Minutes of the Public Session

Call to Order. Chairman Shea called the meeting of the University System of Maryland Board of Regents to order at 8:28 a.m. on Friday, February 13, 2015 at Bowie State University. Those in attendance were: Chairman Shea; Regents Ahmed, Attman, Augustine, Michaux Gonzales, Gooden, Gossett, Kelly, Kinkopf, McMillen, Motz, Rauch, Reid, and Slater; Presidents Bell, Burnim, Interim President Chandler, Dudley-Eshbach, Gibralter, Hrabowski, VP for Administration Erica Kropp (for Boesch), Loh, Miyares, Neufville, Perman, and Schmoke; Chancellor Kirwan, Vice Chancellors Boughman, Hogan, Moultrie, Raley, Vivona, Ms. Doyle, Ms. Ryan, and OAG Bainbridge.

Welcome from Bowie State University. Dr. Burnim welcomed the regents and highlighted accomplishments of BSU.

1. Committee of the Whole.
   a. Approval of meeting minutes from December 12, 2014 Public and Closed Sessions. (Moved by Regent Gossett, seconded by Regent Michaux Gonzales; unanimously approved.)
   b. Approval of meeting minutes from January 16, 2015 Special BOR Public Session. (Moved by Regent Attman, seconded by Regent Augustine; unanimously approved.)
   c. Report of the BOR Ad Hoc Workgroup on Effectiveness and Efficiency 2.0. (Moved by Regent Attman, seconded by Regent Gossett; unanimously approved.)
   d. Chancellor’s Report. Chancellor Kirwan thanked Bowie State University (BSU) and President Mickey Burnim for hosting the meeting and noted the accomplishments of the institution including BSU’s sesquicentennial celebration that is currently underway. The Chancellor reported that Bob Caret was announced as Chancellor-designee earlier this month and stated that both the system and the state are fortunate to have someone who knows higher education and Maryland step into this position. He also reported that Maravene Loeschke stepped down as President of Towson University (TU) due to health concerns and Timothy Chandler is serving as interim president. A search committee will be established soon to select a permanent president for TU. He also reported that search for a new president at Coppin State University is underway.
Chancellor Kirwan highlighted the numerous accomplishments across the USM and congratulated Regent Norm Augustine for his induction into the U.S. News STEM Leadership Hall of Fame.

The Chancellor outlined the key issues related to the USM FY 2015 and 2016 budgets. Reductions to USM’s FY 2015 budget under Governor O’Malley totaled $40 million, which was about five times the amount expected. This significant reduction required USM to take steps to reduce current expenditures, including hiring and salary freezes, delayed facility renewal projects, and reduced class sections. In addition, four USM campuses—UMCP, TU, FSU, and SU—implemented mid-year tuition increases of 2 percent; the tuition increases accounted for $5.4 million, or less than 15 percent of the total state budget cut.

For FY 2016, Governor Hogan submitted a budget proposal totaling $1.219 billion in General Funds for the USM, including a 5 percent increase in tuition, an increase of $15.4 million—or 1.3 percent—over the reduced FY15 budget level. The Chancellor stressed that the FY 2016 budget did not provide any funding for enhancements which will result in delays in efforts to significantly increase enrollment, promote STEM, expand in-demand programs, and boost economic and workforce development efforts. He also noted that the $15.4 million increase in General Fund support, is significantly less than USM’s mandatory costs which total $86 million. These costs result from higher employee benefits costs, new facilities coming on line, increased financial aid costs, required IT upgrades, increases in utilities rates across the system, the costs of federal Title IX requirements, and other items.

Given a $47 million shortfall in FY 2016, USM will implement actions to address the shortfall including a systemwide hiring freeze, the elimination of positions, larger class sizes, increased faculty workload, greater use of adjunct faculty, postponing many renovation and modernization projects, and other reductions in service. However, Chancellor Kirwan noted that, given the budget challenges of the state, Governor Hogan’s budget proposal demonstrates his support for higher education. He concluded by noting that USM hoped that additional funding through a supplemental budget might be provided so that USM can do more to advance the state’s economy and quality of life.

e. 2015 Legislative Update. Mr. Vivona and Mr. Hogan briefed the BOR on the status of the FY 2016 budget and proposed legislation being considered by the 2015 General Assembly.

   a. University System of Maryland Student Council. Mr. McGee thanked the regents and Chancellor for providing him an opportunity to speak on behalf of the students at the BOR Special Meeting on January 16, 2015 during which the regents voted to support mid-year tuition increases at four USM institutions. He said that the proposed FY 2016 budget is a call to action for students to voice their support for increased funds for USM institutions. He reported that the USMSC lobby day is February 27, 2015 and noted the valuable student participation in issues related to student assault.
b. Council of University System Staff. Mr. Crockett reported on the Council’s meeting in January 2105, which included briefings on the USM budget, institutional actions to address budget reductions, staff awards, and concerns about wellness plan requirements. The Council expressed their serious concern about the possible rollback of the January 2015 2% COLA. The Council planned to hold a lobby day in Annapolis on February 26, 2015.

