Greetings from the Board of Regents

In our last newsletter, we talked about the excellence of the USM, as reflected in a host of high-profile rankings. Every single USM university made regional or national “best of” lists—with good reason.

You might assume that this excellence comes at a steep cost. But that isn’t the case. What makes us especially proud is that USM excellence is affordable.

The College Board’s new *Trends in College Pricing* breaks down the cost of attendance, state by state. For in-state students attending a Maryland public university, average tuition and fees come to $10,560, just below the national average. In terms of price, that puts Maryland right in the middle—25th—among all 50 states. That’s far better than our neighbors—Pennsylvania, 4th most expensive; Virginia, 8th; Delaware, 11th.

And here’s an even better affordability metric: Half of all USM undergraduates complete their degree without any tuition debt whatsoever. That’s because we’ve put a premium on financial aid. Together, our universities awarded $180 million last year to 45,000 students with financial need. In less than a decade, the amount of university money distributed annually in aid has grown by 50 percent, as has the number of students receiving it. That trend line is by design: We’ve committed to growing need-based aid so that lower income students are held harmless by tuition increases.

For every $1 million increase in need-based aid, we can eliminate student debt for 112 Marylanders. Why is that so important? Because eliminating or reducing student debt makes it easier for our graduates to stay in Maryland, to live and work in the state, and to contribute to Maryland’s rich, dynamic economy.

Our affordability is the work of leaders like you—across the System and across the state. Together, we’ve pledged to keep a USM education affordable for Maryland students and their families. And it’s a pledge we’ve kept. Because when you offer an education as excellent as ours, you want every Marylander to be able to access it.

Sincerely,

Linda R. Gooden
Chair
USM Board of Regents

Jay A. Perman
Chancellor
University System of Maryland
The USM Board of Regents met at the University of System of Maryland at Southern Maryland (USMSM) on November 11, 2022, with public viewing available in-person and via livestream. At this meeting, key actions by the Board included:

**Approval of the Lease of Building 1 at USMSM to Kennedy Krieger Institute.**

With the shift of education programming to the new, state-of-the-art SMART Building, the USMSM identified an opportunity to lease underutilized campus space to the Kennedy Krieger Institute, which will transform Building 1 into an ancillary center serving the developmental needs of children with severe neurological or rehabilitative conditions. Kennedy Krieger will deliver clinical and educational services through day and outpatient programs, addressing a critical need in the Southern Maryland region. The term of the lease is fifteen years with two 5-year renewal options that can be exercised by Kennedy Krieger with the future approval of USMSM.

**Presentation of the USM Fall 2022 Enrollment Update.** The Board received an update regarding Fall 2022 systemwide enrollment. While preliminary Fall 2022 enrollment decreased slightly (1 percent), it is the smallest enrollment decline since enrollment first decreased in the fall 2019 semester (fiscal year 2020). Fall 2022 data also indicated a rebound in first-time, full-time enrollment, offering hope that new student numbers will help offset enrollment declines caused by the decreases in new students during the pandemic as well as the increased numbers of successful students graduating.

**Approval of Coppin State University's Facilities Master Plan.** Following the recommendation of the Committee on Finance, the Board approved Coppin State University's (CSU) comprehensive plan, which builds upon the framework established in the university's 2015-2025 plan and was developed through a process of inclusion, data gathering, and stakeholder engagement. As an anchor institution in West Baltimore, CSU seeks to foster connections within, and outside of its campus community, revitalize the neighborhoods surrounding the university, and amplify the groundbreaking work of its students, faculty, and staff.

**Approval of a New Education Degree Program at Salisbury University.** Following the recommendation of the Committee on Education Policy and Student Life, the Board approved a new Bachelor of Science program in Elementary Education with Dual Certification in Early Childhood Education at Salisbury University (pending approval by the Maryland Higher Education Commission). This program will combine existing courses in the current Elementary and Early Childhood programs to provide graduates with teacher licensure from pre-kindergarten (age 3) through grade 6, offering graduates additional flexibility for job placement and broader workforce options.

For more information about the November Board of Regents meeting, you may view the meeting agenda, video archive, and full report by Chancellor Jay Perman.
USM INSTITUTIONS ARE AMONG THE MOST AFFORDABLE IN THE NATION
The recent release of the College Board’s *Trends in College Pricing* report confirms that Maryland families continue to benefit from affordable college options offered by the USM. For the 2022-23 academic year, public in-state tuition and fees in Maryland came in below the national average—$10,560 versus $10,940. Student-debt levels for USM institutions also remain below national averages. About 50 percent of the USM's 2020 in-state baccalaureate recipients graduated with zero debt.

USM INSTITUTIONS SHINE ACROSS A BROAD RANGE OF CATEGORIES IN NATIONAL RANKINGS
The high quality and value of USM institutions have been on full display this fall as several national and global rankings have noted their overall excellence in areas that include best value, social mobility, and undergraduate teaching, demonstrating the USM's commitment to access, affordability, and achievement. USM institutions also excelled in rankings focused on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), online universities, and best colleges for veterans.

