



**Board of Regents
Committee on Education Policy and Student Life**

**Minutes
Public Session**

The Committee on Education Policy and Student Life (EPSL) of the University System of Maryland (USM) Board of Regents met in public session on Tuesday, September 19, 2017 at Towson University. The meeting was convened at 9:38 a.m. Committee members present were: Regent Gourdine (chair) and Regents Dennis, Fish, Johnson, and Shorter. Regents Brady and Gossett and Chancellor Caret were also present.

Also attending were: Dr. Amoussou, Ms. Bainbridge, Dr. Beise, Dr. Boughman, Ms. Brandenburg, Dr. Chandler, Dr. Coleman, Ms. Doyle, Mr. Fabbi, Mr. Feldman, Ms. Fidler, Dr. Foust, Mr. Gordon, Ms. Hammond Graff, Dr. Harrison, Dr. Harpe, Dr. Higgs Burkhalter, Ms. Hollander, Dr. Jarrell, Dr. Kauffman, Dr. Kaynama, Dr. Lee, Dr. Lewis, Mr. Lurie, Dr. Moriarty, Mr. Muntz, Dr. Murray, Mr. Neal, Mr. Obergfell, Mr. Patty, Ms. Pomietto, Dr. Rous, Dr. Santamaria-Makang, Dr. Shapiro, Dr. Smith, Dr. Travis, Dr. Tull, Dr. Whitehead, Dr. Wilkens, Mr. Uchacz, and other guests.

Regent Michelle Gourdine called the meeting to order. She thanked Chairman Brady for appointing her chair of this committee and President Shatzel and her team for hosting the meeting. Regent Gourdine welcomed two new regents to the committee, Regent Will Shorter and Regent Katrina Dennis. Regent Gourdine also expressed condolences and concern for USM campus communities after the May 20, 2017 murder of Bowie State University student, Lt. Richard Collins. To make sure the regents understand how this and other actual or perceived hate-filled situations affect the climate for students, faculty, and staff on our campuses, Regent Gourdine has asked that a future agenda include an update on campus climate. She welcomes input about how to best address this issue.

Action Items

Academic Program Proposals

Towson University: Master of Science in Management and Leadership Studies

Provost Tim Chandler and Dr. Shohreh Kaynama, Dean of the College of Business and Economics, presented this proposal. Towson proposed to offer a Master of Science in Management and Leadership Studies, which would be distinct from traditional MBA programs and other management programs, as the target audience includes recent graduates in fields outside of business and emphasis will be placed on leadership and applied, experiential learning. Courses in the program would focus primarily on organizational culture. Business leaders have

expressed the need for programs such as this, which are designed to increase students' levels of business acumen by offering experiential learning opportunities and traditional education approaches in concert with mentorship from seasoned, business executives. Program developers believe that this program could be a powerful catalyst for economic growth in the greater Baltimore area. The proposal went through the standard approval process during which institutions can object; there were no objections.

The Chancellor recommends that the Committee on Education Policy and Student Life recommend that the Board of Regents approve the proposal from Towson University to establish a Master of Science in Management and Leadership Studies. The motion was moved by Regent Dennis, seconded by Regent Fish, and unanimously approved.

University of Maryland University College:

Conversion of Existing Area of Concentration in Acquisition and Supply Chain Management to Master of Science in Acquisition and Contract Management

Restructuring of Existing Area of Concentration in Information Assurance to Master of Science in Cyber Operations

Restructuring of Existing Area of Concentration in Public Relations to Master of Science in Strategic Communications

Interim Provost Blakely Pomietto and Dr. Douglas Harrison, Associate Dean of the Graduate School presented three proposals to the committee. These areas of concentration were designed in 2007, and UMUC proposed to establish freestanding degrees to strengthen the programs without needing new resources or risking duplication, bolster the curricula, clarify the content of the degree, simplify the pathway to completion, allow for better communication of the program outcomes to students and employers, and ensure currency and relevancy of the curriculum to meet current workforce and employer demands. There is significant workforce demand in each of these fields. Over the next five to ten years, thousands of job openings are expected nationally and regionally, and, current rates of degree production will not meet that demand. Details about each proposal can be found in the meeting materials. The proposals went through the standard approval process during which institutions can object; there were no objections.

The Chancellor recommends that the Committee on Education Policy and Student Life recommend that the Board of Regents approve the proposal from University of Maryland University College to (1) convert the area of concentration in Acquisition and Supply Chain Management to a Master of Science in Acquisition and Contract Management; (2) restructure the area of concentration in Information Assurance to a Master of Science in Cyber Operations; and (3) restructure the area of concentration in Public Relations to a Master of Science in Strategic Communications. The motion was moved by Regent Shorter, seconded by Regent Dennis, and unanimously approved.

Proposed Amendments: USM Policy on Undergraduate Admissions (III-4.00)

Ms. Teri Hollander, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, presented these amendments to the committee. Amendments are proposed to the Policy on Undergraduate Admissions to come into alignment with recent changes to the Code of Maryland Annotated Regulations (COMAR) pertaining to transfer students and the USM Policy on Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity. The amendments will also clarify the admission criteria for the increasing number of early/middle college program graduates who come to college with junior standing, but are still first-year students who need special supports. Upon the conclusion of this process, a workgroup will be convened to undertake a more comprehensive review of this policy to address other necessary changes and to account for lessons learned since the USM math requirement for admission changed several years ago. The proposed amendments have been reviewed and endorsed by the Office of the Attorney General and USM presidents, provosts, and vice presidents for student affairs.

