

REGENTS REPORT



Greetings from the Board of Regents

We write to you at the close of Maryland's 2024 legislative session. Every year, we say the session was a busy one. And, every year, that's true. But this year—with 3,480 bills filed; with more than 280 affecting the System directly; with our people testifying on nearly 50—we were in overdrive.

Countless colleagues across the System steered us through these hectic months, keeping a pace that proves their skill and their stamina. Our success, meanwhile, is proof of the strength of our bonds with one another and a spirit of collaboration that never missed a beat, even with new government affairs leadership at the System office. We thank Vice Chancellor Susan Lawrence and her team in

Annapolis for guiding us through the session with grace and good humor intact.

One of the last bills to pass through the General Assembly—an emergency bill signed by Gov. Moore just hours after sine die—was a bipartisan measure to use rainy day funds to help Port of Baltimore workers affected by the Key Bridge collapse. The PORT Act will support workers not covered by unemployment insurance, help small businesses avoid layoffs, and incentivize them to return to the port once it's reopened.

The USM is proud to join the [Maryland Tough Baltimore Strong Alliance](#), committing our expertise in several areas of need: economic modeling, supply chain management, civil engineering, transportation, water and environmental impact. And should the work stoppage at the port be extended, our universities are prepared to offer education, skills development, and career services to port employees and others who need these opportunities.

It's in times of challenge, especially, that we value the good faith and goodwill of our leaders, united in relief and recovery—united in ensuring that Baltimore and Maryland rebuild, stronger than ever.

We know that Maryland faces a significant deficit. But we know, too, that our elected leaders trust us to do the work that fortifies our strength; the work that fuels Maryland's growth and prosperity. As always, we're excited to do exactly that.

Sincerely,

Linda R. Gooden
Chair
USM Board of Regents

Jay A. Perman
Chancellor
University System of Maryland

Board Actions & Decisions | April 19, 2024

The USM Board of Regents met at Bowie State University on April 19, with public viewing available in-person and via [livestream](#). Highlights from the meeting include:

Recognition of Regents Faculty Award Recipients. During a special breakfast ceremony, the Board recognized the winners of the [2024 USM Regents Faculty Awards](#). This year, winners included 20 faculty members from 10 USM universities who were selected for their extraordinary contributions in the following categories: Teaching, Mentoring, Public Service, Scholarship or Research, and Creative Activity. During the breakfast, each winner received a \$2,000 prize (provided by the universities and the USM Foundation) and were congratulated by their president, Chancellor Jay Perman, and Board of Regents Chair Linda Gooden.



Chancellor Jay Perman and Board of Regents Chair Linda Gooden with the recipients of the 2024 Board of Regents Faculty Awards. *Back row, from left:* Board Chair Linda Gooden, Prof. William Moon, Dr. Joshua Abzug, Dr. David Puthoff, Dr. Ronald Williams, Dr. Vandana Janeja, Dr. Liang Zhu, Prof. Michael Klima, Dr. Alexander Pope, Dr. Otis Williams, III, Dr. José Feijó, and Chancellor Jay Perman. *Front row, from left:* Dr. James Hyman, Dr. Sudha Rajput, Prof. Kathryn Kaweck, Dr. Wyletta Gamble-Lomax, Dr. Jennifer Potter, Prof. Elena Velasco, Dr. Anne Osano, Dr. Hong Yao, Dr. Timothy Stock, and Dr. Xin Zhang.

Presentation of USM Enrollment Projections, FY 2025-34. As required by Board Policy, the regents approved the System's [10-year enrollment projections](#) following a presentation by Chad Muntz, associate vice chancellor for decision support and chief analytics officer. USM enrollment rebounded in fall 2023 following a steady, post-pandemic climb in new student enrollment. Given improved recruitment of new students and steady retention of returning students, the System projects that enrollment will continue to grow (+1,891) for fall 2024. The 10-year forecast is more optimistic, with USM enrollment projected to grow more than 14% to 190,613 undergraduate and graduate students in fall 2033. The System's confidence in these numbers is high, despite challenges posed by the problematic rollout of the new federal financial aid form. While the USM anticipates

some enrollment impacts from FAFSA delays and technical glitches, these impacts Systemwide are not expected to be significant.