2022-2023 ELKINS PROFESSORSHIPS AWARDED TO FACULTY AT THREE USM INSTITUTIONS
The Wilson H. Elkins Professorships support the work of faculty whose professional and scholarly endeavors make a positive impact at their institutions, across the USM, and beyond. In September, the USM announced that Elkins Professorships had been awarded to four faculty members engaged in research in the areas of African and African-American studies; health care equity; pain management in older patients; and digital badging for the health care workforce. The 2022-2023 awardees are: Dr. Heather Congdon and Dr. Barbara Resnick, University of Maryland, Baltimore; Dr. Karen Cook-Bell, Bowie State University, and Dr. Paz Galupo, Towson University.

STUDENTS ACROSS THE USM ARE ACTIVE AND ENGAGED IN 2022 ELECTIONS
As Election Day approached, USM institutions actively supported a number of student-led initiatives to increase voter registration and participation on USM campuses and in the surrounding communities. The USM Civic Education and Civic Engagement Student Leaders’ Committee began bi-weekly meetings in September to share strategies to boost participation in the election. In addition, four USM institutions—Frostburg State University, Towson University, University of Baltimore, and University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)—recently received recognition in *Washington Monthly*’s 2022 list of "Best Colleges for Student Voting."
**News from USM Institutions**

**BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY**
BSU is one of four HBCUs sharing $2 million from the Blackstone Charitable Foundation to expand student entrepreneurial activities.

**COPPIN STATE UNIVERSITY**
CSU’s Helene Fuld School of Nursing has received a $25,000 grant from the Maryland Higher Education Commission to help address nursing shortages.

**FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY**
The Forging Futures: The Campaign for Frostburg State University has raised $18.5 million toward the $25 million goal.

**SALISBURY UNIVERSITY**
SU’s fraud and forensic accounting certificate program has received a $2.6 million federal grant to expand their fight against elder financial and high-tech fraud.

**TOWSON UNIVERSITY**
The university's StarTUp at the Armory has been named North America’s top university economic development initiative.

**UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE**
UBalt, a Washington Monthly Best College for Student Voting, promoted voter engagement ahead of mid-term elections, with student leaders providing voting resources and hosting an Election Day Bash.

**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE**
UMB broke ground on the 4MLK tower at the UMB BioPark, the first phase of a $320 million project that will provide critical wet laboratory space in downtown Baltimore.

**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE COUNTY**
UMBC was the only R1 university in the nation to be recognized as a top institution in every measured category in ModernThink’s Great Colleges to Work For program.

**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE**
UMCES has been awarded a $7.5 million grant to lead a project to advance innovative ways to control harmful algal blooms.
The university announced the new Terrapin Commitment, a $20 million annual program that will provide funds to help ensure tuition and fees are covered for Maryland residents who receive federal Pell Grants.

**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK**

The university announced the new Terrapin Commitment, a $20 million annual program that will provide funds to help ensure tuition and fees are covered for Maryland residents who receive federal Pell Grants.

**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE**

UMES will receive $2.5 million as the first HBCU chosen for a Howard Hughes Medical Institute’s Driving Change Initiative grant.

**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND GLOBAL CAMPUS**

UMGC will begin offering in-person classes at Patrick Space Force Base in January, marking the university’s first contract to teach at a Space Force installation.

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**News from USM Regional Centers**

**UNIVERSITIES AT SHADY GROVE**

USG students will benefit from hands-on training, internships, and other opportunities arising from the new University of Maryland 3 - Institute for Health Computing in North Bethesda, focused on transforming medicine using advanced computing.

**UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND HAGERSTOWN**

USMH will host its much-anticipated annual Feaste & Frolic Scholarship Fundraiser on December 2, 2022.

**UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND AT SOUTHERN MARYLAND**

The USMSM SMART Building welcomed U.S. Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro, who delivered the keynote address at the Southern Maryland Navy Alliance annual dinner.

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**Dates to Remember**

Meetings below will be virtual unless a location is listed. For the complete meeting schedule, visit: www.usmd.edu/regents/meetings/

**DECEMBER 7, 2022**

Committee on Governance and Compensation
8:30 a.m.

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**Useful Resources and Contacts**

Regents Meeting Video Archive: View

Board of Regents
Phone: 301.445.2701
Email: regents@usmd.edu

Chancellor’s Office
Phone: 301.445.1901
DECEMBER 7, 2022
Committee on Finance
10:30 a.m.

DECEMBER 7, 2022
Economic Development and Technology Commercialization
12:30 p.m.

DECEMBER 15, 2022
Committee on Audit
10:00 a.m.

DECEMBER 16, 2022
Board of Regents Meeting
University of Maryland, Baltimore County
8:30 a.m.

JANUARY 10, 2023
Committee on Education Policy and Student Life
9:30 a.m.

FEBRUARY 7, 2023
Committee on Advancement
11:00 a.m.