



UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
of MARYLAND

BOARD OF REGENTS
Coppin State University
December 12, 2025

MINUTES FOR PUBLIC SESSION

8:30 A.M.

Call to Order

Chair Gooden

Chair Linda Gooden called the public meeting of the University System of Maryland Board of Regents to order at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, December 12, 2025, at Coppin State University. Those in attendance were: Chair Gooden; Regents Blount (remotely), Edwards, Fish, Gonella, Gourdine, Hasan, Hur, Leggett, Lewis, McMillen, Mirani, Rivera-Forbes, Smarick, Speaks, Stebbins, Wood; Chancellor Perman; Presidents Anderson, Breaux, Ginsberg, Jarrell, Jenkins, Miralles-Wilhelm, Pines, Sheares Ashby, and Smith; Dr. Whitehead, Mr. Modlin, and Ms. Aughenbaugh; Senior Vice Chancellors Herbst and Wrynn; Vice Chancellors Lawrence, Masucci, Minor, Sandler; Ms. Mulqueen, Ms. Wilkerson, and AAG Boyle.

At the final Board meeting of the calendar year, Chair Gooden welcomed members and livestream viewers, expressing gratitude for their hard work. Chair Gooden shared that several Regents will participate in Winter commencement ceremonies across six universities, celebrating thousands of graduates. Congratulations were extended to the graduates and their families, recognizing the positive impact of their education on their futures and communities. A holiday video message from Chancellor Perman was broadcast. The message emphasized the System's mission and the importance of centering students in all efforts. Chair Gooden closed by encouraging everyone to carry the Chancellor's message into the new year.

Public Comment: Chair Gooden opened the period for public comment. Five public comments were provided. Speakers addressed both the Advancement Committee Charge and the Sustainability Action Plan. The speakers were Khadeeja Abdallah (Student, UMBC/UMGC), Sammy Alqasem (Staff, UMBC), Hassan Ansari (Student, UBalt Law School), Ziad Khan (Student, UMCP), and Maryam Abd-Allah (Student, Salisbury).

Educational Forum: Assistant Attorney General Allison Boyle presented the education forum: The Legal Landscape of Title VI in Higher Education. The presentation highlighted Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and its wide-ranging impact on institutional policy, campus climate, compliance, and student support. The forum provided clarity on current legal requirements, recent developments, and evolving federal guidance. Assistant Attorney Boyle led the discussion, providing practical insights for navigating these legal considerations in higher education.

Welcome from Coppin State University: The Board was welcomed to Coppin State University, where the President Jenkins highlighted a record-setting year marked by enrollment growth, improved retention, fundraising success, athletic achievements, and expanded community engagement. Coppin faculty and student leaders presented a cross-disciplinary experiential learning initiative focused on addressing food insecurity, including campus and community partnerships and a proposed "No One Goes Hungry" model. Students outlined a scalable,

systemwide framework emphasizing rapid response, data-informed support, and student leadership. Regents commended the students, faculty, and leadership for the interdisciplinary approach and encouraged exploration of broader application across the USM.

Chancellor's Report: Chancellor Perman welcomed Regent Tisha Edwards and Vice Chancellor Tim Minor, and highlighted major recent achievements across the System, including prestigious national honors for President Pines and Regent Mirani. He reported significant philanthropic gifts to multiple USM institutions, major enrollment and academic successes, new academic programs, research breakthroughs, and expanding innovation and community partnerships. He closed by commending the System's resilience and service during a challenging year and expressing optimism for the year ahead. The written report is available at [[LINK-Page 4](#)].

I. Report of Councils

Council of University System Faculty: Dr. Finch summarized the Council of University System Faculty (CUSF) activities. Key events included Executive Committee and General Body meetings, a Tri-Council session with CUSF, CUSS, and the USM Student Council, and preparations for Advocacy Day in Annapolis. Discussions focused on faculty concerns related to state and federal policy, campus safety, shared governance, and legislative priorities, as well as updates on USM initiatives and fiscal challenges. Committees reported progress on awards, AI in teaching, research collaborations, professional conduct, and faculty job protections. CUSF continues to engage in cross-campus collaboration, policy review, and strategic planning to support faculty and advance the System's mission. The written report is available at [[LINK-Page 9](#)].

