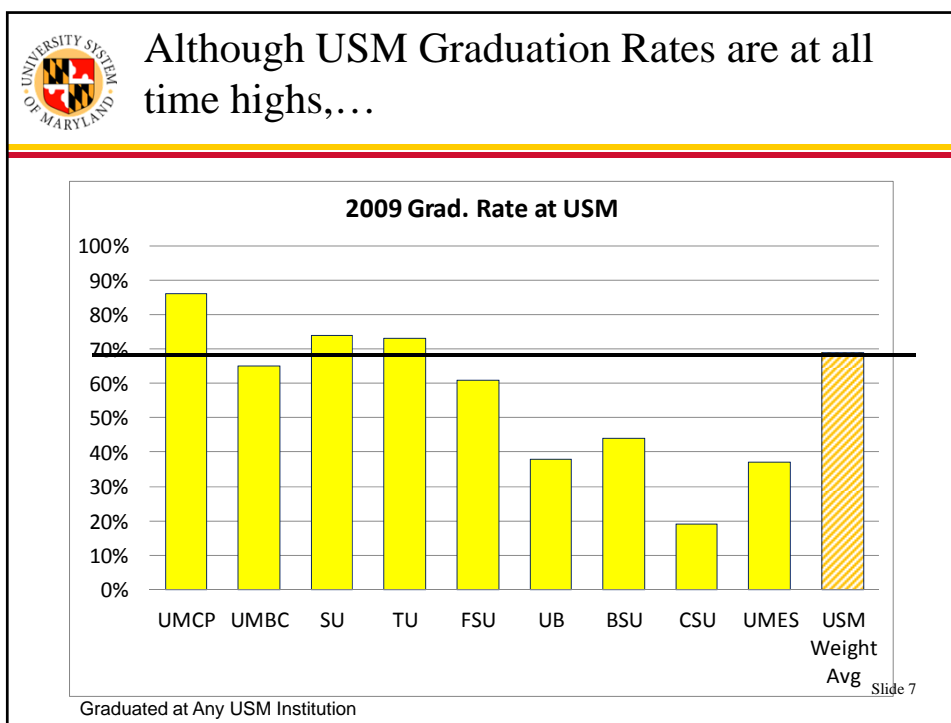
Slide 3



Focusing on Closing Achievement Gaps & Transfers Leads to All-Time High Graduation Rates









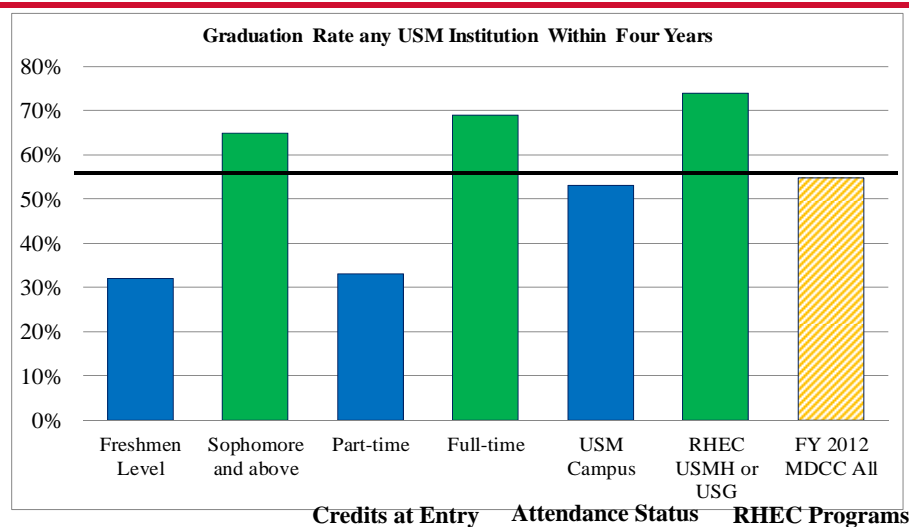
There Are Similar Positive Trends For the Quality of MDCC Transfers...

