As the state’s public higher education system, the University System of Maryland (USM) advances the quality of life for its students and the state’s residents. Comprising 12 institutions and two regional centers, the system is a recognized leader in many areas, including academic and research excellence, the innovative leveraging of technology to transform courses for more student success, and the effective and efficient use of resources.

Furthermore, USM is a key driver of the state of Maryland’s economic development. The university system continuously aligns its academic programs with the state’s workforce needs. And it is increasing activities in the areas of technology transfer and commercialization to help boost the state’s economic growth and opportunities.

Above all, USM strives for excellence in everything it does. Following are a few examples of how USM is helping to power the state of Maryland forward.
For more information on their rankings, visit: http://www.u.snewsandworldreport.com/collegesearch/usnews-go.html

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The University System of Maryland in 2003 launched its Efficiency and Effectiveness Initiative (E&E) to optimize USM resources and save money during a time of skyrocketing enrollment,diminishing state support, and increasing costs. Nearly a decade later, USM has saved more than $356 million thanks to E&E. During this period, E&E has become part of the USM culture, impacting everything the system does. Furthermore, E&E powerfully demonstrates the system’s commitment to continuous improvement in academic program design, administration, operations, and the leveraging of existing resources to advance quality and serve students and the state even better.

The savings to date achieved through E&E span several categories, including:

• Energy conservation.
• Technology improvements.
• More efficient use of space and buildings.
• Improvements in business processes.

In addition, through E&E, USM has achieved efficiencies in several academic-related areas, including:

• Reducing undergraduates’ average time to degree (see chart)
• Increasing faculty’s teaching commitment by 10 percent.
• Requiring undergraduates to complete at least 12 credits outside the traditional classroom.
• Transforming academic courses to yield higher levels of student success and decrease delivery costs.

USM EFFECTIVENESS & EFFICIENCY COST SAVINGS

TIME TO DEGREE IN SEMESTERS

GRANTEES AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2012, INCLUDING 74 PERCENT OF ALL BACHELOR’S DEGREES AWARDED IN MARYLAND.

• Includes the state’s premier environmental research institutions, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, which conducts leading- edge research into today’s most pressing environmental problems.
• Boasts eight institutions—Bowie State University; Salisbury University; Towson University; University of Baltimore; University of Maryland, Baltimore; University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC); University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP); and University of Maryland Eastern Shore—ranked among the best in specific categories by U.S. News & World Report.
• Boasts four institutions—Salisbury, Towson, UMCP, and UMBC—among Hispanic Association of/Ence’s “Best Values in Public Colleges” for 2013.
• Takes pride in UMCP’s No. 1 position among U.S. public universities (No. 18 worldwide) in the Institute of Higher Education’s (Tsing Tong University, Shanghai) ranking of the world’s top universities based on research.
• Competed successfully for $12 billion in external grants and contracts in FY 2012, supporting vital R&D and helping to position Maryland as an innovation economy leader.

ADVANCING ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

• Established the Center for Innovation and Excellence in Learning and Teaching to develop and apply, and evaluate more effective ways to deliver high-quality courses through innovative use of technology.
• Redesigned or redesigning more than 50 courses at its institutions and in partnership with non-USM institutions states nationwide to an additional 30 courses to increase student success.

DURING RESOURCES WISELY

• Leads the state in sustainability efforts with 47 facilities constructed and/ or planned as LEED-certified.
• Maintains favorable debt ratings from bond rating agencies, saving millions of dollars annually. With a Moody’s Investors Services rating of A1, USM is one of only 20 public higher education institutions to earn one of the agency’s top two ratings.
• Surpassed its federal campaign goal, attracting more than $2 billion in private gifts to support students, faculty, and programs.
• Launched University of Maryland MPWing the World initiative in spring 2012, a structured collaboration between the University of Maryland, Baltimore and the University of Maryland, College Park.
• During its first year, the collaboration:
  • Established University of Maryland Ventures to boost technology transfer and commercialization.
  • Attracted a $2 million National Institute of Health grant to continue development of a small robot to aid neurosurgeons in removing brain tumors.
  • Established the Center for Health-Related Informatics and Bioimaging to focus on projects using technological advancements to improve medicine and patient care.
  • Began developing curricula for the collaborative University of Maryland School of Public Health to increase USM’s capacity to meet the state’s public health workforce needs.

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CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF 51 COMPANIES IN FY 2012.

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• Transforming academic courses to yield higher levels of student success and decrease delivery costs, the estimated cost savings per course is 25 percent.

USM EFFECTIVENESS & EFFICIENCY COST SAVINGS

TIME TO DEGREE IN SEMESTERS

GRADUATION YEAR


GRADUATION RATE (Percentage)