Council of University System Staff: Roy Prouty summarized the Council of University System Staff (CUSS) activities. CUSS participated in the 2025 Joint Councils Meeting on November 20 at College Park, alongside CUSF and USMSC. Regents Leggett, Mirani, and Wood contributed to a panel discussion, and Assistant Vice Chancellor Andy Clark provided an overview of state legislative processes affecting the USM. Chancellor Perman and President Pines offered remarks and engaged with attendees. A key discussion focused on AI-driven policy, highlighting the need for clearer guidance and communication on AI use across campuses. CUSS continues to advance initiatives on shared governance, equity, tuition remission, crisis funding, and staff inclusion, with upcoming meetings and a survey planned to inform future Board discussions. The written report is available at [[LINK-Page 17](#)].

Council of University System Presidents: President Aminta Breau summarized the Council of University System Presidents (CUSP) activities. Since the October Board of Regents meeting, CUSP met on November 3 via Zoom and on December 1, 2025, in person at the Rita Rossi Colwell Center. Meetings included briefings on the Maryland Charity Campaign, Title II digital accessibility requirements, and policy revisions on graduate assistantships and faculty appointment, rank, and tenure. Chancellor Perman provided updates on the Frostburg State University presidential search and Maryland's Early College opportunities. Presentations included sustainability action planning, the Ben & Myrna Cardin Center for Civic Engagement & Civil Discourse, and updates on the DBM budget and upcoming legislative briefings. These meetings focused on policy review, institutional updates, and preparation for legislative engagement. The written report is available at [[LINK-Page 18](#)].

University System of Maryland Student Council: Regent Dhruvak Mirani summarized the University System of Maryland Student Council (USMSC) activities. On December 6, the USM Student Council conducted interviews for the Student Regent position, with eight candidates participating. The Council voted on its recommendations and submitted them to Chancellor Perman for review. Appreciation was extended to UMBC, Dr. Zakiya Lee, and institutional partners for supporting the process. The USMSC executive board is preparing to launch the USM Board of Regents Student Excellence Scholarships, finalizing criteria and marketing materials for the Spring semester. The Council looks forward to receiving applications from talented students across the system. The written report is available at [[LINK-Page 19](#)].

2. Consent Agenda

Chair Gooden

The Consent Agenda was presented to the Regents by Chair Gooden. Chair Gooden noted a correction made to the closed minutes of the October 31, 2025, meeting. Regent Smarick commented on a Committee Education Policy & Student Life item on the consent agenda. He gave kudos to the University of Baltimore for its program proposal in the humanities, noting that new programs in the humanities are rare. (Moved by Regent Gooden; seconded by Regent Fish; unanimously approved). The items included were:

- a. Committee of the Whole
 - i. Approval of meeting minutes from October 31, 2025, Public and Closed Sessions (action)
 - ii. Approval of meeting minutes from Special Meeting, November 11, 2025, Public and Closed Sessions (action)
- b. Committee on Education Policy & Student Life
 - i. Program Proposals (action)
 1. Bowie State University: B.S. in Risk Management and Insurance
 2. Bowie State University: Ph.D. in Nursing Education
 3. University of Baltimore: B.A. in Law, Philosophy, and History
 - ii. Policy on Appointment Rank and Tenure of Faculty – Section C7 Revisions (action)
 - iii. Policy on Graduate Assistantships Revisions (action)
 - iv. Update on Prison Education (information)
- c. Committee on Finance
 - i. Frostburg State University: Brownsville Residence Hall: Renovation and Corrective Work (action)
 - ii. Towson University: Approval of Increase in Authorization for Fieldhouse and Towson Center Project (action)
 - iii. University of Maryland, Baltimore: Health Sciences and Human Services Library Electrical Distribution System Renewal (action)
 - iv. University of Maryland, Baltimore: Health Sciences Facility I Electrical Distribution System Renewal (action)
 - v. University of Maryland, Baltimore: Authorization of Maryland Global Initiatives Corporation to Support International Operations of other USM Institutions (action)

