

# REGENTS REPORT



## Greetings from the Board of Regents

As we close out a year marked by change and challenge, the University System of Maryland is celebrating. We're celebrating the fact that we serve as we always have, preparing the students who choose us *still*, who rely on us *still*, who believe the path we offer them is the

path to the life they want.

This year, when students felt vulnerable in the face of shifting U.S. priorities, we affirmed our commitment to educating the learners who look like Maryland—*all* of Maryland—different in age and race, in gender and religion, in culture and background and experience.

When international study came under threat, we welcomed students and scholars from around the world. We supported them in contributing to our discovery, to our progress, to our global community of ideas. And we sent students abroad so they might contribute in kind.

When the funding we've long relied on dried up, we found support in our friends—friends who believe in the power and promise of higher education, who invest in our students and their greatest ambitions. When federal research dollars were put at risk, we safeguarded our key R&D capabilities, protecting the knowledge we create and the scholars who create it.

When our fellow Marylanders suffered uncertainty or distress, we remained the neighbors our neighbors deserve, trading not in rhetoric, but in partnership and solutions.


We've faced tough times before, and we will again. But we're not made to be timid. We're not made to shrink. We're made to be curious and courageous. We're made to be of service, and through that service, to change lives. And that's exactly what we do—with faith in our mission, with joy in our work, and with unshakable hope for the year ahead.

We wish you a restorative holiday season and a New Year of peace.

Sincerely,



Linda R. Gooden  
Chair  
USM Board of Regents



Jay A. Perman  
Chancellor  
University System of Maryland

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## Board Actions & Decisions | December 12, 2025

The USM Board of Regents met at Coppin State University with public viewing available in-person and via livestream. Highlights from the meeting include:

**Three New Programs Receive Board Approval.** At the recommendation of the Committee on Education Policy and Student Life and Safety, the Board approved the following new degree programs, which will be offered pending approval by the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

- Bachelor of Arts, [Law, Philosophy, and History](#), University of Baltimore
- Bachelor of Science, [Risk Management and Insurance](#), Bowie State University
- Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), [Nursing Education](#), Bowie State University

**Board Approved Amendments to the USM Policy on Sex Discrimination.** The [USM Policy on Sex Discrimination](#) has been revised to be consistent with the latest applicable federal and state regulation. The revised policy details the specific policies that each institution must develop, adopt, and publish and requires reporting of appropriate information by university presidents to the chancellor and Board of Regents. The amendments were developed with guidance from the Office of the Attorney General and have been shared with and vetted by USM institutions' Title IX coordinators, general counsel, human resources officers, athletics department officials, vice presidents for student affairs, provosts, presidents, and USM's shared governance leaders.

**Board Approves Revisions to Policy Governing Faculty Appointments.** In spring 2025, at the request of the Council of University System Faculty (CUSF), the USM convened a workgroup to review the [Policy on Appointment, Rank, and Tenure of Faculty](#). The workgroup consisted of three CUSF members, two provosts, and an associate provost. Their proposed policy amendments provided clarification on the options for a hearing, the role of the chief executive officer, compensation after Notice of Termination, and the appeal process. Following a review by the Office of the Attorney General and conversation with USM students, faculty, and leaders, the Board approved these revisions.

**Presentation on the Early College Landscape and Opportunity.** Early College initiatives provide students with a clear, affordable, and well-supported pathway into higher education. The USM commissioned Empower Schools to deliver a landscape report on the state of [Early College in Maryland](#). At the December Board meeting, Alison Wrynn, senior vice chancellor for academic and student affairs, and Elizabeth Johnson, director of early college education, shared the findings of the Empower Schools report, which found that Early College participation is low in Maryland. Just 10% of the state's public high school population participated in dual enrollment courses (compared to a national average of 16%).

Early College funding per high school student is well below the undergraduate cost per course and varies greatly between Maryland counties, with some covering the cost of full associate degree pathways and others limiting dual enrollment to two courses. The report also identified indicators of progress, most notably the clear commitment to broadening Dual Enrollment through the Blueprint for Maryland's Future passed by the Maryland General Assembly in 2021. The report identified existing Early College programs in Maryland that have proven successful in increasing college enrollment and degree attainment, while also helping the state meet high-need workforce priorities. Through collaboration with leaders in K-12 and higher education, government, industry, philanthropy, and the civic sector, the USM can bring greater coherence and scale to Early College efforts across the state.

For more information about the December Board of Regents meeting, you may view the [full meeting agenda](#) and [report by Chancellor Jay Perman](#).

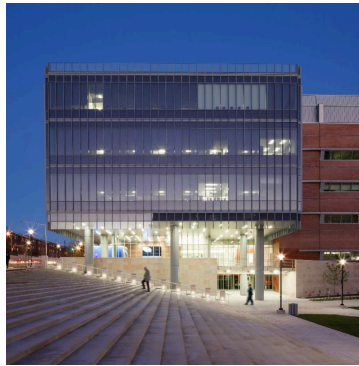
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## News From Our Universities



### BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY

The university brought together 117 colleges and universities for the [fifth annual HBCU+ Entrepreneurship Conference](#), a virtual event focused on deep tech, artificial intelligence, and new approaches to entrepreneurial growth.