c. Council of University System Faculty. Dr. Bryant reported that the Council reviewed USM policy on sick leave for faculty with USM staff and discussed concerns and possible changes. They also discussed the impact of the FY 2015 budget reductions. Dr. Bryant also report on her participation in a workgroup to better align the USM Sexual Misconduct Policy with USM’s policy on Appointment, Rank and Tenure.

d. Council of University System Presidents. Dr. Dudley-Eshbach reported on the January 5 and February 2, 2015 meetings of the Council. At these meetings the presidents discussed the transition to the new chancellor, the FY 2015/16 budget and tuition levels and the Chancellor’s discussions with the new administration. They were also briefed on the status of UMUC’s proposed new business model and the approach to providing health benefits for employees who qualify for benefits based on their employment at multiple State universities.

3. Committee on Education Policy & Student Life. Regent Michaux Gonzales presented the report of the committee.

a. Approval of meeting mutes from January 13, 2015 Public and Closed Session. (Moved by Regent Reid, seconded by Regent Gooden; unanimously approved.)

b. New Academic Program Proposals.

i. Frostburg State University: Bachelor of Science in Adventure Sports Management. (Moved by Regent Michaux Gonzales, seconded by Regent Attman; unanimously approved.)

ii. University of Baltimore: Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Society and Applied Ethics. (Moved by Regent Michaux Gonzales, seconded by Regent Attman; unanimously approved.)

iii. University of Maryland University College: Master of Science in Cloud Computing Architectural. (Moved by Regent Michaux Gonzales, seconded by Regent Attman; unanimously approved.)

c. Results of New Program 5-Year Enrollment Review. Regent Michaux Gonzales presented the report.

d. Results of Periodic (7-Year) Reviews of Academic Programs. Regent Michaux Gonzales presented the report.

e. External Funding Report. Regent Michaux Gonzales presented the report.

f. Representation at Student Conduct Hearings. Regent Michaux Gonzales presented the report.

4. Committee on Finance. Regent Kelly presented the report of the committee.

a. Approval of meeting minutes from January 29, 2015 Public Session. (Moved by Regent Kelly, seconded by Regent Gossett; unanimously approved.)

b. University of Maryland University College: Authorization to initiate a New Business. (Moved by Regent Kelly, seconded by Regent Attman; unanimously approved.)

c. University of Maryland, Baltimore: Amendments to Ground Lease and Refinancing of Fayette Square Apartments. (Moved by Regent Kelly, seconded by Regent Attman; Regent Kinkopf recused himself; motion approved.)
d. University of Maryland, Baltimore: Creation of Ground Lease on 100 N. Eutaw Street, 410-412 W. Fayette Street, 414-418 W. Fayette Street and 405 Marion Street, Baltimore, Maryland. (Moved by Regent Kelly, seconded by Regent Gooden; unanimously approved.)

e. University of Maryland, College Park: Sale of Land to Prince George’s County to Provide a Right-of-Way for a Crossing over CSX Tracks between Cafritz Development Site and River Road. (Moved by Regent Kelly, seconded by Regent Gossett; unanimously approved.)

f. Towson University: Increase Funding Authorization for West Village Housing Phases 3 & 4. (Moved by Regent Kelly, seconded by Regent Kinkopf; unanimously approved.)

g. Salisbury University: Facilities Master Plan Update. Regent Kelly presented the report.


5. Committee on Economic Development and Technology Commercialization. Regent Attman presented the report of the committee.
   a. Approval of meeting minutes from January 29, 2015 Public Session. (Regent Attman moved, Regent Rauch seconded; unanimously approved.)

6. Committee on Organization and Compensation. Regent Kinkopf presented the report of the committee.
   a. Approval of meeting minutes from January 22, 2015 Public and Closed Session. (Moved by Regent Kinkopf, seconded by Regent Gooden; unanimously approved.)

7. Committee on Advancement. Regent Gossett presented the report of the committee.
   a. Approval of meeting minutes from February 4, 2015 Public and Closed Session. (Moved by Regent Gossett, seconded by Regent Michaux Gonzales; unanimously approved.)

8. Committee on Audit. Regent Augustine presented the report of the committee.
   a. Approval of meeting minutes from December 17, 2015 Public and Closed Session. (Regent Augustine moved, Regent Gossett seconded; unanimously approved.)

9. Reconvene to Closed Session. Chairman Shea read the “convene to close” statement citing the topics for the closed session and the relevant statutory authority for closing the meeting under 3-305(b) and 3-103(a)(1)(i). (Moved by Regent Michaux Gonzales, seconded by Regent Gooden; unanimously approved.)

Meeting adjourned at 11:19 a.m.