



Friday, February 21, 2020
Report to the USM Board of Regents
Chancellor Jay Perman
AS DRAFTED

Thank you, Chair Gooden. Today is a day of many firsts: Our first board meeting of the new year, my first board meeting as chancellor, and our first board meeting since Darryll Pines was named the next president of the **University of Maryland, College Park** (UMCP), effective July 1. Dr. Pines—dean of the A. James Clark School of Engineering—has been a member of the College Park family for 25 years. He arrived in 1995 as an assistant professor, later became chair of the Department of Aerospace Engineering, and then was named dean and the Nariman Farvardin Professor of Aerospace Engineering at the Clark School. In every key metric—retention, graduation rate, student success, faculty achievement, fundraising, and more—Darryll Pines has shown unparalleled leadership.

Let me also acknowledge College Park President Wallace Loh. While we will certainly have several chances to honor him in the weeks and months to come, I want to commend him on his decade of tremendous, transformative leadership. UMCP has grown physically, programmatically, and reputationally over the last 10 years. Dr. Loh’s vision and leadership have been at the heart of that progress.

It is also the first official board meeting for Regent Meredith Mears. Regent Mears is a graduate of Salisbury University and lives in Salisbury, where she is the chief development officer of Gillis Gilkerson Construction and Development Company. I’m pleased to note that she will be a member of the Committee on Economic Development & Technology Commercialization. Regent Mears, welcome and thank you for your willingness to serve.

Let me also thank our host this morning, the **University of Maryland, Baltimore County** (UMBC) and President Freeman Hrabowski. As Freeman outlined in his presentation, these are exciting times for UMBC:

- UMBC Training Centers have been selected by the U.S. Army to develop a novel cybersecurity curriculum to train soldiers for a new, cyber-based military role.
- The university has won a major grant from the National Institutes of Health to empower breast cancer survivors to better manage complex medication schedules.
- A new partnership with the **University of Maryland, Baltimore** (UMB) establishes the two institutions as Maryland’s first “age-friendly” universities.
- UMBC was recognized as a Fulbright Top Producing Institution and was honored by the Carnegie Foundation as a leading community-engaged university.
- And Freeman, himself, was just honored with the World Trade Center Institute’s 2020 Governor’s Award, given to a Marylander who exemplifies what this state has to offer the world.

Freeman, congratulations to you and the entire UMBC family on these tremendous accomplishments.

While it has only been two months since the board's last meeting, I have to say it has been a remarkably packed two months—and not just for me. There has been impressive news from across the system.

Salisbury University (SU) joins UMBC in being awarded the Carnegie Foundation's Community Engagement Classification, recognizing the campus-wide commitment to engaging with and impacting the greater community. In addition, SU also joins UMBC among the nation's top producers of Fulbright Students. Finally, SU's Richard A. Henson School of Science and Technology is adding a new data science major, incorporating both the practical use of data science methods as well as the theoretical underpinnings of the methods and algorithms.

The **University of Maryland, College Park** was also honored as one of the nation's top producers of Fulbright Students. Additionally, at UMCP, the Maryland Quantum Alliance just launched—with College Park and UMBC joining a regional consortium of quantum scientists and engineers from across academia, government, and industry to drive quantum science discovery and innovation, while developing the quantum workforce of tomorrow. Lastly, I am proud to report that UMCP has been named a Top 100 Minority Degree Producer by *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education* for 2019. In the only national reporting of its kind, UMCP is listed as the top institution in the state for conferring doctoral and master's degrees to minority students in addition to landing in the top 25 for bachelor's degrees nationally.

Bowie State University (BSU) has launched a degree program targeting an in-demand area: The new Bachelor of Science in Chemistry will prepare students for advanced degrees and careers in chemistry-related fields in the medical and technology industries. In addition, the Center for Student Success—an American Association of State Colleges and Universities pilot program that includes BSU—has received a two-year, \$2.5 million grant from the Gates Foundation. The grant will boost efforts to assist low-income students, students of color, and first-generation college students and Bowie and other institutions.

