



System Insider

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USM Reaches Out to Over 500 Students in FEA Conference

USM and Baltimore City Public Schools partnered to host a city-wide Future Educators of America (FEA) Conference on May 27. More than 600 middle and high school FEA club students and parents attended. The “I am College Bound” themed conference was an effort to help students understand and prepare for college and careers in the education field.

The conference, emceed by James Lindsay of Baltimore City Public Schools, opened with remarks from USM Associate Vice Chancellor Nancy Shapiro, Chancellor William E. Kirwan, Baltimore City Public Schools CEO Andre Alonso, and principals from two of the area’s middle schools.

Students attended panel sessions and met with admissions representatives from 22 colleges and universities, including all 11 USM universities. Students were also able to speak with “university ambassadors,” USM students who participated in panel sessions and ushered the attendees to the different areas of the conference.

This was the third and most successful year for the conference sponsored by USM’s \$6-million, five-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The grant is funding Education Equals Mentoring, Coaching and Cohorts ($E = mc^2$), a program to help USM develop a pipeline for future teachers. It also helps to fund Teacher Academies, in which high school students take college-level courses for college credit and participate in FEA clubs. FEA clubs were developed as a long-term strategy to grow the pipeline for future teachers in Baltimore and the state of Maryland.

Lynn Harbinson and DeWayne Morgan of USM’s Office of Academic Affairs, who both oversee and manage the $E = mc^2$ grant for the System office, organized the event. They have worked tirelessly to grow the number of students attending the yearly conference. The conference has grown from just 100 students to 530 students and 75 parents.

To read the news article and view footage of the event, visit <http://www.wbaltv.com:80/news/19583967/detail.html>

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In Office News

Way2GoMaryland Hosts Second Event

USM hosted the second [Way2GoMaryland](#) informational event on May 16, this time for Prince George's County middle school students. Held at UMCP, more than 300 students and parents attended the event at which they heard from a panel of USM students who discussed their journeys to and through higher education. Chancellor Kirwan; Jack Cronin of ATK Mission Systems Group (Way2GoMaryland corporate sponsor); and William Hite Jr., Superintendent of Prince George's County Public Schools, offered brief remarks. Kori Smith of USM's Office of Academic Affairs served as the event's emcee.

Students also had a chance to explore the [Way2GoMaryland website](#), speak to admissions counselors and financial aid staff from USM institutions, and win door prizes. Representatives from Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission, the Maryland Higher Education Commission, and College Savings Plans of Maryland also attended the event offering information to the students. To view photos and a video clip of the event, [click here](#).

Chancellor Kirwan Chairs a New Board

Chancellor Kirwan was recently appointed as chairperson of the National Research Council Policy and Global Affairs Board on Higher Education and Workforce. The Board of Higher Education and Workforce provides leadership to academia and the federal government with advice on key national issues in higher education and workforce development, specifically to the nation's scientific, medical, and technology fields.

Hello and Farewell

Say hello to [Mike Lurie](#), who has joined us in the Office of Communications as the new media relations and web manager. Mike previously served as the director of media relations at UMBC. Before joining UMBC, he was a member of UMB's media relations team.

Farewell to [Gayle Fink](#), director of institutional research, has left the USM Office of Institutional Research to join Bowie State University as assistant vice president for institutional effectiveness. Gayle served in the USM office for the past four years.

Event Calendar

6/19 Annual Board of Regents Meeting— FSU Campus— contact [Janice Doyle](#) for more information.



Keeping the System Running

Ever been to a USM office function and met someone but have no idea what she/he does? We will highlight various departments of USM to not only get to know our co-workers better, but also learn how they help to “Keep the System Running.”

Office of Academic Affairs

Under the leadership of Irv Goldstein, senior vice chancellor for academic affairs, this spotlighted area of the Office of Academic Affairs is responsible for forming and maintaining USM partnerships with K-12 as well as obtaining grants for various teaching and learning programs. They also help carry out the chancellor’s initiative of enhancing Maryland’s competitiveness through a focus on STEM.

Nancy Shapiro, associate vice chancellor, works closely with USM institutions, the Maryland State Department of Education, and K-12 schools creating partnerships to ensure that USM prepares highly qualified teachers for Maryland public schools and to ensure K-12 students come to college prepared for college level work. In addition, she works to address access, affordability, and accountability in higher education. Her leadership has resulted in USM receiving more than \$31 million in federal grants during the last 10 years at USM to support the school-university partnerships.

Jennifer Vest Frank, P-20 partnership project evaluator, manages two grant-funded projects, “Making Opportunity Affordable” and “Change and Sustainability in Higher Education” (CASHE). She also serves as the internal evaluator for the Minority Student Pipeline (MSP), a partnership between BSU, UMCP, UMBI, Prince George’s Community College, and Prince George’s County Public Schools.



Lynn Harbinson, project manager, oversees all aspects of the “Education Equals Mentoring, Coaching and Cohorts” ($E=mc^2$) grant that USM manages with Baltimore City Public Schools, USM institutions, and business partners. Lynn also maintains the content for the USM Sustainability web pages.

David May is the project manager of VIP K-16 (Vertically Integrated Partnerships) and MSP (Minority Student Pipeline), two math and science partnership grants from the National Science Foundation. He brings together faculty and administrators from USM institutions, two-year colleges, and K-12 schools to develop and implement science professional development and curriculum reform as well as other programs for strengthening the pipeline for scientists and science teachers.



DeWayne Morgan is a research analyst and project manager of $E=mc^2$. He has represented USM by giving research presentations at some of the nation’s leading conferences on education, including those of the American Association for Colleges and Universities (AACU) and the Education Partnership Conference.



Danielle Susskind, P-20 program specialist, provides staff support for the P-20 initiatives. She also supports the managers of partnership projects VIP K-16 and CASHE.



Parvathi Narayan, program management specialist, provides the associate vice chancellor and grant managers with administrative and business support. She also works to coordinate contracts for external consultants working on grant-related issues.

LOOK *Look for our next issue of System Insider as we continue to highlight staff from different departments to learn their contributions to USM.*



Initiatives

STEM Symposium

USM hosted a system-wide STEM symposium in April that was organized by [Nancy Shapiro](#), associate vice chancellor for academic affairs; Danielle Susskind, program specialist; and Jenna Buttler, special events coordinator. The STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics) symposium, supporting one of the three initiatives of Chancellor Kirwan, featured national experts on STEM teaching and learning and STEM teacher production.

More than 300 people attended the event that featured special guest speakers Arne Duncan, U.S. Secretary of Education; P. Uri Treisman of University at Texas in Austin; and Norman Augustine, USM regent.

USM launched the STEM initiative to help meet the critical demand in the science, technology, engineering, and math disciplines. The goals of this initiative are to increase the number of science, technology, engineering, and math graduates from USM institutions; to produce more STEM teachers for the state of Maryland; to help retrain and retool existing workers; and to prepare teachers in the STEM areas for K-12 education.

Reminders



There are USM logo mugs, lapel pins, and ink pens available for distribution at meetings, conferences and to special guests. Contact [Latoya Jefferson](#) at 301.445.2756.



Editor's Desk

Hello USM Family,

The summer is quickly approaching and so is our new fiscal year. Look for our next issue in September for news on the latest changes in regards to budgets and policies. As always, I welcome your feedback and suggestions as well as any news you may have to share about your department's accomplishments, new hires, retirements, and initiatives.

[Latoya Jefferson](#), Editor