



University System of Maryland Board of Regents
University of Baltimore
February 16, 2024, Public Minutes

Call to Order. Chair Linda Gooden called the meeting of the University System of Maryland Board of Regents to order at 8:33 a.m. on Friday, February 16, 2024, at the University of Baltimore. Those in attendance were: Chair Gooden; Regents Anderson, Atticks, Breslin, Fish, Gonella, Gourdine, Hasan, Helal, Hur, Leggett, McMillen, Neuberger, Parker, Pope, Rauch, Smarick, and Wood; Presidents Anderson, Breaux, Delia (interim), Dennison (interim), Ginsberg, Jarrell, Pines, Schmoke, and Sheares Ashby; Provosts Blakely and Couch; COS Waterman; Chancellor Perman; Vice Chancellors Herbst, Lawrence, Masucci, Raley, and Wrynn; Ms. Mulqueen, Ms. Wilkerson, and AAGs Bainbridge and Langrill.

Chair Gooden welcomed everyone to the first board meeting of the calendar year. She noted that this was the first meeting since Regent Peter's passing and how much his leadership will be missed. Chair Gooden congratulated several USM leaders for being named to *The Daily Record's* Power 100 list. Before reviewing the agenda, Chair Gooden acknowledged Black History Month and remarked on the many rich activities being held across the System.

Welcome from University of Baltimore. President Kurt Schmoke introduced UBalt Provost Ralph Mueller who delivered the welcome. Provost Mueller updated the Board on UBalt's academic direction. Provost Mueller described UBalt's unique characteristics, commitments, and the students it serves. He shared that the university is focusing on four academic priorities—student success, community engagement, partnership development, cross disciplinary learning, teaching, and research—and shared specific action steps toward these priorities.

Campus Safety Vignette. Chief Leone provided a brief safety vignette, focusing on the collaboration to share police and dispatch services between UBalt and UMB.

Educational Forum: *The Transfer Landscape in Maryland.* Associate Vice Chancellor Caraco led the education forum. She discussed national data on transfer students and shared where Maryland and specifically the USM are relative to the national data. She also discussed efforts underway to strengthen transfer student pipelines, a goal of USM's strategic plan.

Caraco shared that most degree seeking students who enter a community college wish to earn a bachelor's degree, yet only about a third attend a four-year university and fewer than half actually earn the baccalaureate degree.

She shared that the U.S. Department of Education held a convening on transfer success at which key metrics for transfer success were shared. These metrics included engagement of presidents, clear public pathways for equitable access and success, and regional dyads where in pairs of community colleges and four-year institutions have clear and strong pathways. She noted that the System is strong in these areas.

In relation to the national data, Maryland transfer is strong. A look at national data shows that Maryland is fourth in the country for the completion rate of Title IV (federal financial aid) recipients. Maryland is also third in the country for students who transfer out of community college. More recent data shows that Maryland is fifth for transfer student completion at four-year institutions. Additionally, 68 percent of all MD community college transfer students who come to USM graduate; whereas the national average is 42 percent.

In pointing to information on USM transfer data, Caraco reviewed the transfer student dashboard on the IRIS data analytical tool on the USM website. She pointed out that UMGC is the largest recipient of community college transfers in the System, and that the flagship, UMCP, is also a large recipient of transfer students.

Finally, Caraco reviewed USM's student-centered initiatives to increase transfer. They include dual enrollment, implementation of transfer with success, and improvement of the ARTSYS course articulation platform.

Chancellor's Report. Chancellor Perman presented his report. He began by echoing Chair Gooden's remembrance of Regent Peters, noting that his legacy is defined by service. The Chancellor marked Black History Month by congratulating the USM leaders who made the *Baltimore Sun* List of 25 Black Marylanders to Watch. He also gave a nod to UBalt's work on the Second Chance College Program that educates and graduates incarcerated students. He also recognized UBalt's work on the Governor's initiative to develop the next generation of public servants and in training Safe Streets Leaders in conflict management and violence prevention.

Chancellor Perman shared news from across the System that included recognition in rankings, identification as top Fulbright producers, and campus visits by Federal cabinet secretaries. Secretary of Education Cardona visited Bowie State to learn about the university's work to diversify the school counseling and mental health professions and to bring more Black men into the teaching profession. UMB hosted Health and Human Services Secretary Becerra to discuss the state of women's healthcare and reproductive rights with Governor Moore. He then shared specific accomplishments at each of the individual universities.

In closing, Chancellor Perman remarked on the legislative session and the Governor's proposed FY25 budget. He thanked everyone who is advocating for the System and our students, and he noted delight in seeing elected officials on our campuses.

