



**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, March 27, 2018 at the University of Maryland, College Park. The meeting was convened at 9:35 a.m. Committee members present were: Regents Brady (chair in the absence of Committee Chair Gourdine), Dennis (via phone), Johnson, Reid (via phone), and Shorter. Chancellor Caret was also present.

The following were also in attendance: Dr. Alvarez, Ms. Bainbridge, Dr. Beise, Dr. Boughman, Dr. Chandler, Dr. Clement, Dr. Coleman, Dr. Golembewski, Mr. Fabbi, Dr. Harpe, Dr. Kauffman, Dr. Lee, Dr. Lewis, Mr. Muntz, Ms. Murray, Mr. Neal, Dr. Olmstead, Ms. Pomietto, Dr. Rous, Dr. Santamaria-Makang, Dr. Shapiro, Ms. Smith, Ms. Walker, Dr. Whitehead, and other guests.

**Action Items**

**New Academic Program Proposal**

**University of Baltimore: Bachelor of Science in Accounting**

Dr. Darlene Smith, Executive Vice President and Provost, presented this proposal. Since 1925, UB has provided accounting education. For 40 years, UB has offered the Bachelor of Science (BS) in Business Administration with an area of concentration in accounting. The current proposal would move the concentration to a specialized degree, which would elevate the visibility of the program and allow it to better communicate the content of the program to students and employers. This move will ensure students and employers that this is a full, complete accounting program yielding the bachelor's degree desired by the workforce data. The workforce trends also suggest that there is a critical need to strengthen the pipeline of CPA candidates. The proposed BS in Accounting can contribute significantly to workforce demands in Maryland and the region. The proposed BS in Accounting requires minimum changes to the existing curriculum. The proposal went through the standard USM approval process with institutions having time to submit objections. There have been no objections and there are no concerns about program duplication.

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 Baltimore

to establish a Bachelor of Science in Accounting. The motion was moved by Regent Brady, seconded by Regent Shorter, and unanimously approved.

### **Council of University System Faculty Constitutional Amendments**

Dr. Robert Kauffman, Chair of the Council of University System Faculty (Frostburg State University), presented these amendments. The proposed amendments are designed to eliminate duplication in the campus review of proposed constitutional amendments. The proposed change would eliminate the need for amendments to CUSF's constitution to be referred to constituent institutions for consideration. However, amendments would still require campus consideration via the Council members who represent their constituent institutions at two separate meetings. Therefore, via institutional representatives, campus review is retained. There are no recommended changes to the Board of Regents's role in the amendment approval process. In accordance with current constitutional procedures, the motion was passed by the CUSF Council, distributed to the campuses for comment, repassed by Council, and is now being forwarded to the Board of Regents for its approval. The accompanying memo includes the motion as passed by CUSF, the text after the amendment, and the chronology of the approval process. Dr. Boughman shared the diligence with which the Council went through this process, being sure to enact shared governance throughout.

The Chancellor recommends that the Committee on Education Policy and Student Life recommend CUSF's Constitutional Amendments. The motion was moved by Regent Brady, seconded by Regent Dennis, and unanimously approved.

### **Information Items**

#### **New Program 5-Year Enrollment Review**

Dr. Coleman, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, presented this report. As part of the ongoing program review process and as an indicator of program health, the data in this report reflect the relative accuracy of the projected enrollments that are included in all new program proposals approved from FY 2012 through FY 2017. It is important to note that not all programs are implemented in the year they are approved. Dependent upon the date of Board and MHEC approval, recruitment and admission to the program may not begin until the following year and therefore no enrollments are reported. In other cases, admission to the program may not occur until students have completed the required core courses, examinations, etc., so enrollments would be reported two years after implementation. Regents Johnson, Shorter, and Brady asked for examples of considerations made when developing projected enrollments. Provosts shared that they use various market analyses, data analytics, workgroups, etc. to determine the state's and region's needs. They recognize that some projections are inaccurate, but they are becoming more confident in the projections, as the formality and quantifying of market demand has been increased and is becoming more sophisticated over the last few years. Additionally, Dr. Boughman and provosts noted that although individual programs may be underenrolled, in most cases, this is one of many programs within a college or school. Subsequently, the enrollments within most colleges and schools and the USM are relatively strong. Regent Brady noted that more rigor and reality are needed in the establishment of projected enrollments. In response to concerns about under-enrolled programs at Coppin State University, Dr. Lewis, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, shared the institution's increased use of the aforementioned resources in order to

obtain more accurate projections. She also noted, however, an error in the data, as the health sciences program (page 5) does have students enrolled. USM staff will address this concern.

