



## Regents Report | June 2021

### Greetings from the Board of Regents

We have so much more to celebrate as we end this academic year than we did when we ended the last. Nearly three-quarters of Maryland adults are at least partially vaccinated against COVID. Positivity rates are at an all-time low—under 1 percent. New cases are trending under 100 per day. COVID-related hospitalizations are at their lowest since March of 2020, the same month we pivoted to remote instruction and ushered in a year like no other.



It is, of course, vaccination that accounts for these falling cases, the falling infection rate, the falling death rate. And it's vaccination that is *still* our way out of this pandemic. Because the crisis isn't over. We're particularly troubled by the fact that unvaccinated people are being hospitalized at the same rate they were during the very worst months of the pandemic. Young people now make up a growing share of COVID cases and hospital admissions. The COVID variants we're seeing are dangerous and concerning.



And so, as our USM institutions plan for students and employees to be safely back on campus this fall, we're grateful for the vaccines that make our return possible.

We're grateful, too, of course, for the USM Class of 2021, who showed extraordinary grit and grace during this most difficult year. Many of our students earned their degrees while also taking care of their children, their parents, their partners, their neighbors. Many worked long hours in hard jobs so they could afford a college education. Many suffered COVID's collateral damage: isolation, anxiety, stress, loneliness, loss. Some buried friends and family who succumbed to the disease.

It's undeniable that the USM Class of 2021 faced some steep challenges, and yet they showed us all how to persevere anyway. Succeed anyway. Shine anyway. Despite it all, they somehow made a path forward.

In times of challenge to come, we hope they'll remember exactly what it took to prevail. We hope they'll mine their crisis-tested power, their resilience, and their capacity for hard, hard work. We hope they'll nurture the same strength they've displayed this year in the communities and people who need them the most.

Without question, we all need leaders like the class we just graduated—leaders who can light a path forward in the darkness and *shine*.

Sincerely,

Linda R. Gooden  
Chair  
USM Board of Regents

Jay A. Perman  
Chancellor  
University System of Maryland

## Board Actions & Decisions | June 17, 2021

The USM Board of Regents met via video conference on June 17, 2021, with public viewing available via [livestream](#). At this meeting, key actions by the Board included:

**Approval of Four New Degree Programs.** After reviewing the recommendations of the Committee on Education Policy and Student Life, the Board voted to approve the following new degree programs proposed by USM institutions. Pending approval of the Maryland Higher Education Commission, the following programs will be offered:

- **[Bachelor of Science in Data Science, Coppin State University.](#)** Through this program, students will combine business expertise, quantitative reasoning, and computer software skills to extract meaningful insights from data, and apply these insights to solve business problems.
- **[Master of Science in Health Information Management, Coppin State University.](#)** This program provides advanced academic preparation and experience for professionals in areas such as health informatics, health services administration, quality improvement, and risk management.
- **[Doctor of Philosophy in Palliative Care, University of Maryland, Baltimore \(UMB\).](#)** This program builds on the university's successful Master of Science degree in Palliative Care to provide students with advanced study and research in the physical, psychosocial, and spiritual problems of patients and families living with serious illness.
- **[Bachelor of Science in Social Data Science, University of Maryland, College Park.](#)** The program prepares students to effectively, ethically and efficiently create high quality information products, such as datasets, visualizations, and models about human activity and behavior.

**Approval of the 2020 Updated Bowie State University Facilities Master Plan.** The plan establishes a framework for the physical growth and change that can be anticipated for Bowie State University over the next ten years. The plan details planned improvements designed to address projected student population increases from fall 2020 through fall 2029, including the Martin Luther King, Jr. Communication Arts and Humanities building currently in design, a new wellness center, and the Entrepreneurship Living Learning Community. [Read more.](#)

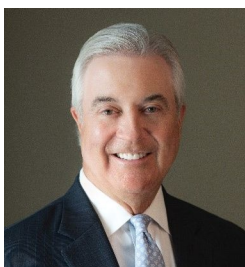
**Approval of the Creation of The Research Foundation of Frostburg State University.** The Board approved Frostburg State University's (FSU) plan to establish a non-profit, university-affiliated business entity to be known as The Research Foundation of Frostburg State University, or RF2. RF2 will serve as a recipient of funding from public and private sources for which FSU is not directly eligible and will engage with public sector organizations, private sector companies, and organizations in public-private partnerships (P3) for the benefit of the university. [Read more.](#)

**Election of Neall as Vice Chair of the Board of Regents.** The departure of Barry Gossett from the Board (see below) left a vacancy in the vice chair position. The Board elected [Robert Neall](#) to serve as the new vice chair until the next election of Board officers. Regent Neall is the former secretary of the Maryland Department of Health and has served on the Board since March 2015.

