



**Board of Regents  
Committee on Education Policy and Student Life**

**Minutes  
Public Session**

The Committee on Education Policy and Student Life (EPSL) of the University System of Maryland (USM) Board of Regents met in public session on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. The meeting was convened at 9:30 a.m. Committee members present were: Regent Slater (chair) and Regents Enriquez, Fish, Gourdine, Holzapfel, and Johnson. Chancellor Caret was also present.

Also attending were: Dr. Allen, Ms. Bainbridge, Ms. Baker, Dr. Beise, Dr. Boughman, Dr. Bowling, Dr. Chandler, Dr. Clement, Ms. Doyle, Dr. Harpe, Ms. Higgs Burkhalter, Dr. Faulkender, Ms. Hollander, Dr. Jackson, Ms. Jamison, Dr. Jarrell, Dr. Kauffman, Dr. Krause, Dr. Lee, Mr. Lurie, Dr. Olmstead, Mr. Morgan, Dr. Moriarty, Ms. Moultrie, Ms. Murray, Ms. Pometto, Mr. Patty, Dr. Roth, Dr. Rous, Dr. Shapiro, Dr. Smith, Ms. Smith, Dr. Travis, Dr. Tull, Dr. Whitehead, Dr. Wilkens, Dr. Williamson, Dr. Wolfe, and other guests.

Regent Slater welcomed everyone to the meeting. He shared that the full Board of Regents meetings will move to a consent agenda format in which committee actions will be approved by consent and only discussed separately if requested by a regent. Regent Slater encouraged his colleagues and all stakeholders to let him know if they wish to highlight and discuss any particular agenda item during the full Board meetings.

**Action Items**

**New Academic Program Proposals**

**University of Maryland, College Park: Master of Quantitative Finance**

Dr. Beise, Associate Provost, and Dr. Faulkender, Director of the Master of Finance program, presented this proposal to the Committee. The proposed Master of Quantitative Finance program is intended for students wishing to pursue careers in money management, financial research, risk management, and financial market regulation. The program would appeal to students with backgrounds in mathematics, statistics, computer science, and physics. The program would address the finance industry's growing need for professionals with the sophisticated quantitative and computational skills required for fields such as securities pricing, institutional risk management, and hedge fund management. The proposed program differs from the existing Master of Finance, which will continue to be offered, as it includes significantly more mathematical and statistical modeling skills. The program also differs from the MBA degree, which is more of a generalist, not specialty, business leadership degree. The proposal went through the standard approval process during which institutions have the opportunity to object; there were no objections. In response to questions from the regents, the presenters shared that students who earn this master's degree would be prepared to start a Ph.D. in finance, but that there are currently no plans for a terminal degree in quantitative finance. The presenters also shared that they are confident in the enrollment projections, since internal analyses show high levels of interest in the program and national studies also show interest growing nationally.

The Chancellor recommends that the Committee on Education Policy and Student Life recommend that the Board of Regents approve the proposal from the University of Maryland, College Park for the Master of Quantitative Finance. The motion was moved by Regent Fish, seconded by Regent Enriquez, and unanimously approved.

**University of Maryland, College Park: Ph.D. & M.S. - Environmental Health Sciences**

Dr. Beise, Associate Provost, and Dr. Roth, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in the School of Public Health, presented this proposal to the Committee. The School of Public Health proposes to offer a new doctoral program in Environmental Health Sciences. The proposed curriculum would prepare students to become experts in areas including exposure assessment, environmental epidemiology, environmental microbiology, children's environmental health, environmental justice, occupational health, and risk assessment. This proposal includes the creation of a M.S. in Environmental Health Sciences, but students will not be actively recruited or admitted into the M.S. program. The M.S. will be offered as an exit path for doctoral candidates who cannot or choose not to complete the Ph.D. or to those students who successfully complete the requirements and opt to obtain the additional credential. Nearly every top 40 school of public health in the country offers a doctoral program in Environmental Health Sciences. UMD would be strengthened by having this degree and is disadvantaging students and faculty by not having the program. The development of the environmental health workforce has been a key concern by the US Department of Health and Human Services and the Centers for Disease Control; the approval of this program at a public land-grant university will help support the workforce development needs. The proposal went through the standard approval process during which institutions have the opportunity to object; there were no objections. Chancellor Caret encouraged partnerships and the promotion of collaborations, such as MPower, with this and other programs.