The Chancellor recommends that the Committee on Education Policy and Student Life recommend that the Board of Regents approve the amendments to the USM Policy on Undergraduate Admissions (III-4.00). The motion was moved by Regent Shorter, seconded by Regent Johnson, and unanimously approved.

Information Items

Report on Intercollegiate Athletics

Regent Gossett made this presentation to the Committee. The presentation was a summary of the student-athlete academic measures examined by the BOR Intercollegiate Athletics (ICA) Workgroup during the 2016-2017 school year for USM schools with Division I athletics (Coppin, Towson, UMBC, College Park, and UMES). Each year, institutions submit a range of academic metrics, which offer a 360-degree view of student-athletes – their level of academic preparation upon entering, their academic status as they matriculate, and, finally, their graduation rates. Institutions submit these data for their student-athlete cohorts as well as for corresponding non-athlete cohorts. This allows us to determine how well student-athletes are doing in comparison to non-athlete students at the institutions. The report summarizes many pages of data around these academic measures and was submitted in summary format, as detailed information is protected by FERPA. The report indicates that in most of cases, USM student-athletes are performing as well as or better than their non-athlete peers. Details and exceptions are noted in the full report. The report also provides insight into academic performance across sport and by gender and shares NCAA APR information. Of note, two teams at UMES, men's tennis and baseball, were under academic improvement plans for failing to meet the NCAA APR standard. UMES has discontinued its tennis program, which leaves baseball as the one sport on an improvement plan. This does not disqualify the team from post-season play, but it does provide an extra layer of accountability to help ensure their academic progress. All other sports across our DI schools, however, have met the NCAA minimum, and all will be eligible for post-season competition at the end of the 2017-2018 season.

Representatives from the five Division I schools joined to share details of academic support services offered to student-athletes and efforts being taken to ensure the academic integrity of their athletics programs and the academic success and well-being of their student-athletes. Regent Gossett concluded by sharing that the BOR ICA Workgroup and USM ICA staff will have one-on-one conference calls with each Division I institution's president and athletic

director. In those meetings, the groups will explore detailed academic, APR, and financial issues facing the institutions. Additionally, beyond the meeting with the presidents, the athletic directors and/or their teams meet with the BOR ICA Workgroup and the USM staff 2-3 times each year.

Report on Academic Program Actions Delegated to the Chancellor, 2016-17

In accordance with Board Resolution III-7.03, a report is submitted annually to the Board of Regents of program actions delegated to the Chancellor. Between September 2016 and August 2017, the Chancellor approved 17 new or modified certificates and 5 title changes. He also approved the suspension or discontinuation of 4 degrees. In addition, the Board of Regents approved 9 new degree programs. A chart detailing the Chancellor's actions and programs approved by the Board was in the meeting materials.

Tentative Annual Agenda, 2017-2018

The Tentative Agenda for 2017-2018 comprises anticipated action items, including new academic program proposals and new Board of Regents policies, as well as information and discussion items. Some of the information items are reported on an annual schedule to ensure that the regents are well-informed about topics of general interest, while other items respond to specific requests for reports and recommendations on topics of interest. Regent Gourdine made note of the campus climate presentation she'd like the committee to receive within the next few meetings, and she encouraged committee members to share their ideas.

Inclusion and Diversity

Senior Vice Chancellor Joann Boughman presented this report. She noted that the I&D Council and USM and institutional leadership are deeply involved in identifying both the challenges and possible activities and actions to be promulgated across our campuses to improve the climate. The Council, scheduled to meet in early October, is clarifying and strengthening the statements of vision and mission for the USM around these issues and improving the website and providing a platform for statements. The Council is also providing an open and supportive environment for campus representatives to discuss the serious diversity and inclusion-related challenges we continue to face. This year has been especially challenging, as we have tried to be appropriately responsive in the wake of the executive orders around immigration, gender-related laws proposed by states (and pronouncements from the federal government), and most urgently the chaos deriving from recent hate-based and racially-motivated activities and events happening on our campuses, locally, and nationally. All of our institutions are planning (proactively and actively) forums and programs that will inform and support discussion on these difficult topics. We will continue to be focused on safety and security, but we must remain strong in our commitment to open dialogue, while being very clear about our condemnation of hatred and violence. Overall, the I&D Council will continue to work to better articulate the need for, importance of, and challenges associated with:

- Researching and gathering data;
- Proposing actions, activities, and policies and trying to better define their work;
- Clarifying statements around vision and mission;
- Better reporting and analysis of reporting and assessing relevance, importance, and impact;
- Attending to issues related to freedom of speech and hate speech;

- Measuring and funding the measurement of campus climate studies; and
- Addressing concerns about the need for more faculty diversity and enhancing pipeline development.

In addition to the Inclusion and Diversity Council, the presidents, provosts, vice presidents for student affairs, USM Student Council, and other stakeholder groups regularly address inclusion and diversity issues.

Action Item

Motion to Adjourn

Regent Gourdine called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was moved by Regent Johnson, seconded by Regent Fish, and unanimously approved. Regent Gourdine adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Regent Michelle Gourdine
Chair