### COPPIN STATE UNIVERSITY

The *Baltimore Business Journal* just recognized Coppin as [Greater Baltimore's fastest growing college](#). The university recently welcomed its largest incoming class in 25 years and has seen a [surge in male student enrollment](#), defying national trends.



### FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

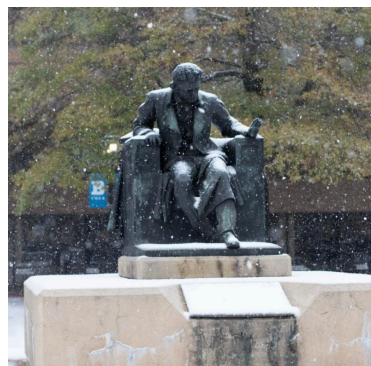
FSU and the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM) have entered into an agreement to [facilitate admission of qualified FSU students into one of LECOM's professional schools](#), including the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine, Doctor of Pharmacy, and Doctor of Dental Medicine programs.



### SALISBURY UNIVERSITY



### TOWSON UNIVERSITY

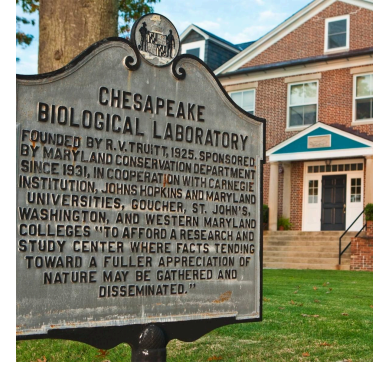
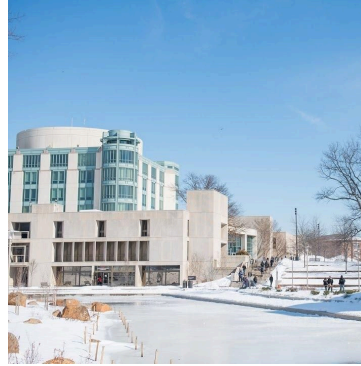


The university is launching the USM's first [music therapy major](#), training students to use music within a therapeutic relationship to foster patients' emotional, developmental, and physical health. The program provides 1,200 hours of clinical training and prepares graduates to sit for the Certification Board of Music Therapy exam.

The TU Career Center has been named a recipient of the [2025 Handshake Career Spark Award](#), recognizing the institution among the top 2% of career centers nationwide for excellence in connecting students with meaningful career opportunities.

## UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE

UBalt hosted 400 alumni, students, professors, families and friends of the institution at a [Grand Celebration](#) in honor of its Centennial. The university produced a [Proud Past, Bright Future video](#) to reflect on its remarkable history, celebrate its present, and imagine all the possibilities of its future.



## UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE

A \$50 million gift from civic leader Tom Golisano will fund pediatric care at the University of Maryland Medical Center and at UMB's School of Medicine, [the largest gift in their history](#). The money will support breakthrough science, education, and equitable, compassionate care for Maryland's children.

## UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE COUNTY

A UMBC research team debuted an [environmental sensor made out of simple balsa wood](#). This sustainable sensor is cheap enough to be deployed in high numbers, providing a more comprehensive read on the pollutants in the environment.

## UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

UMCES was just honored with the [Coastal Stewardship Award](#) by the Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation, recognizing 100 years of advancing scientific knowledge, public education, and solutions in coastal-zone health worldwide.



## UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK

The A. James & Alice B. Clark Foundation has invested [\\$51.7 million in](#)

## UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE

The mission to create the state's only school for veterinary medicine is

## UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND GLOBAL CAMPUS

With its newest graduates crossing the stage this winter, UMGC is celebrating [a](#)

[UMD](#) to expand scholarships, professional development, and programming for engineering students. The funding strengthens the Clark Scholars Program and Clark Scholars Program Network, supporting students at UMD and 10 partner schools.

moving closer to fruition as the UMES School of Veterinary Medicine will undergo its comprehensive accreditation [site visit by the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education](#) in the summer of 2026.

[record-breaking Class of 2025](#). 18,000 students earned credentials over this last year and they earned them more quickly than ever before. The average time-to-degree-completion dropped below three years for the very first time.

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## News From USM Regional Centers



### UNIVERSITIES AT SHADY GROVE

The Universities at Shady Grove launched its [Bernard Series for Entrepreneurship](#), sharing lessons in creating opportunities, navigating setbacks, and staying curious—in business and in life.



### UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND HAGERSTOWN

USMH ushered in the holiday season coordinating toy drives, food drives, winter coat drives; holiday meals for families in need, sponsored gift-giving for local children.



### UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND AT SOUTHERN MARYLAND

Interim President Dale Nesbary joined the presidents of the College of Southern Maryland and St. Mary's College to discuss how pathways and partnerships prepare students for meaningful careers and strengthen the economic and social fabric of the region

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### [NEXT MEETING](#)

**February 13, 2026**  
Via Zoom  
8:30 a.m.

### [FULL MEETING SCHEDULE](#)

### [VIDEO ARCHIVE](#)

### [LEADERSHIP CONTACTS](#)

### [MEDIA CONTACTS](#)

### SOCIAL MEDIA