Although some programs have been discontinued due to low enrollment and other considerations (i.e., the aforementioned timing; the type and delivery method of the program) should be made when evaluating the numbers, the regents asked that the USM staff and those at the institutions examine why some projected enrollments are not being met and identify steps that need to be taken to discontinue or revive a program. Further, Regent Brady asked, and the committee agreed, that future reports begin with actions taken as a result of the previous year's report. In next year's report, we should revisit what was learned and what happened to programs of concern from the current year. Finally, Chancellor Caret noted that to be as efficient and effective as possible, we should establish one or more trigger points (maybe graduation or enrollment) that would yield a program going on probation and being discontinued after a year or two if enrollments do not increase.

### **Overview of Undergraduate Success in the USM**

Mr. Chad Muntz, Director of Institutional Research, thanked former USM colleague Dr. Ben Passmore for his partnership on these reports in the past and thanked current USM IR team member, Ms. Laura Walker, for her help on the current reports. Mr. Muntz presented the following reports:

- SAT Percentile Distribution of First-Time Undergraduates;
- Retention and Graduation Rates of First-time, Full-time Degree-Seeking Undergraduates; and
- Transfer Students to the University System of Maryland: Patterns of Enrollment and Success.

These reports are designed to help describe undergraduate enrollment within the USM. When looked at as a whole, the three reports provide a useful overview including the various pipelines that feed undergraduate enrollment, the academic profile of incoming first-time students (as measured by SAT scores), student success and persistence after enrollment, and, in the end, bachelor degree attainment. This information can be helpful as regents seek to understand or make decisions about our student population. The complete reports and the PowerPoint from the presentation are available online, but highlights include:

- Fall New First-time, Full-time students and Maryland Community College new transfers represent most of the new enrollment at the traditional institutions.
- Fall new First-time, Full-time students at USM continue to be an academically strong group. The increased attention to completion and closing the achievement gaps has increased student success.
- Overall, USM is maximizing this pipeline by producing nearly seven graduates for every ten that enter as new freshmen.
- Maryland continues to be a net exporter of students – approximately 15,000 Maryland residents go to out-of-state institutions and approximately 8,000 students from out-of-state come to Maryland institutions.
- There are strong positive correlations between student preparation (high school GPA and SAT score) and retention which is positively correlated to completion.

- Policy implications for first time students include:
  - Improving recruitment and yield of Maryland high school graduates, as ~15,000 (1/4 of graduates) do not attend a college or university and ~15,000 well-prepared graduates leave the state for postsecondary education.
- USM is meeting its goals via the transfer pipeline.
  - Of those Maryland community college transfers who enrolled in FY 2014, 56% graduated within four years and rates are higher at regional centers.
  - Transfers comprise approximately two-thirds of the new students who enter USM institutions in a fiscal year.
- Policy implications for USM transfer students include:
  - Increasing the numbers staying in-state at community colleges to increase USM transfers in subsequent years.
  - Strategic program expansion at the regional higher education centers.
  - Increasing retention by having students take more credit before transferring and offering financial support to help more students attend full-time.
- Overall, enrollments within the USM are growing, but the rate of growth has been slowing over the last few years.

Ultimately, the continuation of initiatives that emphasize completion and the continuation of initiatives that emphasize transfer enrollment and transfer completion should be encouraged.

### **Action Item**

#### **Motion to Adjourn**

Regent Brady called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was moved by Regent Johnson, seconded by Regent Shorter, and unanimously approved. Regent Brady adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Regent James Brady  
 Chair, USM Board of Regents  
 Alternate Chair, EPSL Committee (in lieu of Regent Michelle Gourdine)