**Approval of the FY 2022 Contract Between UMB and the University of Maryland Medical System Corporation (UMMS).** Each year, the Board of Regents and the UMMS Board of Directors are asked to approve the contract between UMB and UMMS concerning the University of Maryland Medical Center (UMMC). For FY 2022, there is a net increase of \$14,200,399 in UMMS compensation to UMB. Adjustments relate to variations in the service needs of UMMC and the University of Maryland Medical Center Midtown Campus, and to adjustments to fringe benefit rates for UMB salaries in FY 2022. [Read more.](#)

**For more information about the most recent Board of Regents meeting, you may view the [meeting agenda](#), [video archive](#), and [full report from Chancellor Jay Perman](#).**

## Welcome and Farewells



### The USM Welcomes Gary Gill as the Newest Regent.

**Gary Gill** was appointed and confirmed as a member of the Board of Regents in April 2021. Mr. Gill currently serves as the chief executive officer of MacKenzie Ventures, LLC, a full-service real estate company. An alumnus of Towson University (1974), he has served as president of the Tiger Club and chairman of the Towson University Board of Visitors. For his dedication to his alma mater, as well as other civic endeavors, Mr. Gill received the university's highest honor, the Towson University Distinguished Alumni Award.

**Board Issues Resolutions in Recognition of Five Departing Board Members.** At its June meeting, the Board expressed appreciation for the following departing Regents and issued resolutions recognizing their exemplary service and contributions to the USM.

- **Aaliyah Edwards**, served as Student Regent since July 2020; served on the Committee on Audit and the Committee on Education Policy and Student Life.
- **Nathaniel Sansom**, served as Student Regent since July 2020; served on the Committee on Education Policy & Student Life, the Committee on Economic Development & Technology Commercialization, and USM Strategic Planning Workgroup.
- **Meredith Mears**, served as Regent from December 2019 through December 2020; served on the Committee on Economic Development & Technology Commercialization and the Committee on Governance and Compensation.
- **Sam Malhotra**, served as Regent from October 2019 through April 2021; served as the chair of the University of Maryland Global Campus President Search Committee and served on the Committee on Economic Development & Technology Commercialization and the Committee on Education Policy and Student Life.
- **Barry P. Gossett** leaves the Board following 14 years of service as Regent. His leadership included service as Vice Chair of the Board, Chair of the Committee on Advancement, Chair of the Intercollegiate Athletics Workgroup, Vice Chair of the Committee on Governance and Compensation, Vice Chair of the Committee on Audit, and a long-serving member of the Committee on Finance.

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## Other News from the System

### USM Campuses Awarded More Than 40,000 Degrees for Fifth Straight Year.

The USM's 12 universities awarded more than 40,000 undergraduate and graduate degrees this spring during both virtual and in-person commencement ceremonies across Maryland. The USM continued to prepare graduates for the state's most in-demand jobs, awarding more than 11,500 degrees in STEM fields and an additional 3,800 degrees in health care professions. For the 2020-2021 year, the USM awarded more than three out of every four degrees earned in Maryland. And because 80 percent of USM undergraduates are in-state students, they often remain in Maryland following graduation, ultimately contributing their wealth to the state's economy and their service to our communities. [Read more about the Class of 2021.](#)



### The USM, Montgomery College, and Montgomery County Form Montgomery/Maryland Life Sciences Education and Innovation Partnership.

On behalf of the USM, Chancellor Jay Perman signed a Memorandum of Understanding to enter into a new partnership with Montgomery County and Montgomery College that will advance research and economic development in life and regulatory sciences. This partnership will facilitate collaborations between academia, industry, federal, and nonprofit research organizations in order to establish

Montgomery County as the nation's undisputed center for life and regulatory sciences.

The signing ceremony took place at the Universities at Shady Grove (USG) and was attended by leaders from Montgomery County government, local biotech companies, and the USM, including USM Regent and former Montgomery County Executive Ike Leggett; President Darryll J. Pines, University of Maryland, College Park; President Bruce E. Jarrell, University of Maryland, Baltimore; President Freeman A. Hrabowski, III, University of Maryland, Baltimore County; President Aminta Breaux, Bowie State University; and Executive Director Anne Khademian, Universities at Shady Grove. [Read more.](#)

**Maryland Momentum Fund Adds TargetDocs and Qalytics to Portfolio.** This spring, the Maryland Momentum Fund added two additional USM-affiliated companies to its growing portfolio, which has expanded to include 22 companies. In April, the Fund made a [\\$250,000 investment in TargetDocs](#). The company offers a communication platform for the construction industry that helps contractors and subcontractors improve their project lead times and maintain compliance. CEO Joe Leiva is a graduate of the A. James Clark School of Engineering at the University of Maryland, College Park.

