

**University System of Maryland
University of Maryland Eastern Shore
Princess Anne, Maryland**

FY 2016 Capital Budget Testimony to the Maryland General Assembly

Presented to:

**The Maryland House Appropriations Committee: Capital Budget Subcommittee
March 23, 2015**

**The Maryland Senate Budget & Taxation: Capital Budget Subcommittee
March 24, 2015**



University of Maryland Eastern Shore
Engineering, Aviation, Computer and Mathematical Sciences Building



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Presented by

**Juliette B. Bell, Ph.D.
President**

Chairperson and members of the Subcommittee, I am Juliette B. Bell, President of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES). I bring you greetings from our students, faculty, staff, and the entire University community. I am grateful for the opportunity to testify before you on the Governor's FY 2016 Capital budget request for the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. On behalf of the students, staff, and faculty of UMES, I would like to thank Governor Hogan and the Maryland General Assembly for the support that has been given to the University System of Maryland (USM) in general and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in particular, and for your support of our capital improvement plan.

In this legislative testimony, I have testified about the progress UMES is making toward its strategic priorities to "Power Maryland Forward." UMES continues to make strides in providing high quality education to students. Our enrollment for Fall 2014 is 4,281 students, a 1.4% increase from Fall 2013 despite the economic challenges that face our citizens, the State and the Nation. Our enrollment is projected to grow to 6,080 by 2024, 42% above 2014. The number of degrees conferred in 2014 represents an increase of 39% over those conferred in 2010. The number of graduate degrees awarded in 2014 was more than double that of graduate degrees in 2010. Due to the University's increased production of research doctorates, the University is on a path to be independently reclassified by the Carnegie organization as a Doctoral Research University. UMES has been rated by peers in the top tier of HBCU's since the inception of the U.S. News and World Report survey in 2007. Our current ranking #23 is one of the highest among HBCU's in Maryland. In 2014, UMES was named the Nation's Top Green HBCU by the Building Green Initiative at Clark Atlanta University. Our 17 acre 2.2 megawatt solar farm accounts for about 12% of the University green energy consumption. In all about 27% of UMES electricity consumption source is from green energy. On March 12, 2015 UMES became an EPA Green Power Partner – a recognition of our efforts to reduce the risk of climate change through the use of green power.

The capital budget's analyst's analysis of UMES Fall 2013 space inventory showing continued UMES space deficits beyond 2023 in the areas of research laboratories, office spaces, study/stack spaces is correct despite the construction of the new Engineering & Aviation Science Building. UMES space deficits is a function of the types and needs of the academic programs and inadequacies of current spaces. The projected space deficits in the four areas listed in Fall 2013 is 7,518 NASF and it is projected to be 53,665 NASF in 2023 is in line with the needs of UMES. This projection in no way needs to reflect the current needs of other statewide four-year public institutions whose needs in the listed academic space areas may have already being met.

UMES projected a modest increase in faculty and staff over the next 10 years to meet our needs as required in the academic programs. In Fall 2013, UMES projected to have 119 Staff and 241 FTE Faculty by 2023. In Fall 2013, UMES office space inventory was 151,012 in NASF, and it was projected to be 180,233 NASF in 2023, an increase of 29,221 NASF. This increase amounts to only a 19.4% increase as against a projected 9% increase in students' enrollment. Even if all 3 projects in the UMES Capital Improvement program including; the Engineering & Aviation Science Building, New Frederick Douglass Library, and the Farm Support Buildings are completed by 2023, UMES will still have an office space deficit of 19,719 NASF as allowed by the State Space Guidelines. UMES has plans to increase student enrollment and improve student retention.