The Chancellor recommends that the Committee on Education Policy and Student Life recommend that the Board of Regents approve the proposal from the University of Maryland, College Park for the Ph.D. and M.S. in Environmental Health Sciences. The motion was moved by Regent Holzapfel, seconded by Regent Fish, and unanimously approved.

**UMUC: Master of Science in Transformational Leadership**

Ms. Blakely Pomietto, Assistant Vice Provost for Academic Policies and Reports, and Dr. Aric Krause, Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School, presented this proposal to the Committee. The proposed Master of Science in Transformational Leadership is a hybrid degree program that will appeal to military service members and veteran students and is designed to "...help separating personnel transition to jobs in the private, public and non-profit sectors." This multidisciplinary degree program will enable students to build upon their military experience and commensurate skills and will provide students the opportunity to strengthen expertise necessary to be successful leaders. Graduates will have the ability to, "...affect and lead change, coach and manage performance, understand and develop financial goals and outcomes, foster a culture of diversity and inclusion, and inspire leadership qualities in those they lead." The M.S. in Transformational Leadership has been developed with the input of UMUC stakeholders, including employers, and with specific emphasis on preparing students to progress up managerial and leadership career ladders across a broad range of occupational areas. Although there are other leadership programs offered by institutions in Maryland, there are substantive differences in UMUC's proposed program and those offered at the Maryland Institute College of Arts, Notre Dame of Maryland University, Johns Hopkins University, and the University of Baltimore. Dr. Darlene Smith, provost at the University of Baltimore, acknowledged the institutions worked together when UMUC began developing this program. Because of the different target audiences, program delivery format, and content, UB can support the creation of this program. Furthermore, the proposal went through the standard approval process during which institutions have the opportunity to object; there were no objections.

The Chancellor recommends that the Committee on Education Policy and Student Life recommend that the Board of Regents approve the proposal from the University of Maryland University College for the Master of Science in Transformational Leadership. The motion was moved by Regent Fish, seconded by Regent Holzapfel, and unanimously approved.

### **Salisbury University: Creation of a College of Health and Human Services**

Dr. Rich Wilkens, Associate Provost, presented this proposal to the Committee. Salisbury University proposes to create a College of Health and Human Services (HHS) through a strategic reorganization of some of the existing programs and majors that are currently in the Seidel School of Education & Professional Studies and the Henson School of Science & Technology. The proposed College will be comprised of four schools: Health Sciences, Kinesiology, Nursing, and Social Work. Given the societal importance of and workforce demands for healthcare and human services-related graduates, establishing a College of Health and Human Services would coalesce academic programs, research, services, and facilities into a single academic unit. If approved, the funding for the new college would initially come from an internal reallocation of existing general funds and tuition dollars. SU expects that creating this college would increase efficiency and effectiveness, elevate the visibility and prestige of these programs and the institution, increase enrollment, and yield advancement opportunities that would, ultimately, manifest itself in increased revenue. The regents commended Salisbury on a thorough, campus-based review process that included all appropriate stakeholders.

The Chancellor recommends that the Committee on Education Policy and Student Life recommend that the Board of Regents approve the proposal from Salisbury University to create a College of Health and Human Services. The motion was moved by Regent Johnson, seconded by Regent Fish, and unanimously approved.

### **Information Items**

#### **Student Activism Update and Panel**

In the wake of the 2016 presidential election and national and local inclusion and diversity-related incidents, the Committee received an update on campus climate, reactions of and attention to the feelings of the campus community, issues associated with free speech and/or political correctness, student activism, safe/brave spaces, trigger warnings, etc. Provosts Dr. Kimberly Whitehead (UMES) and Dr. Tim Chandler (Towson) and vice presidents for student affairs Dr. Linda Clement (UMCP) and Dr. Tom Bowling (Frostburg) shared perspectives from their institutions.