In April, the Fund also announced a [\\$250,000 seed-round investment in Qalytics](#), which provides clients with a data monitoring platform that improves the quality of enterprise decision making by using real-time data surveillance. Qalytics is a tenant at the bwtech@UMBC Research & Technology Park at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

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## News from USM Institutions

**Bowie State University.** The university will establish an endowed chair of cybersecurity, who will serve as the director of the [Center for Cybersecurity and Emerging Technologies](#) in the Department of Computer Science.

**Coppin State University.** The university will launch a new [Bachelor of Science in Nursing \(BSN\) to Doctor of Nursing Practice \(DNP\)](#) degree program starting this fall semester 2021.

**Frostburg State University.** The [Upward Bound](#) program, which for 35 years has been helping Allegany County high school students prepare for, apply to, and pay for college, is being implemented as a virtual, online program this summer.

**Salisbury University.** The Franklin P. Perdue School of Business recently awarded more than \$200,000 to business startups in the Mid-Atlantic through its spring student Entrepreneurship Competitions and Philip E. and Carole R. Ratcliffe Foundation [Shore Hatchery](#) program.

**Towson University.** This summer, the university will break ground on a six-story [College of Health Professions](#), the university's first building dedicated to health professions majors.

**University of Baltimore.** Six winners, including undergraduate and graduate students and recent alumni, emerged from the "[Rise to the Challenge](#)" Business Pitch Competition, each receiving a portion of the nearly \$30,000 in prize money.

**University of Maryland, Baltimore.** At UMB, the School of Pharmacy graduated 132 students in the first class of its [Master of Science in Medical Cannabis Science and Therapeutics](#) program, the only program of its kind in the nation.

**University of Maryland, Baltimore County.** The [UMBC Mock Trial team defeated Yale](#) to win the American Mock Trial Association National Championship for the first time in UMBC's history.

**University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science.** U.S. Senator [Ben Cardin was the keynote speaker](#) at the university's commencement ceremony as twelve graduate students received joint degrees from University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science's (UMCES) and University of Maryland, College Park.

**University of Maryland, College Park.** With an investment of \$40 million, the university will create the [Faculty Advancement at Maryland for Inclusive Learning and Excellence](#) (FAMILE) program to recruit and retain more than 100 tenured and tenure-track faculty from underrepresented backgrounds over the next 10 years.

**University of Maryland Eastern Shore.** The university marked the half-way point of construction on its new \$90 million School of Pharmacy with a "[Hard Hat Day](#)".

**University of Maryland Global Campus.** The university has announced alliances and corporate partnerships with [Uber](#), [SAIC](#), [Anne Arundel Community College](#), and the [Kentucky Community and Technical College System](#).

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## News from USM Regional Centers

**Universities at Shady Grove.** USG and the Maryland Tech Council hosted a [life sciences industry roundtable](#) to address workforce issues in key sectors like biological research, diagnostics, and manufacturing.

**University System of Maryland at Hagerstown (USMH).** The first cohort of Frostburg State students in the University System of Maryland at Hagerstown's [Physician Assistant program](#) celebrated their graduation at the USMH Hospitality Center.

**University System of Maryland at Southern Maryland (USMSM).** Dr. Eileen Abel, the inaugural executive director of USMSM, is positioning the higher education center to meet the [growing higher education and research demand](#) in Southern Maryland.

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## Dates to Remember

Meeting locations will be determined and announced at a later date. For the full schedule of meetings, please visit the USM website at:

[www.usmd.edu/regents/meetings/](http://www.usmd.edu/regents/meetings/)

### SEPTEMBER 2, 2021

#### Committee on Governance and Compensation

8:30 a.m.

### SEPTEMBER 2, 2021

#### Committee on Finance

10:30 a.m.

### SEPTEMBER 2, 2021

#### Committee on Economic Development and Technology Commercialization

12:30 p.m.

### SEPTEMBER 10, 2021

#### Board of Regents Meeting

University of Maryland Global Campus  
9:00 a.m.

### SEPTEMBER 14, 2021

#### Committee on Education Policy and Student Life

9:30 a.m.

### OCTOBER 25, 2021

#### Committee on Audit

10:00 a.m.

## Useful Resources and Contacts

**Regents Meeting Video Archive:** [View](#)

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### Office of Communications & Marketing

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**University System of Maryland**

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