Approval of Nine Academic Programs. After reviewing the recommendations of the Committee on Education Policy and Student Life, the Board approved the following new undergraduate and graduate academic programs, which will be offered pending the approval of the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

Bachelor of Arts, [International Relations](#), University of Maryland, College Park

Bachelor of Arts, [Music Therapy](#), Salisbury University

Bachelor of Science, [Aviation Maintenance Management](#), University of Maryland Eastern Shore

Bachelor of Science, [Biophysics](#), Towson University

Bachelor of Science, [Engineering Physics](#), Salisbury University

Bachelor of Science, [Interdisciplinary Physics](#), Towson University

Bachelor of Science, [International Relations](#), University of Maryland, College Park

Master of Science, [Artificial Intelligence for Business](#), University of Baltimore

Master of Science, [Quantum Computing](#), University of Maryland, College Park

Title IX Education Forum and Workgroup Introductions. The evening before the Board meeting, the regents and USM leaders participated in an [education forum on Title IX Sexual Misconduct](#), led by guest speaker Janet P. Judge, partner at Education & Sports Law Group LLC. Judge reviewed Title IX regulations and university responsibilities and shared national data on Title IX complaints and enforcement. During the Board meeting on April 19, Chair Linda Gooden addressed actions the USM is taking to strengthen Title IX compliance across the System, a plan catalyzed by the Department of Justice investigation at UMBC. The Board has established a Title IX Sexual Misconduct Workgroup to ensure that every USM university has the structure, staffing, training, best practices, and other resources needed to maintain Title IX compliance. Meanwhile, the Board's Reporting Major Investigations Workgroup will examine and refine the process for reporting—to the chancellor and to the Board—major external investigations at USM universities.

Approval of Adjustments to Exempt and Nonexempt Salary Structures. The USM is committed to providing a competitive pay structure for our employees. This year, the USM Committee on Finance conducted its biennial exempt market salary study and recommended a 5.0% increase to the [exempt salary structure](#), effective July 1, 2024, to maintain competitiveness within the market. Employees who fall below the new minimum of their pay range will receive a salary increase to the new minimum. In addition, the Committee on Finance recommended increasing the minimum pay for nonexempt employees to \$38,000 annually and increasing [nonexempt pay ranges](#) (3-12) by 3% to address pay compression.

Approval of the FY 2025 Schedule of Tuition and Mandatory Fees. Each year, the presidents of USM universities can recommend tuition and fee adjustments for the upcoming academic year. The Finance Committee shared the proposed rates for [tuition and fees for FY 2025](#), which were approved by the Board. Across the System, in-state undergraduate full-time and part-time tuition rates will not increase by more than 2%. Out-of-state undergraduate, graduate, and professional rates will not increase by more than 5%. The Board also approved the proposed [self-support charges and fees](#), which includes increases to room and board rates at some USM universities due to state-mandated salary and fringe benefit increases, and rising costs for goods and services.

For more information about the April Board of Regents meeting, you may view the [meeting agenda](#), [video archive](#), and [full report](#) by Chancellor Jay Perman.

Other News from the System



CIVIC ENGAGEMENT ON USM CAMPUSES RECEIVES A BOOST WITH NEW GRANT TO SUPPORT COLLEGE POLL WORKERS

In February, the U.S. Election Assistance Commission announced that the USM was one of 14 recipients of [poll worker grants](#) through the Help America Vote College Program. The USM received a \$78,521 grant, which will be used to recruit students from USM universities to complete election judge training and serve as nonpartisan poll workers in the upcoming election. The University of Maryland, College Park will take the lead in developing the training modules, in partnership with the Maryland State Election Commission. Students who complete the training can work in any election precinct statewide, so all Maryland counties will have access to a larger pool of election workers.



THE USM MARYLAND LAUNCH FUND SEEKS APPLICATIONS FOR ITS 2024 GRANT CYCLE

The Maryland Launch Fund is committed to supporting USM-affiliated, early-stage ventures by breaking down barriers to early capital and resources. Last year, the Launch Fund awarded microgrants and grants up to \$30,000 to a [diverse range of for-profit and nonprofit ventures](#), totaling approximately \$280,000 for its initial grant cycle. The fund is [accepting applications](#) for the 2024 grant cycle through noon on May 6. Eligible ventures are founded by students, faculty, staff, or alumni of USM universities; based on USM intellectual property; or physically located in a USM research park, incubator, or RISE Zone. The fund prioritizes diversity, equity, and inclusion, and values projects with the potential to advance economic development and strengthen communities in Maryland.



THE USM WELCOMES MICHAEL SANDLER AS VICE CHANCELLOR FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

This month, Chancellor Perman announced Michael Sandler as the USM's next [vice chancellor for communications and marketing](#), effective June 3. Sandler has more than 25 years of experience in media, marketing, and brand development. He is the founding partner and chief executive at EM3 Communications, a strategic communications and reputation management firm that works with colleges, K12 schools, nonprofits, and private companies. Previously, he served as vice president for communications and marketing at the University of Colorado System, and as interim vice president and associate vice president for communications and marketing at George Mason University. He has experience working in the newsroom of several national publications, both as a writer and editor.