- Moving in the right direction:
 - Increase in full-time
 - Increase in more transfer credit
 - Increase in at USM Regional Centers
- Enrolling in generally available programs
 - Business and management, social sciences (psychology), computer and information science, education and health professions, public affairs (criminology)

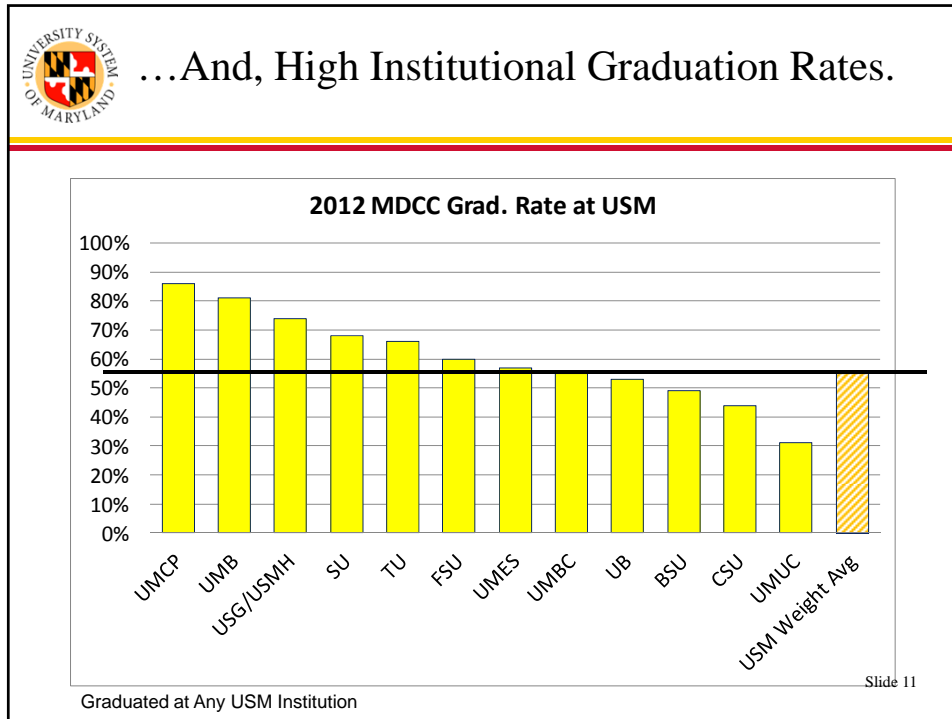
Slide 9




...Translating Into Greater Success Among the Transfer Population...



