TOPIC: Naming Request from Towson University: Thurgood Marshall Hall and Charles Carroll Hall (buildings)

COMMITTEE: Advancement Committee

DATE OF COMMITTEE MEETING: May 20, 2015

SUMMARY: Towson University is requesting approval to name the West Village Housing project Phase III & IV. In keeping with the tradition of naming buildings in West Village after historical/famous Marylanders, they would like to name Phase III and IV in honor of Thurgood Marshall and Charles Carroll.

ALTERNATIVE(S): 

FISCAL IMPACT:

CHANCELLOR’S RECOMMENDATION: Recommends approval.

COMMITTEE ACTION: Recommend approval 

BOARD ACTION: 

SUBMITTED BY: Leonard Raley, lraley@usmd.edu, 301-445-1941
February 5, 2015

Chancellor William E. Kirwan
University System of Maryland
3300 Metzerott Road, Suite 2C
Adelphi, MD 20783

Dear Chancellor Kirwan:

As we move forward with the expansion of our West Village Housing project Phase III & IV, we are writing to seek your approval of the names for the next two buildings scheduled to open August 2016.

In May 2008 we went through an extensive campus process to identify names, we proposed the theme of “historic/famous Marylanders.” To date we have the following named buildings in West Village:

- William Paca House
- Harriet Tubman House
- Clara Barton House
- Frederick Douglass House

For Phase III & IV we are seeking approval to use:

- Thurgood Marshall Hall (vs house as it is apartment living)
- Charles Carroll Hall

Charles Carroll (1737-1832) was born in Annapolis and was an early advocate for American independence and was one of four Marylanders to sign the Declaration of Independence. He was elected to the Continental Congress and later to the U.S. Senate.

Thurgood Marshall (1908-1993) was born in Baltimore and became a leading civil rights lawyer. He became the Executive Director of NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund and argued many important civil rights cases in front of the U.S. Supreme Court, the most famous being Brown vs. the Board of Education. He later became the first African-American to serve as Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court where he served for 24 years.

The two buildings will house 700 students—366 in the north building (proposed Marshall Hall) and 334 in the south building (proposed Carroll Hall) in two- and four-bedroom apartments. There are 170,540 gross ft.² (106,587 ft.² usable space) and 156,594 gross ft.² in the south building (98,031 ft.² usable space).
This request is sent in accordance with USM Policy 144.0 VI-4.00 – Policy on Naming of Buildings and Academic Programs. The policy allows for you to determine if this requires Regents’ approval. You will find that all criteria for naming for the two famous Marylanders have been met.

I look forward to receiving your approval on the two proposed names. Should you require any additional information or have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Timothy J.L. Chandler
Interim President