QUIANA BANNERMAN JOINS THE USM AS DIRECTOR OF THE MARYLAND CENTER FOR COMPUTING EDUCATION

In February, Quiana Bannerman became the new [director of the Maryland Center for Computing Education](#), which coordinates Systemwide and statewide efforts to increase computing education access, equity, and efficiency. As a longtime computer science educator and instructional supervisor for Prince George's County Public Schools, Bannerman worked to expand computer science (CS) education in Maryland's PreK-12 schools, establish CS education standards, and organize CS professional development opportunities. She served on several national and state-level CS education committees and currently serves on the national committee for Reimagining CS Pathways: High School and Beyond, which aligns high school and postsecondary CS curricula and develops model pathways for CS courses.

News from Our Universities



BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY
BSU will offer a new [PhD in counselor education and supervision](#). The university is the first within the USM and the third HBCU in the country to offer this degree.



SALISBURY UNIVERSITY
The [Graduate School at SU](#) will enhance SU's academic initiatives, expand graduate enrollment, elevate rankings, and reinforce institutional identity.

COPPIN STATE UNIVERSITY
President Anthony L. Jenkins was elected to the board of directors of the [Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond's](#) Baltimore Branch.

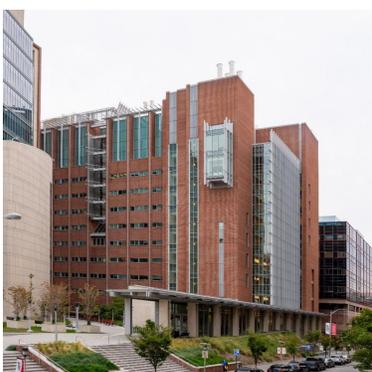


TOWSON UNIVERSITY
Mark R. Ginsberg was inaugurated as [Towson University's 15th president](#).

FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY
FSU's third annual [Bobcat Giving Day](#) raised \$203,876, surpassing last year by nearly \$36,000. The campaign engaged 1,869 donors who contributed to the FSU fund.



UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE
[LaVonda N. Reed](#) will become the new dean of the University of Baltimore School of Law beginning July 1.



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE
A three-year partnership among Operation Smile, [the University of Maryland School of Dentistry](#), and the University of Rwanda School of Dentistry will provide dental care in Rwanda, focused on cleft lip and cleft palate surgery.



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE COUNTY
Astronauts will deploy [UMBC's Lunar Environment Monitoring Station](#)—a compact, autonomous seismometer—on the surface of the moon as part of NASA's forthcoming Artemis III lunar landing mission.



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
UMCES faculty members Ming Li and Matthew Gray have been named [U.S. Fulbright Scholars](#) for the 2024-2025 academic year. Both professors will begin their collaborative research programs abroad later this fall.



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK

The university launched the [Artificial Intelligence Interdisciplinary Institute at Maryland](#) to develop the next generation of artificial intelligence education, technology, and leaders.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE

On March 25, the [UMES Gospel Choir](#) performed “Lift Every Voice And Sing” and “The Star-Spangled Banner” at the New York Knicks vs. Detroit Pistons game at Madison Square Garden in New York.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND GLOBAL CAMPUS

The National Security Agency has validated UMGC as a [National Center of Academic Excellence](#) for its cybersecurity programming.

News from USM Regional Centers



THE UNIVERSITIES AT SHADY GROVE

USG was featured in a 30-minute edition of the national television show, [The College Tour](#).



UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND HAGERSTOWN

During the Washington County Chamber of Commerce Business Awards Reception, USMH was honored as [Small Business of the Year](#).



UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND AT SOUTHERN MARYLAND

USMSM hosted an [open house](#) allowing participants to explore many different education opportunities available in Southern Maryland.

Dates to Remember

Meetings below will be virtual unless a location is listed. For the complete meeting schedule, visit:

www.usmd.edu/regents/meetings/

MAY 14, 2024

Committee on Education Policy and Student Life and Safety

9:30 a.m.

MAY 15, 2024

Committee on Economic Development and Technology Commercialization

12:30 p.m.

MAY 16, 2024

Committee on Advancement

11:00 a.m.

MAY 22, 2024

Committee on Governance and Compensation

8:30 a.m.

Contacts and Resources

Regents Meeting Video Archive: [View](#)

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MAY 29, 2024

Committee on Finance

10:30 a.m.

JUNE 3, 2024

**Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics and
Student-Athlete Health and Welfare**

2:00 p.m.

JUNE 14, 2024

Board of Regents Meeting

Salisbury University

8:00 a.m.

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