The **University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science** (UMCES) has also received a significant grant. The National Science Foundation has provided \$500,000 for UMCES to lead a coalition of scientists from around the country to study the impact of storms, sea-level rise, and climate change on estuaries and bays. Partner institutions include UC Berkeley, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, and the University of Massachusetts.

Frostburg State University's (FSU) online Master of Business Administration, Business Analytics concentration, has been ranked 10th on GetEducated.com's newest "Best Buy" list. This national affordability ranking is the result of a comprehensive, data-driven review of close to 100 online MBA business analytics programs. Also, at Frostburg, the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education has accredited **all** four of FSU's Master of Science in Nursing concentrations: family nurse practitioner; psychiatric and mental health nurse practitioner; leadership and management; and education.

The **University of Baltimore** (UB) is welcoming the Baltimore City Police Education and Training Center. As part of its commitment to the City of Baltimore, UB will support the Baltimore Police Department as it emphasizes education, professionalism, and public service. Over the spring 2020 semester, the central recruitment and training center will move into dedicated facilities on the UB campus. Also, at UB, the Winter 2020 issue of *preLaw* magazine ranks the UB School of Law as among the “Best Schools for African Americans” and among the “Best Schools for Public Service.”

Phi Kappa Phi—one of the nation’s leading academic honor societies—has recognized the **University of Maryland Global Campus** (UMGC) as a “Circle of Excellence Silver Chapter” for its community service work. In addition, the American Council on Education has named UMGC President Javier Miyares to a national task force focused on improving transfer and award-of-credit practices to spur student success and reduce the time it takes to graduate.

At **Coppin State University** (CSU), the Parlett L. Moore Library has received a Library Census Equity Fund grant from the American Library Association to bolster library services to hard-to-count communities and help achieve a complete count in the 2020 Census. Also, at Coppin, with 2020 marking the 150th anniversary of the Fifteenth Amendment and the right of black men to the vote, Black Suffrage has been given significant emphasis throughout Black History Month events on campus and in the community.

Towson University (TU) is the new home to the ATHENA PowerLink program in Baltimore. Established in 1999, ATHENA PowerLink is a national mentoring program that connects selected women business owners with a skilled advisory panel. PNC Bank, ATHENA, and Towson University will partner to host a women’s entrepreneurial mentorship program. In addition, the U.S. Department of Education has awarded TU \$200,000 for immersion programs to host U.S. educators on curriculum-development trips to Peru and China.

The University of Maryland School of Medicine at **UMB** has been recognized by *WIRED* magazine for groundbreaking biomedical research that is “making the world a better place.” The publication featured the innovative work of the School of Medicine’s Samuel Tisherman and the University of Maryland R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center on a list of 19 items or advances recognized in 2019. And—believe it or not—*MPowering the State*, the alliance of UMB and College Park, is now in its eighth year. I had the pleasure of joining the two universities at the annual *MPowering the State* Advocacy Day, which showcases the partnership’s influence in growing the state’s economy, advancing research, and serving Maryland’s citizens.

The **University of Maryland Eastern Shore** (UMES) is launching a new health care certificate program. This online, post-baccalaureate certificate is for professionals who develop, implement, or evaluate services that address rural health disparities and social inequities. Applications for admission are being accepted for fall 2020, when classes will begin.

In news from our Regional Higher Education Centers:

- The **Universities at Shady Grove** just held an International Night last night celebrating the diversity on campus, and next month is holding an Undergraduate Expo.
- The **University System of Maryland at Hagerstown** (USMH) is on track for downtown campus expansion. In addition—right across from the USMH main building—a bank building has been renovated into a hospitality center to house the newly-added Hospitality and Tourism Management program offered through UMES.
- And on Friday, April 17, I will be joining Governor Hogan, President Loh, Dean Pines, and others at the **University System of Maryland at Southern Maryland** to celebrate construction progress for the academic and innovation facility.

