



University System of Maryland Board of Regents
Via Zoom
April 16, 2021 Public Minutes

Call to Order. Chair Linda Gooden called the meeting of the University System of Maryland Board of Regents to order at 8:31 a.m. on Friday, April 16, 2021 virtually via Zoom. Those in attendance were: Chair Gooden; Regents Attman, Fish, Gonella, Gossett, Gourdine, Holzapfel, Johnson, Leggett, Malhotra, Neall, Pope, Rauch, Sansom, Schulz, and Wood; Presidents Anderson, Breaux, Fowler, Goodwin, Hrabowski, Jarrell, Jenkins, Nowaczyk, Pines, Schatzel, Schmoke, and Wight; Chancellor Perman, Vice Chancellors Boughman, Herbst, Hogan, McDonough, Raley, and Sadowski; Ms. Mulqueen, Ms. Wilkerson, and AAGs Bainbridge and Langrill.

Chair Gooden began the meeting by stating that the pandemic and the safety of our students, faculty, and staff is at the forefront of the agenda. She also stated that the Chancellor, Presidents, and university staff worked tirelessly to execute an academic year that ensured students could safely continue and achieve their academic goals; and that with vaccines now available the communities will be safe.

Chair Gooden then began recognizing the hardworking people in the USM as she shared the recipients of the Board of Regents Faculty Awards, indicating that these faculty awards are the highest honor presented by the Board to exemplary faculty members within the University System of Maryland. She mentioned that the awards recognized distinguished performance in Research, Scholarship or Creative Activity, Public Service, Mentoring, and Teaching; and, that this distinguished group reflects the best of our faculty, having had an outstanding impact on the students they teach and mentor, advancing knowledge and creativity in their respective disciplines. She ended by saying that as conditions related to the pandemic improve and hosting gatherings is once again safe, the hope is to have an in-person celebration with this year's and last year's recipients.

Educational Forum: *Student Activism and Building Trust*. Chair Gooden kicked off the forum by referencing the protests in Minneapolis in response to the killing of another Black man, Daunte Wright. She also mentioned that as students prepare to return physically to campuses in the fall, there should be some anticipation that student activism will take place. Chair Gooden further stated that students routinely protest campus-based matters and have demonstrated vigorously on national and international issues. She acknowledged that such activism creates a myriad of opportunities for student learning, identity development, and civic engagement, it also creates challenges for campuses. In an effort to better understand all that could possibly come into play, Dr. Kevin Kruger, President of NASPA, joined the meeting to discuss the current

landscape of student activism and where it might be headed. Additionally, a panel of students and administrators from various campuses (e.g., Bowie State University, Salisbury University, University of Maryland, College Park, and University of Maryland Global Campus) provided their perspectives and experiences.

Following the Educational Forum, Regent Pope moved, and Regent Attman seconded reconvening into closed session for the Board. The motion was unanimously approved, and the Board convened to close at 9:33 a.m.

The meeting was called to order again at 10:58 a.m. and began with the Chancellor's Report.

Chancellor's Report. Chancellor Perman began his report by commending the BOR Faculty Awards Recipients for the excellence and dedication they demonstrated this past year. He also thanked everyone who presented on the Student Activism and Building Trust Educational Forum.

Chancellor Perman then addressed the legislative session that just ended by saying the governor's operating budget proposal for the USM—consisting of \$1.4 billion—was passed by the General Assembly. Additionally, the governor submitted a supplemental budget proposal that also passed by the legislature, providing \$23 million for our university-based public health and health professions programs. He thanked the governor and the General Assembly for supporting this incredibly important work. He further stated that significant capital funding for institutions across the System was received, which is critical to building, improving, and maintaining campus facilities that advance education, research, and service missions. He concluded this section by stating that Bill HBI/SBI was a historic agreement providing \$577 million over 10 years for Maryland's historically Black institutions. He acknowledged that this bill allowed for a giant step toward funding equity between the state's HBCUs and its traditionally white institutions.

Chancellor Perman took the opportunity to remind everyone that even though more people are getting vaccinated, there has been an uptick in COVID cases. Therefore, it's important to realize that we're not yet out of the woods. He stated that this pandemic is still dangerous and still deadly. The good news is that we are partnering with the Maryland Department of Health and the Maryland Higher Education Commission to allow our universities to register as vaccine providers—university health centers are able to vaccinate the students currently on campus, along with faculty and staff for the spring semester. Chancellor Perman also addressed the anxiety some may feel resulting from the pause of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. However, he stated this pause has had little impact on most of our universities since most are using the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine. He acknowledged that widespread vaccinations are how we'll have a fall semester that resembles our pre-pandemic "normal".

The Chancellor noted that a COVID Guidance Workgroup has been convened, led by senior vice chancellor Jo Boughman and resident epidemiology and public health expert Dr. Kate Tracy, with a focus on developing guidance that collectively focuses on vaccination, testing, contact tracing, isolation and quarantine, and continued public health interventions. He thanked

the group for its ongoing work and said that he looks forward to keeping the board updated on fall plans.