- vi. University System of Maryland: Forty-Eighth Bond Resolution—Auxiliary Facility and Tuition Revenue Bonds and Associated Conversion of Cash-Funded Projects to Revenue Bond Funding (action)
 - vii. University of Maryland, College Park: Salesforce Contract Extension (action)
 - viii. Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 27, 2025 (information)
- d. Committee on Governance & Compensation
 - i. Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 27, 2025, Public and Closed Sessions (information)
- e. Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics and Student-Athlete Health and Welfare
 - i. Review of the Committee Charge, Role, and Responsibilities (action)
 - ii. Annual Report on Institution and BOR Policy Changes Impacting Student-Athletes - Jordan McNair Safe and Fair Play Act Report (information)
 - iii. Mid-year Athletic Directors' Updates – Rotating – UMBC, SU, UMCP (information)
- f. Committee on Research & Economic Development
 - i. Approval of November 21, 2025 Meeting Minutes (information)
 - ii. Momentum Fund Update (information)
 - iii. Research Report for Coppin State University (information)
 - iv. Research Report for University of Baltimore (information)
 - v. Research Landscape Update (information)

3. Committee Reports

- a. Committee on Research & Economic Development
 - i. Sustainability Action Plan (information) Regent Wood
President Miralles-Wilhelm
Regent Wood introduced the report. President Miralles-Wilhelm spoke from the perspective of his role as Vice Chancellor for Sustainability. He identified major sustainability risks and made the case that the USM and Maryland are positioned to lead in addressing global sustainability challenges. He outlined an approach to scale this work, tying it to the USM Vision 2030 Strategic Plan, and shared that UMCES will invest in a venture pilot for two years. The report included information on opportunities for sustainability within the USM, related to the Vision 2030 Strategic Plan. He also shared that Governor Moore appointed him Chair of the Governor's Scientific Advisory Panel.
- b. Committee of the Whole
 - i. Update on UMGC Ventures Reintegration Dr. Leak
(information)
Dr. Lawrence Leak, Secretary to the UMGC Ventures Board, shared an update on two Venture Board matters: the reintegration of AccelerEd into UMGC and the scheduled dissolution of UMGC Ventures as an ongoing non-profit entity by December 2026. Dr. Leak described the work being undertaken to reintegrate AccelerEd, including a comprehensive hiring process and

technology, contract and asset transitions. He also shared that a thoughtful and orderly winddown of the Ventures Board is in progress. He noted that it has fulfilled its mission to provide scholarship and the impact has been substantial. In FY 2026, the UMGC Ventures quasi-endowment fund has provided nearly \$800K in scholarships to approximately 800 Maryland graduate students. Over the past three years, the fund has provided over \$3.7M to over 2,100 Maryland students. Its remaining liquid assets will be used to support Maryland students in perpetuity.

- ii. Policy on Sex Discrimination (action) AAG Boyle
AAG Boyle presented proposed amendments to the USM Policy on Sex Discrimination, which incorporate the requirements of the current regulations. The Board took action to approve the proposed amendments. (Moved by Chair Gooden, seconded by Regent Smarick; unanimously approved.)

- iii. Maryland's Early College Landscape and Opportunity (information) Chancellor Perman
Chancellor Perman presented on Maryland's early college landscape. Working with Empower Schools, the USM explored Maryland's position in early college access, participation, and outcomes and looked at opportunities for expansion of these initiatives. The following findings were presented: Maryland ranks 43rd out of 50 states in dual enrollment; funding for early college is insufficient and uneven, with wealthier students and districts being advantaged; and inequitable access to dual enrollment. A positive finding is that Maryland is poised to lead in early college because of its significant assets, ambitious policies such as the Blueprint, and state values that align with early college. Chancellor Perman described a proposed path forward, which includes developing a unified strategy statewide, increasing four-year participation, leveraging state assets, and strengthening the policy infrastructure. He noted that this initiative should be undertaken with community colleges.

- iv. USM Policy Workgroup (information) Chair Gooden
Chair Gooden formally launched the USM Policy Workgroup, chaired by Regent Dana Stebbins. The workgroup will review all Board of Regents policies to ensure policies align with statutory requirements, accreditation standards, and existing Board policies and will make recommendations to contemporize them. Regents Blount and Mirani will serve as members, with Regents Leggett and Wood as advisors, supporting efforts to strengthen governance across the USM.

4. Reconvene to Closed Session (action) Chair Gooden
Reconvene to Closed Session 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 Wood, seconded by Regent Fish; unanimously approved.)

Meeting adjourned at 12:04 p.m.