There are also a few USM Office items I would briefly like to highlight:

- ARMR Systems, a medical technology engineering company, became the Maryland Momentum Fund's 11th investment in a USM-related venture.
- The Maryland Open Source Textbook initiative (M.O.S.T.)—a priority project for the USM's Kirwan Center for Academic Innovation—has launched M.O.S.T. Commons, a collaborative, online space designed to support use of open educational resources.
- *Black Engineer* recently ran an extensive profile of Linda Gooden in which she reflected on the legacy of the Black Engineer of the Year Award—an award she received in 2006—on the occasion of its 20th anniversary.
- I have had the honor of being named one of the *Baltimore Business Journal's* Power 10 CEOs and one of *The Daily Record's* 2020 Influential Marylanders.
 - Also represented in *The Daily Record* 2020 Influential Marylander awards:
 - Lucy Dalglish, dean of the UMCP Philip Merrill College of Journalism
 - Dr. Heidi Anderson, UMES president
 - And Jane Murphy, director of UB's Juvenile Justice Project
- And we recently updated our USM Points of Excellence brochure as a companion piece to the Annual Report. I have copies here with me.

Two issues I want to quickly update you on . . .

Coronavirus

The outbreak of a new strain of coronavirus continues to be a significant challenge. The Institute of Human Virology at UMB, working through the Global Virus Network headquartered in Baltimore, is working strategically to monitor and combat the virus. I thank them for their leadership on this.

In addition, yesterday a team from UMB and the medical system briefed university presidents and campus leaders on the short and long-term public health implications of this virus. Based on current information, the immediate health risk to USM institutions is considered low at this time. Nevertheless, all USM institutions are working diligently to both better understand the biological, health, and epidemiologic implications of viral outbreaks, and ensure the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff.

The USM Office of Academic and Student Affairs is in contact with provosts across the system. The USM Office of Communications and Marketing has also been sharing information regarding coronavirus with campus communications teams. In addition, we have developed a USM webpage containing information resources. I continue to be impressed by the great work being done by the men and women of the USM.

Budget / Legislative Session

Lastly, let me provide a brief update on our progress in Annapolis. As I noted in my testimony in both the House and the Senate, the USM is strongly in support of the Governor's budget. As drafted, the budget will allow us—once again—to limit our tuition increase to just 2 percent for in-state, undergraduate students. In addition, it provides funding in support of the Workforce Development Initiative, USM's 3-year, \$32 million partnership with the state to produce more than 3,000 additional USM graduates every year ready to meet Maryland's critical workforce needs. It also provides funding to cover operating expenses for new USM facilities, many targeting the STEM disciplines and the health science sectors. There is also funding for specific academic and community engagement programs at UMBC, UMES, UB, and SU. We are tracking several pieces of legislation that could impact the USM, and I will keep you posted on these.

And while it might be too early to *thank* them, it is certainly not too early to acknowledge the important work that Vice Chancellor for Government Relations Patrick Hogan and the state relations office in Annapolis are doing. Together we will be working to generate support for this budget. I ask all of you to voice your support as well, and to encourage your colleagues and associates to do the same.

As you know, I have spent a great deal of my first several weeks as chancellor in Annapolis. In addition to meeting with lawmakers and leaders, I have been at the table for a number of hearings. This includes the Higher Education overview, the USM overview, and the USM Office budget. I also attended USM Advocacy Day earlier this week, and I thank the Joint Councils (Faculty, Staff, and Student) for their great work.

It has been gratifying to see how strong—and bipartisan—the support of higher education and the USM is, especially in terms of the critical issues of access, affordability, and retention. In so many ways, we are a genuine funding priority, which speaks well to the leadership of this board, our campus presidents, and the entire USM family.

I will conclude my report my noting once again what an honor it is to serve as USM chancellor. I thank you for affording me this opportunity to work for the students and citizens of Maryland.

Madam Chair . . . this concludes my report. I would be happy to respond to any questions the regents may have.

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