Chancellor Perman then focused on academic programs and campus facilities, as well as partnerships, philanthropy, economic impact, and community outreach and service in which the various universities were involved. He acknowledged that our excellence shines brightest in the people and teams who call the USM “home”.

The Chancellor concluded his remarks by sharing that the USM Office, the USM Foundation, and seven of our 12 institutions exceeded their giving goals in the Maryland Charities Campaign: The USM Office received special awards for excellence; and UMBC was honored as the top contributor for the entire statewide campaign (\$250,000 in pledges). He stated that he was sincerely awed by the generosity of this University System and thanked everyone who took part.

I. Council Reports

- a. Council of University System Presidents (CUSP). President Breaux presented the report stating that CUSP continues to convene bi-weekly to address issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic, in addition to other systemwide matters. Dr. Breaux shared that each institution continues to implement their COVID-19 safety protocols, adapting and changing when needed. She also shared that the presidents had a discussion with and received guidance from the Associate Attorney General in reference to vaccination requirements on their campuses, including whether they could be made mandatory for individuals returning to campus. Dr. Breaux mentioned that campuses and regional centers are putting together their return to campus plans for the fall and preceding months. She concluded her report by sharing other topics of discussion, namely, how to handle the Juneteenth holiday systemwide, the legislative session and the Governor’s budget, and noted that CUSP met with the Huron Consulting Group to hear about the USM strategic planning process and provide feedback.
- b. Council of University System Faculty (CUSF). Dr. Brunn presented the report, indicating that a memo to the CIOs and provosts of each campus was prepared, asking them to jointly respond to a series of questions about technologies that are required for faculty and staff on their campuses, as well as technological resources that are provided to faculty; and asked about their plans going forward. She stated that the structural inequalities subcommittee is preparing for a virtual town hall that will focus on faculty experiences with structural inequalities, as well as solutions and obstacles.

Dr. Brunn also shared information on CUSF’s COVID Subcommittee, stating that a survey was prepared for the faculty with the purpose of helping the committee narrow down an approach in determining what, if any help CUSF could sponsor alone or with USM support to ease the impact of the pandemic for faculty—she acknowledged that it was not a professional research survey but mainly an informal

poll. The responses were mainly received from full-time faculty. Concerns centered around being able to provide a quality work performance in duties, while keeping students engaged; balance between work and life; vaccine availability; better guidance from administration (e.g., provost, president, deans, chairs, etc.). Dr. Brunn concluded by saying that the survey hit a raw nerve at a time when change is once again raising its uncertain head.

- c. Council of University System Staff (CUSS). Dr. Shishineh presented the report, stating that staff from the USM and consultants from Huron joined the meeting to share updates and hear feedback about the USM Strategic Planning process. She also referenced the Winter CUSS Newsletter, that provided a thorough recap of Advocacy Day 2021. They sent out the annual Shared Governance Survey to staff senate members at each institution. The was designed to monitor and understand the status of shared governance across the system each year, particularly as it pertains to the role of staff. The full report will be shared with the Chancellor and the Board of Regents before the next meeting, as well as an individual report for each campus being shared with the presidents.
- d. University System of Maryland Student Council (USMSC). Regent Sansom presented the report in the absence of Ms. Rappeport. He indicated that USMSC was planning a first ever cross-system town hall entitled *One Year into a Pandemic Together*. The aim is to open dialogue with a diverse panel addressing the impact of COVID on students, challenges and successes over the past year and the way ahead. There was also a meeting with Governor Hogan's Chief of Staff, Amelia Chasse Alcivar and key legislative staff. The discussion centered around affordability and transparency in higher education, HBCUs, student fees, environmental advocacy and shared governance. Regent Sansom also stated that during the spring legislative cycle, seven bills were polled for support and/or opposition.

Regent Sansom said that during their official monthly meeting USMSC welcomed the USM Women's Forum as well as the Maryland Department of Health Educators as guest speakers. The Council wrapped up the spring advocacy work, sharing the seven bills the Council voted support; devoted time to planning transitions, and reviewing bylaws to help sustain positive adaptations that emerged from the pandemic. They also discussed USMSC elections for the upcoming term and strategies to improve outreach and recruitment for the soon to be vacant leadership roles.

As Regent Sansom closed out his report, he shared the joy the USMSC had in being able to have regular student "meet-ups" with Chancellor Perman—a cherished time of collaboration. He then expressed appreciation for the tremendous work being done on a daily basis by leaders at the institutional and system level, as well as by faculty, staff, and fellow students during this time.

2. Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda was presented to the regents by Chair Gooden. She asked if there were any items on the agenda that should be removed for further discussion.