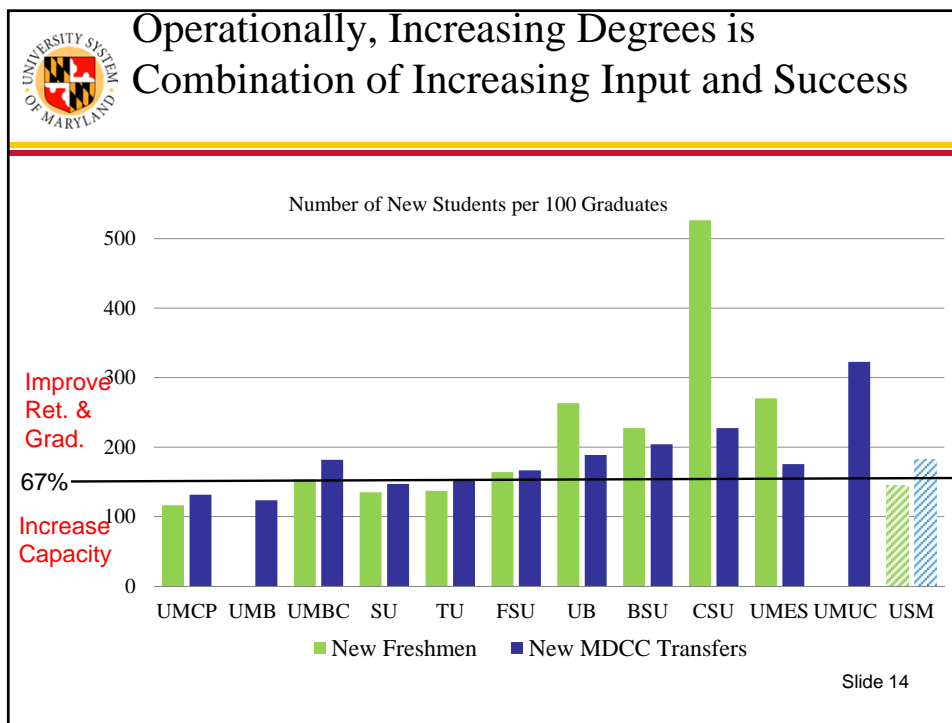
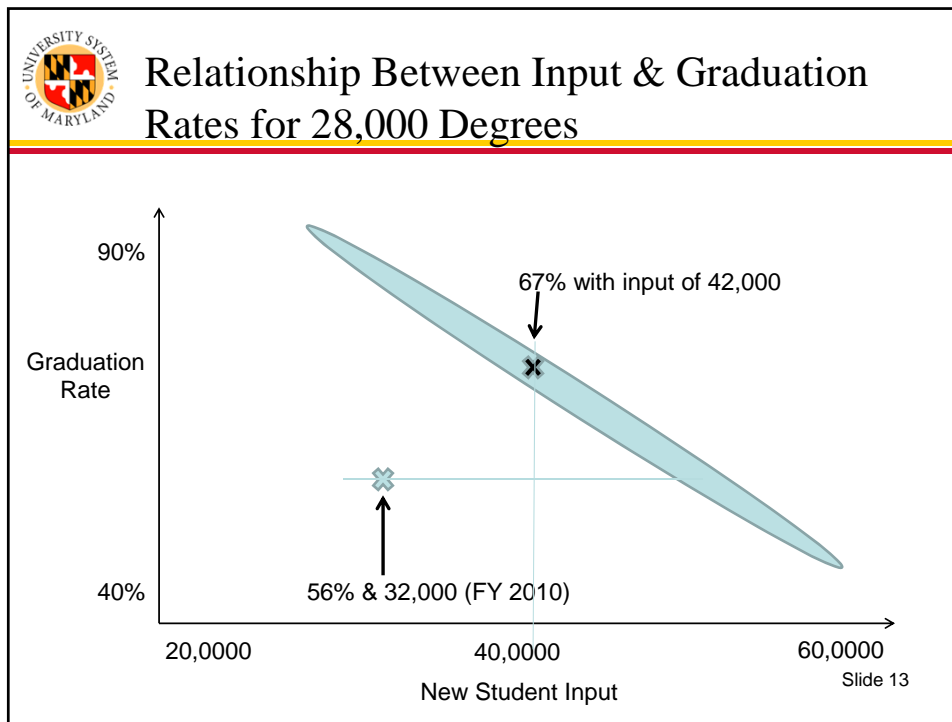
Slide 10



 What Does This Mean Going Forward?

- ~40,000 new students in FY 2015—the majority from MD
- However, less than half of MD HS choose MD institutions—growth is limited
- Net exporter of high quality students—expensive to keep in-state
- Both freshmen and MDCC transfer must be maximized
- Increasingly dependent on non-traditional adult students pursuing online—UMUC enrolled half of all new transfers

Slide 12





Summary Points

- You are what you measure—continued focus on success
- Compare well nationally and within peer groups
- USM is 2/3rd new transfers contributing over half of the degrees
- Graduation rates for all students correlates with quality & preparedness
- Achieving 28,000 degrees requires input & success

Slide 15