Key issues with which the campus officials are dealing include:

- Understanding and managing the impact of social media and the associated contagion effect, which is enabling activism to move at lightning speed.
- Building an inclusive environment that is respectful of differences;
- Helping the campus community to be civically engaged;
- Responding to series of petitions that come from student groups;
- Working with a variety of student leaders, many of whom are not representing the traditional student government structures;
- Offering multiple opportunities for groups to be heard; and
- Using instances of activism as teachable moments.

When asked how they and their colleagues stay on top of these issues, the panel described:

- Constant monitoring of social media;
- Significant dependence on staff, who are interacting with students daily;
- Engaging and listening to elected student leaders and grassroots student leaders;
- Partnerships between academic and student affairs to best address these issues.

The panel noted that the regents could help by:

- Acknowledging that university officials are professionals who take these issues seriously and are working hard to ensure the best environment possible;
- Recognizing that in times of significant challenges, university officials will keep the chancellor and the board informed;
- Continuing to focus on student life in conversations like these; and
- Providing leadership and support for increased systemness (i.e., recent guidance on issue of sanctuary campuses).

The panel and the regents agreed that communication is critical, so students continue to grow in their understanding of others' perspectives, the ability to consider possible consequences of their actions, and their understanding how to effectively address complicated and uncomfortable situations. Regents expressed some concern about the use of language and issues surrounding free speech. Chancellor Caret noted that a speaker will attend the full Board meeting in February to address such challenges.

### **Statewide Report on Campus Climate and Sexual Violence at MD Colleges and Universities**

Dr. Joann Boughman, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, presented this report to the Committee. The Maryland Higher Education Commission's (MHEC) report on Campus Climate and Sexual Violence at Maryland Colleges and Universities was submitted to Governor Hogan and the Maryland General Assembly in November 2016. This report was prepared in response to 2015 legislation requiring institutions to do a sexual misconduct campus climate survey and a report of incidents. Each of our institutions implemented the climate survey within the flexibility allowed by MHEC.

Select key findings of the climate survey include:

- Most students feel their institutions handle crises well and take reports seriously.
- The vast majority of students feel valued, respected, and safe.
- Institutions in urban areas and those with recently publicized incident reported more issues with students feeling completely safe.
- Many students are still confused about the reporting process.
- There remains a disconnect between student training and the understanding of the reporting process.
- Most students report they would intercede in an incident.
- All institutions offer counseling and other accommodations and services to help ensure that victims are safe.

Data from the incident report are also available. Although we suspect underreporting and hope to increase response rates in the future, officials at our institutions are using the lessons learned from these findings to make improvements to increase the chances that:

- more students report incidents sooner (only 28% were reported with 24 hours and over 20% were reported more than a semester after the incident occurred); and
- enhancements in the reporting process and in training will be made and implemented, so victims are clear on how to report an incident.

Regents asked what institutions are doing about the significant delays in reporting. Dr. Boughman shared that our Title IX offices (with support from counseling centers and other offices) are working hard to ensure students know the reporting process and what it entails including the fact that services and accommodations are available immediately upon reporting.

Dr. Boughman believes that sexual misconduct-related bills may be proposed during the current legislative session. Two issues that may be on the table are affirmative consent and requests for institution-level data. We believe our policy (and those of our institutions) meet affirmative consent standards. We do, however, have worries about the invasion of privacy for institutions with small numbers and about the misinterpretation of campus' safety based on incident data. Therefore, we would have concerns supporting such a request.

Per state law, the incident data are submitted every year, and the climate survey will be conducted every other year. We have learned from this first comprehensive report, and USM and our institutions will continue to work on this important issue, with procedures for reporting, investigation, and adjudication constantly being improved.

