

TOPIC: Survey of BOR

COMMITTEE: Organization and Compensation

DATE OF MEETING: September 6, 2017

SUMMARY: The USMO from time to time conducts a survey of the regents in order to solicit feedback on board structure, procedures, responsibilities, relationships and support. Feedback from these surveys helps the BOR and the USMO understand regents' perspectives on these matters and receive suggestions for improvements. Prior surveys also included a self-review form as an optional component. Survey instruments used in prior BOR surveys are attached.

The Committee will discuss whether they would like to conduct a BOR survey this year. If there is a desire to conduct a survey, the Committee will also discuss the survey instrument(s) and timing.

ALTERNATIVE(S): The Committee could choose not to discuss the topic.

FISCAL IMPACT: Minimal fiscal impact.

CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION: The Chancellor recommends that the Committee discuss the option of conducting a BOR survey this year.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

DATE: September 6, 2017

BOARD ACTION:

DATE:

SUBMITTED BY: Janice Doyle, jdoyle@usmd.edu, 301-445-1906

USM BOARD ASSESSMENT THEMES & TOPICS					
BOARD OPERATIONS	Strongly agree	Agree	Uncertain	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<p>The board possesses an appropriate mix of skills and background for the issues facing the USM.</p> <p>If you disagree, what areas of expertise are missing?</p>					
<p>The committee structure is appropriate for addressing the key issues of the USM</p>					
<p>The formats for board and committee meetings are effective and efficient for focusing on the board's priorities and issues.</p> <p>If you disagree, please make suggestions for improvement.</p>					

COMMENTS ON BOARD OPERATIONS:

USM BOARD ASSESSMENT THEMES & TOPICS					
BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES	Strongly agree	Agree	Uncertain	Disagree	Strongly disagree
The board is provided the opportunity to understand the mission and vision of the USM as articulated in the strategic plan					
The board ensures that the budget reflects the priorities established in the strategic plan.					
The level of board involvement in setting USM priorities is appropriate.					
The opportunity to learn and engage in academic policy issues is sufficient.					
The method of holding presidents and senior USM officers accountable is effective.					
The method of reviewing and recommending operating and capital budgets is effective.					
There is an appropriate balance between the time the board spends on issues that require “putting out fires” and issues affecting policy.					

COMMENTS ON BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

USM BOARD ASSESSMENT THEMES & TOPICS					
BOARD MEETINGS	Strongly agree	Agree	Uncertain	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Materials provided to the board are adequate for members to review topics and to vote knowledgably.					
Enough time is allocated for committee and board meetings to operate effectively.					
Committee and board discussions are open and constructive.					
Board members have the opportunity to express their opinions and to make their own decisions on topics.					

COMMENTS ON BOARD MEETINGS:

USM BOARD ASSESSMENT THEMES & TOPICS					
STAFF SUPPORT	Strongly agree	Agree	Uncertain	Disagree	Strongly disagree
USM staff is responsive to questions and concerns of board members.					
The orientation program is helpful in preparing new regents.					
There is adequate opportunity to interact with all of the USM offices that provide direct support to the board.					
The support and advice from the AG's office is adequate to help the board in its deliberations and decisions.					

COMMENTS ON STAFF SUPPORT:

USM BOARD ASSESSMENT THEMES & TOPICS					
BOARD/INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS	Strongly agree	Agree	Uncertain	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<p>There is adequate opportunity learn about the USM institutions.</p> <p>If you disagree, please make suggestions:</p>					
<p>There are opportunities for board members to interact with the institutional presidents, both formally and informally.</p> <p>If you disagree, please make suggestions:</p>					

COMMENTS ON BOARD/INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS:

USM BOARD ASSESSMENT THEMES & TOPICS					
BOARD/CEO RELATIONSHIPS	Strongly agree	Agree	Uncertain	Disagree	Strongly disagree
The authority given to the Chancellor to manage and lead the USM by the board is adequate for him to fulfill his responsibilities.					
The information provided by the Chancellor to the board is adequate to allow it to fulfill its responsibilities.					
The decision-making responsibilities between the board and Chancellor are well defined.					
The board supports the Chancellor when he has to make difficult decisions.					
The communications between the board and Chancellor create a level of trust and allow the board to support his decisions and allow individual regents to understand the issues.					

COMMENTS ON BOARD/CEO RELATIONSHIP:

USM BOARD ASSESSMENT THEMES & TOPICS					
STRUCTURE OF THE BOARD	Strongly agree	Agree	Uncertain	Disagree	Strongly disagree
The structure of the Board and its committees permits Board members to understand their roles and responsibilities					
The Board possesses an appropriate mix of skills and background for the issues facing the USM.					
If you disagree, what areas of expertise are missing? _____					
The BOR committee structure is appropriate for addressing the key issues and for fulfilling the mission of the Board.					
Current committee structure contributes to Board productivity					
The formats for board and committee meetings are effective for focusing the board's priorities and key issues. If disagree, please suggest alternatives _____					

COMMENTS:

USM BOARD ASSESSMENT THEMES & TOPICS					
BOARD MEETINGS	Strongly agree	Agree	Uncertain	Disagree	Strongly disagree
The number of Board meetings per year is appropriate to be effective					
If you disagree, how many meetings should be held? _____					
1) Materials are sent to Board members far enough in advance of the BOR meetings to be useful. 2) Materials prepared for the Board are adequate for members to understand the topic and to knowledgably vote 3) I would prefer to receive materials and communications about meetings electronically					
Enough time is allocated for board meetings to operate effectively					
Enough time is allocated for committee meetings to operate effectively					
1) Presentations to the Board are professional and well delivered 2) Presentations assist members in making decisions.					
1) Board discussions are open 2) Board discussions are constructive					
Each Board member has the opportunity to express his/her opinion on an issue					
Each Board member has the opportunity to make his/her decision on a vote					

USM BOARD ASSESSMENT THEMES & TOPICS					
BOARD MEETINGS <i>CONTINUED</i>	Strongly agree	Agree	Uncertain	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1) Board discussion of important issues are focused, primarily, on values and principles 2) Important Board decisions are based, primarily, on values and principles 3) Board members make decisions based on facts, free of outside pressure.					
Board members have the opportunity to communicate regularly with one another between meetings.					

COMMENTS:

USM BOARD ASSESSMENT THEMES & TOPICS					
KEY BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES	Strongly agree	Agree	Uncertain	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1) The Board focuses sufficiently on long-term significant strategic planning.					
2) The Board has a vision of how USM should be evolving over the next 3 to 5 years					
3) The Board ensures that the budget reflects the priorities established in the strategic plan					
1) Information supplied to the Board is adequate to make informed strategic decisions					
2) Board support of USM's mission and vision is effective					
The level of Board involvement in setting USM priorities is appropriate					
The method for holding presidents accountable is effective					
The method for evaluating the Chancellor's performance in a systematic and fair way is effective.					
The method for reviewing and recommending budgets is effective					
Knowledge of the 13 institutions by individual Board members is adequate for the Regents to support institutional goals and priorities.					
The Board establishes appropriate priorities for each year.					
The board has identified appropriate key indicators for tracking progress of system goals.					
There is an appropriate balance between the time Board spends "putting out fires" and addressing policy issues.					

COMMENTS:

USM BOARD ASSESSMENT THEMES & TOPICS					
BOARD/CEO RELATIONSHIP	Strongly agree	Agree	Uncertain	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1)The Board/CEO relationship is built on respect and confidence					
2) A climate of mutual trust exists between the Board and Chancellor					
The information provided by the Chancellor to the Board is adequate to allow it to fulfill its responsibilities					
The authority given to the chancellor to manage and lead the USM by the BOR is adequate to allow him to fulfill his responsibilities					
The decision-making responsibilities between the Board and Chancellor are well defined.					
The Board supports the Chancellor when he has to make difficult decisions					

COMMENTS:

USM BOARD ASSESSMENT THEMES & TOPICS					
BOARD/INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS	Strongly agree	Agree	Uncertain	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Information provided to Board members by the System Office and the institutions about the 13 institutions is sufficient for Regents to understand and support the institutions.					
1) Board members are provided opportunities to learn about the individual institutions. 2) Opportunities to learn about the individual institutions are sufficient.					

COMMENTS:

USM BOARD ASSESSMENT THEMES & TOPICS					
STAFF SUPPORT	Strongly agree	Agree	Uncertain	Disagree	Strongly disagree
The orientation program to prepare new regents is satisfactory to ensure the Regents' effectiveness.					
System staff is responsive to questions and concerns of Board members					
System staff provides appropriate and useful information to ensure that Board members are prepared for Board meetings.					
System staff provides appropriate and useful information to ensure that Board members are prepared for committee and workgroup meetings.					
There is adequate staff support for committees to fulfill their functions					

COMMENTS:

**UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND
BOARD OR REGENTS**

SELF REVIEW FORM

_____ I keep myself informed of institutional and USM matters pertinent to my responsibilities as a Regent.

_____ I prepare for meetings by reading materials provided ahead of time, considering what issues and questions should be explored at the meeting and seeking out additional information when appropriate.

_____ I actively participate in discussions at committee and board meetings.

_____ I understand the policy-setting role of a Regent and support the authority of the Chancellor.

_____ I promote and support the USM in my external dealings.

1. What do you consider to be your individual contributions of note to the work of the Board?

2. Are there any ways in which you could enhance your effectiveness as a board member? If so, how?

3. Are there any ways in which the USM could help to enhance your effectiveness as a board member. If so, how?

4. Are you satisfied with the opportunities to interact as a Regent with other Regents and with the USM leadership?

5. What could you or the USM do to enhance those opportunities?

6. Are there skills we need represented on the Board?

IT IS YOUR CHOICE TO DECIDE TO RETURN THIS DOCUMENT (OR ANY PORTION OF IT) WITH THE BOARD ASSESSMENT OR TO SIMPLY USE IT AT A SELF-REVIEW.