I. Council Reports

- a. Council of University System Staff (CUSS). Dr. Patricio presented the report and shared highlights. CUSS launched its 7th annual shared governance survey. They are working with CUSF on a shared governance survey to reach those not directly active in shared governance to better understand the level of shared governance awareness across institutions. Staff awards were due February 9. They received 35 packets and this year received packets from each institution. They doubled the nonexempt packet submission this year. She reported meeting with Chancellor Perman to think through more creative strategies to achieve greater ombuds access. She reported on confirmed participation in Advocacy Day and noted that they plan to raise the budget as a topic for conversation.
- b. Council of University System Presidents (CUSP). President Breaux presented the report. President Breaux congratulated colleagues recognized on the Top 100 list. She reflected on Regent Peters' stallworth support for Bowie State University, higher education, and access to education. She shared that he and former Senator Miller led the way to ensure that our HBCUs had strong ROTC programs and that that pipeline was accessible. President Breaux reported that CUSP met twice since the last Board meeting on January 8th and on February 5th. Topics discussed include shared services, enrollment and tuition, and AFSCME negotiations, student fees for employees, priorities for legislative session, and the program approval process workgroup.
- c. University System of Maryland Student Council (USMSC). Ms. Gambhir presented the USMSC report. She shared that she attended the Chancellor's Chat for international students. She gained very important feedback, particularly on the international graduate student housing. They are examining the creation of a subcommittee on international students. The Student Council had its first general body meeting on February 4. The topics included collection of feedback on the housing resolution, the proposed USM-wide civics course requirement, the return of the shared governance survey, a white paper written by students advocating for systemwide hybrid learning options for the disabled community, and bills in legislative session. Ms. Gambhir noted that the deadline for the student excellence scholarship passed. About 300 applications have been received, and they are currently evaluating the packets.
- d. Council of University System Faculty (CUSF). Dr. Neerchal presented the report. Since the last report CUSF has held two executive committee meetings on one general body meeting. The general body meeting was held on January 23. Highlights include three resolutions on faculty collective bargaining, student collective bargaining, and retiree drug benefits. After extensive discussions, the resolutions passed. He advised that the wording must be read carefully. CUSF did not want blanket language for collective bargaining; it wanted the faculty on individual campuses to decide what they want and that is not the same as saying CUSF is for collective bargaining. The CUSF Education Policy Committee, along with the Kirwan Center, Maryland Online, and Montgomery College, are putting together a

systemwide conference on including generative AI in learning experiences on April 26. CUSF continues to work on DEI issue and academic support personnel. Each group is assessing the policies in place across the System. CUSF is also undergoing editing of its constitution.

2. Public Comment. Chair Gooden opened the meeting for public comment. Three speakers requested to address the Board during public comment. Ms. Silmi, Ms. Tori, and Ms. Abdallah spoke on matters related to civic education and civic engagement agenda topic. The speakers requested that the USM reassess its investment and academic connections with organizations that contribute to systemic discrimination, occupation, apartheid, and killing of Palestinian people.
3. Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda was presented to the regents by Chair Gooden. She asked if there were any items on the agenda that should be removed for further discussion. Chair Gooden moved and Regent Pope seconded the motion to accept the consent agenda. The consent agenda was approved. The items included were:
 - a. Committee of the Whole
 - i. Approval of meeting minutes from December 15, 2023, Public and Closed Sessions (action)
 - b. Committee on Advancement
 - i. Approval of meeting minutes from February 7, 2024, Public Session (action)
 - ii. 308.0 IX – 4.00 – Policy on Alumni Associations (action)
 - c. Committee on Audit
 - i. Approval of meeting minutes from January 29, 2024, Public and Closed Sessions (action)
 - d. Committee on Education Policy and Student Life and Safety
 - i. Academic Program Proposal (action)
 - I. Salisbury University: Master of Arts in Public Communication
 - ii. Salisbury University: Proposal to Establish Graduate School (action)
 - iii. Update: Civic Engagement and Civic Education; Langenberg Legacy (information)
 - iv. Academic and Student Affairs Updates from Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics and Student-Athlete Health and Welfare (information)
 - e. Committee on Finance
 - i. Approval of meeting minutes from January 24, 2024, Public and Closed Sessions (action)
 - ii. Approval of meeting minutes from February 2, 2024, Special Committee Meeting (action)
 - iii. University System of Maryland: Amendment to the Forty-Fourth Bond Resolution—Auxiliary Facility and Tuition Revenue Bonds (action)

- iv. Bowie State University on behalf of the University System of Maryland and the Maryland Education Enterprise Consortium (MEEC): Modification to the IT Professional Consulting Services Master Contract (action)
 - v. FY 2023 Audited Financial Statements and USM Financial Planning (information)
 - vi. University System of Maryland: FY 2025 Operating Budget Update (information)
 - vii. University System of Maryland: FY 2025 Capital Budget Update (information)
 - viii. University System of Maryland: Review of Capital Improvement Projects (information)
- f. Committee on Governance and Compensation
- i. Approval of meeting minutes from January 24, 2024, Public and Closed Sessions (action)
 - ii. Certification of Committee Charters (action)
4. Committee Reports
- a. Committee of the Whole
 - i. FASFA Update.
Senior Vice Chancellor Wrynn provided an update on the revised FASFA process and its impacts on USM Campuses.
 - ii. Pathway Program Update
Chancellor Perman provided an update on the work being conducted to strengthen pathway programs between the USM and preK – 12 schools.
5. Reconvene to Closed Session. Chair Gooden read the “convene to close” statement citing the topics for the closed session and the relevant statutory authority for closing the meeting under 3-305(b) and 3-103(a)(1)(i). (Moved by Regent Breslin, seconded by Regent Sibel; unanimously approved.)

Meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.