### **2016 Annual Report of the Governor's P-20 Leadership Council**

Chancellor Robert Caret and Dr. Nancy Shapiro, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, presented this report to the Committee. Dr. Shapiro shared that the Governor's P-20 Leadership Council, chaired by Secretary Kelly Schultz (Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation - DLLR), provides a forum in which the Governor, legislators, and stakeholders from K-12, postsecondary education, and the workforce and economic development can discuss policy priorities and the alignment of the various elements of our education and workforce systems. The Council also tracks the progress of the Maryland college and career readiness standards and college completion strategies. The Council formed seven workgroups and recruited non-council members to participate, tapping into a broader base of expertise in each group. The workgroups are:

1. Maryland Longitudinal Data Systems (MLDS)
2. Workforce Development
3. High School Equivalency/GED
4. Maryland College and Career-Ready Standards (MCCRS)/PARCC
5. At-Risk Youth
6. College and Career Progress Report
7. Teachers (which merged with Teacher Induction, Retention and Advancement Act of 2016)

With Secretary Shultz leading the Council, there has been an increased emphasis on workforce development. Chancellor Caret chaired the Workforce Development Workgroup, whose work included identifying workforce shortage areas making initial recommendations for addressing the shortage areas. The Workgroup identified two areas of major workforce shortage: healthcare industries and computer. The Workgroup will continue its work by further analyzing those two key areas and exploring apprenticeship pathways into jobs in Maryland.

Key recommendations from all workgroups are included in the full report, but most workgroups agreed on the need to:

- optimize the usefulness of MLDS;
- establish measurable goals to track progress on filling workforce needs;
- reach out to broader stakeholder groups to facilitate communication and information sharing across a broader audience; and
- tie expectations of high quality apprenticeships more meaningfully to discussions of college and career readiness and career outcomes.

Chancellor Caret and Dr. Shapiro expect these themes to be the continuing work of the Council and will update the Board as that work progresses.

### **Results of Periodic Reviews of Academic Programs**

Dr. Boughman presented this report to the Committee. Existing academic programs are required to submit a report every seven years. Each USM institution follows a review process that was approved previously by the Regents. Staff in the USM Office of the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs reviews drafts of each report and comments are shared with the institutions for appropriate action prior to final submission to the Chancellor. Comments may include requests for additional information or the need for additional action following program accreditation reviews. The reports demonstrated the seriousness with which the reviews are taken. Institutional action plans are decided upon primarily by the provost or dean, both of whom are responsible to monitor academic quality and productive use of resources.

The report provides data on enrollment and degrees awarded during the five years prior to the submission of the report. Fifty-nine bachelors, 34 masters, 22 doctorates, and 2 certificates were reviewed. Congratulations were extended to the following programs or colleges that were reaccredited or reaffirmed during this period: Frostburg's College of Business; Towson's Forensic Chemistry, Forensic Science, and Department of Occupational Therapy; UMCP's schools of business and public health, College of Journalism, and Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine.

The regents asked for clarification on the status of programs identified as having low degree productivity and lower enrollment, which included, Chemistry, Urban Arts, and Urban Studies at Coppin; Geography & Land Surveying at Towson; and Physical Education at UMBC. Dr. Boughman highlighted a few other programs, further described the review process, and reminded the regents that a report at the next meeting will further illuminate the productivity of the programs. The USM staff will follow up on programs of concern. Copies of the complete program reviews are available from the USM Office of Academic Affairs.

### **Report on Extramural Funding – FY 2016**

Dr. Boughman presented this report, which provides information on extramural awards received by USM institutions in support of specific initiatives in research, education, or service. In FY 2016, the System received a total of \$1,265,909,656.95 in extramural funding, a 0.1% increase from FY 2015. UMB and UMCP garnered the largest extramural funding totals among System institutions. UB, UMBC, UMCES, UMCP, and UMUC obtained higher levels of extramural funding than in FY 2015. This is the fourth year of increases in extramural funding. With somewhat small increases, however, we are essentially staying steady. Nevertheless, these increases are promising, although securing federal funding remains a challenge. Ultimately, faculty are working hard submitting proposals, and their rate of success continues to increase, in part, due to their willingness to look beyond state and federal funding sources. Chancellor Caret noted that the USM is very competitive on a variety of research- and development-related measures across the nation. Dr. Boughman added that several vice presidents for research collaborate regularly to help increase institutions' success at garnering research dollars.

### **Action Item**

#### **Motion to Adjourn and Reconvene in Closed Session**

Regent Slater called for a motion to adjourn and read the required statement to reconvene in closed session. The motion was moved by Regent Holzappel, seconded by Regent Fish, and unanimously approved. Regent Slater adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Regent Tom Slater