TOPIC: Convening Closed Session

COMMITTEE: Audit Committee

DATE OF COMMITTEE MEETING: March 18, 2016

SUMMARY: The Open Meetings Act permits public bodies to close their meetings to the public in special circumstances outlined in §3-305 of the Act and to carry out administrative functions exempted by §3-103 of the Act. The Board of Regents Audit Committee will now vote to reconvene in closed session. As required by law, the vote on the closing of the session will be recorded. A written statement of the reason(s) for closing the meeting, including a citation of the authority under §3-305 and a listing of the topics to be discussed, is available for public review.

It is possible that an issue could arise during a closed session that the Committee determines should be discussed in open session or added to the closed session agenda for discussion. In that event, the Committee would reconvene in open session to discuss the open session topic or to vote to reconvene in closed session to discuss the additional closed session topic.

ALTERNATIVE(S): No alternative is suggested.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact

CHANCELLOR’S RECOMMENDATION: The Chancellor recommends that the BOR Audit Committee vote to reconvene in closed session.

COMMITTEE ACTION:       DATE:

BOARD ACTION:           DATE: 3-18-2016

SUBMITTED BY: David Mosca, 443.367.0035, dmosca@usmd.edu
STATEMENT REGARDING CLOSING A MEETING
OF THE USM BOARD OF REGENTS

Date: March 18, 2016
Time: 10:00 AM
Location: University System of Maryland Office, Adelphi Maryland

STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO CLOSE A SESSION

Md. Code, General Provisions Article §3-305(b):

(1) To discuss:
   [ ] (i) The appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; or
   [ ] (ii) Any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.

(2) [ ] To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals with respect to a matter that is not related to public business.

(3) [ ] To consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.

(4) [ ] To consider a preliminary matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State.

(5) [ ] To consider the investment of public funds.

(6) [ ] To consider the marketing of public securities.

(7) [ ] To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter.

(8) [ ] To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

(9) [ ] To conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations.
(10) [ ] To discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussions would constitute a risk to the public or public security, including:
   (i) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and
   (ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans.

(11) [ ] To prepare, administer or grade a scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examination.

(12) [x] To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct.

(13) [x] To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter.

(14) [ ] Before a contract is awarded or bids are opened, to discuss a matter directly related to a negotiation strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, if public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process.

Md. Code, General Provisions Article §3-103(a)(1)(i):
   [x] Administrative Matters

TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED:
Legislative audit matters that are ongoing and, therefore, confidential; discussion of investigative matters which may lead to criminal prosecution; calendar year 2016 internal audit plan of activity; and the committee meeting separately with the independent auditors and the director of internal audit.

REASON FOR CLOSING:

1) To maintain the confidentiality of matters involved in ongoing legislative audits, as required by Section 2-1226 of the State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland (GP Section 3-305(b)(13));
2) To discuss ongoing investigations by the USM Office of Internal Audits (is that the correct name?) which potentially could result in criminal prosecutions (GP Section 3-305(b)(12));
3) To discuss certain calendar year 2016 audit plans by the USM Office of Internal Audit, maintaining confidentiality of the plans (GP Section 3-103(a)(1)(i); and
4) To maintain the confidentiality of the Committee’s meeting separately with the independent auditors and the Director of Internal Audit (GP Section 3-103(a)(1)(i).