There were no requests to remove any items. Chair Gooden moved and Regent Pope seconded the motion to accept the consent agenda. The motion was unanimously approved. The items included were:

- a. Committee of the Whole
 - i. Approval of meeting minutes from February 19, 2021 Public and Closed Sessions (action)
 - ii. Approval of meeting minutes from March 3, 2021 Special BOR Meeting for Public Session (action)

- b. Committee on Education Policy and Student Life
 - i. Approval of meeting minutes from March 5, 2021 Public Session (action)
 - ii. Academic Program Actions – New Academic Program Proposals (action)
 - 1. University of Maryland, Baltimore: MS in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Leadership
 - 2. University of Maryland, College Park: Master of Extension Education Program
 - 3. University of Maryland Global Campus: BS in Cloud Computing Systems
 - 4. University of Maryland Global Campus: BS in Data Science
 - iii. Post-Approval Academic Program Review Reports and Forthcoming Reviews (information)
 - iv. New programs 5-Year Enrollment Reviews, Fall 2016-Fall 2020 (information)
 - v. P-20 Update (information)

- c. Committee on Economic Development and Technology Commercialization
 - i. Approval of meeting minutes from March 25, 2021 Public Session (action)

- d. Committee on Audit
 - i. Approval of meeting minutes from March 26, 2021 Public and Closed Sessions (action)

- e. Committee on Governance and Compensation
 - i. Approval of meeting minutes from April 1, 2021 Public and Closed Sessions (action)
 - ii. Review of Board Assessment Tools (action)

- f. Committee on Finance
 - i. Approval of meeting minutes from April 1, 2021 Public and Closed Sessions (action)
 - ii. University System of Maryland: Refresher on Project Approvals (information)
 - iii. Bowie State University: Facilities Master Plan Update (information)
 - iv. USM Enrollment Projections: FY 2022-2031 (action)
 - v. University of Maryland Eastern Shore: Proposal to Increase Tuition for Physician Assistant Program (action)

- vi. Biennial Nonexempt Market Salary Survey Report - Nonexempt Salary Structure Adjustment for FY 2022-2023 (action)
- vii. Salisbury University: Retroactive Approval of Bridge Loan to Ward Foundation and Forgiveness of Remaining Unpaid Balance (action)
- viii. University of Maryland, Baltimore: Dental Student Clinics Management Contract Renewal (action)
- ix. University of Maryland, College Park: NextGen Energy Program P3 Solicitation—Request for a Waiver of Board Policy VIII-17.00—Policy on Public-Private Partnerships, Section IV, State-Supported Public-Private Partnerships, Subsection D (action)

3. Review of Items Removed from Consent Agenda

4. Committee Reports

- a. Committee of Education Policy and Student Life
 - i. William E. Kirwan Center for Academic Innovation Update. Dr. MJ Bishop, Director of the Kirwan Center and Associate Vice Chancellor provided an update on the Center’s progress since her last report, acknowledging the impact the Center has had at the System level. They have been able to leverage the collective strengths of our diverse institutions, which are working together to support innovation across the USM.
- b. Committee on Audit Update. Regent Fish provided an update stating that USM’s Comptroller reported on USM’s financial results for the first six months of the fiscal year 2021. They looked at financials as it pertains to the response to the COVID pandemic; the impact on COVID on the financials which included the CARES Act funding; declines in auxiliary revenues and expenses, and a decline in State appropriations. Discussion also included a financial comparison of USM to other higher education institutions and systems which share Moody’s very favorable Aa1 bond rating. USM has maintained this favorable bond rating since September 2010. They also reviewed Affiliated Foundations’ Compliance with the Board of Regents Policy on affiliated foundations. Lastly, they looked at proposed revisions to the policy and expect to review final revisions at their June meeting.
- c. Committee of the Whole
 - i. Proposed Charter and Bylaws for the New Standing Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics and Student-Athlete Health and Welfare. Regent Gossett moved and Regent Pope seconded the motion that the Board accept the charter of the Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics and Student-Athlete Health and Welfare and the bylaws revisions. The motion was unanimously approved.
 - ii. Frostburg State University Proposed "Window" Voluntary Separation Programs for Faculty and Staff. Regent Attman presented the report that Frostburg State University is seeking Board approval for two voluntary separation programs to provide a financial incentive for certain eligible

employees (exempt/nonexempt and faculty) to separate from employment with the University on or before June 30, 2021. Regent Holzapfel moved, and Regent Pope seconded the recommendation, and the motion was unanimously approved.

iii. Vaccine Protocols for Fall Semester. Chair Gooden moved and Regent Wood seconded the motion to delegate authorization to the Chancellor to work with USM Presidents on developing protocols, including requirements, as determined appropriate, related to vaccination. The motion was unanimously approved.

5. Reconvene to Closed Session Reconvene to Closed Session. Chair Gooden 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 Attman, seconded by Regent Leggett; unanimously approved.)

Meeting adjourned at 12:31 p.m.