



**BOARD OF REGENTS
COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AND TECHNOLOGY COMMERCIALIZATION**

Notes from the Executive Session
November 21, 2013
University of Maryland, Baltimore County

The Committee on Economic Development and Technology Commercialization convened in executive session at 12:33 p.m. The Regents in attendance were Mr. Attman, Mr. Kelly, Mr. McMillen, Mr. Rauch, and Ms. Turner. Also participating in the meeting were Chancellor Kirwan, Mr. Vivona, Mr. Balakrishnan, Ms. Doyle, Mr. Gallo, Mr. Hogan, Mr. Hughes, Ms. Purcell and Mr. Raley.

The first agenda item, a discussion on the SMART Endowed Scholars Fund, was rescheduled to the next Committee meeting due to an unanticipated conflict for the presenter, Mr. Darmody.

Mr. Patrick Hogan provided an update on potential legislative initiatives for the upcoming session. He discussed the idea of establishing an endowed scholars fund through a corporate matching fund program. The objective of this fund would be to attract the world's best researchers. The Committee also discussed the merits of a University Tax Free Zone program to stimulate the creation of start-ups and jobs in Maryland. Regent McMillen brought up the idea of tax credits to spur investments in Maryland start-ups and the Committee discussed alternative approaches to introducing these legislative initiatives.

Mr. Sam Gallo, Chief Investment Officer of the USM Foundation, discussed considerations for establishing an investment fund for USM-facilitated start-ups. He emphasized the advantage of a risk sharing approach and the need to foster co-investments through partnerships with venture capital firms. Mr. Gallo also suggested that it would be beneficial to learn more about programs in other states to foster business formation and growth such as Kendall Square in Boston and Mission Bay in San Francisco.

Regent McMillen mentioned the availability of new opportunities for raising capital through crowdfunding. On October 23rd, the Securities and Exchange Commission issued its proposed rules under the JOBS Act to permit companies to offer and sell securities through crowdfunding and is seeking public comment.

Regent Attman suggested having follow-on discussions to explore strategies for increasing access to early stage and Series A capital for USM-facilitated start-ups.

The executive session was adjourned at 1:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary L. Attman, Chairman
Committee on Economic Development
and Technology Commercialization