Five/Ten-Year Capital Project Plan

UMES Project Priority #1 – New Engineering & Aviation Science Building

Again, we truly thank the Governor, the Legislature, Board of Regents and the people of Maryland for your support of UMES in the construction of the new Engineering and Aviation Science Building. Your approval of the final equipment funds will enhance the completion of this project this year. The Engineering and Aviation Science Building is a 165,991 GSF/90,192 NASF facility that will replace Tanner Hall, which serves as the Airway Science building. The building will provide needed space for the expanding Aviation Sciences and Engineering programs. It will provide space for the following programs: Aviation Science, Engineering (aeronautical, computer, electrical and mechanical), Communication Technology of the English department, Mathematics, and the graduate and undergraduate programs of Computer Science. It will also house the offices of the Dean of Business and Technology, Dean of Graduate Studies, as well as other supporting spaces. Construction is progressing despite the tough winter season we have experienced.

UMES Project Priority #2 – New Frederick Douglass Library

With the approval of the USM, UMES project priority number two is the new Frederick Douglass Library project. This project consists of a new Library that is 72,650 NASF/119,750 GSF and a replacement Auxiliary Gym that is 18,000 NASF/30,000 GSF. The new library will be located at the site of the current Tawes Gymnasium, a facility previously slated for demolition. This project will provide a modern and resourceful library that will support our university mission and our focus on STEM. UMES' growing academics programs have outpaced the Frederick Douglass Library (FDL), which as a result, experiences an increased demand for reader space, shelving, technology, infrastructure and staff areas.

The proposed new facility will house the Frederick Douglass Library, including the Information Commons, the general collection, the serials/government documents collection, special collections and the University archives, the Media Services Center, a variety of study seating including comfortable lounge seating, a 24 hour Quiet Study Room, a patron lounge, a bibliographic instruction laboratory, an open computer laboratory, many group study rooms, processing workrooms and storage areas, and limited staff offices so that professional staff are available to patrons at multiple service desks.

Other spaces included in this project are: the Writing Center, Academic Services Center, Instructional Design & Delivery Center, the Faculty Center, Mosely Gallery (which provides the UMES academic community with dynamic and frequently changing art exhibitions throughout the year featuring the professional work of faculty and nationally and regionally prominent artists, as well as student art work), and the Auxiliary Gymnasium. A replacement gymnasium is needed to accommodate the academic programs in Exercise Science, student life and athletic activities, club sports and intramural competition. The activities to occur in these spaces in the replacement gymnasium are now occurring in Tawes Gymnasium, which will be displaced by the new Library project. The Part I Building Program on this project was submitted in 2013, and it is being reviewed by USM and State Agencies.

UMES Project Priority #3 – Farm Support Building

The Construction of the Farm Support buildings is very important for UMES' "STEAM" programs. This replacement project supports UMES' academic and land grant mission. The Farm Support Buildings' project will consist of the following four (4) academic and instructional support buildings totaling 97,250 GSF/82,400 NASF. The project components include:

The Agricultural Mechanic/Science Field Research Center - This building will be approximately 17,500 GSF/10,900 NASF in size. It will accommodate an agricultural mechanics instructional lab, specimen drying areas, field research labs, staff offices, and support spaces.

The Farm Maintenance Center Building will be approximately 23,000 GSF/19,100 NASF in size. It will accommodate a large farm equipment maintenance bay, standard equipment maintenance bays, farm equipment wash bay, farm equipment storage area, chemical storage and vehicle storage areas, pesticide wash bay, staff offices, and staff support spaces. This facility will be located in the crop cultivating area of the farm.

The Ruminant Support Building which is approximately 16,750 GSF/14,900 NASF in size will accommodate a field research/teaching lab, feed storage area, feed mill plant, housing for cattle, goat and sheep, sheds and shelters, hay storage area, animal holding area, staff offices, and staff support spaces. This facility will be located in close proximity to the Animal Pasture area of the farm.

The Poultry Technology Management Houses – The Poultry Technology buildings will consist of two poultry growing houses and the two buildings will be approximately 40,000 GSF/37,500 NASF in size. One of the poultry houses that will be replaced was demolished in July 2013 as part of the Engineering and Aviation Sciences building project. This project will support our agricultural science program needs and support our Land-Grant mission and objectives.

UMES Project Priority #4 – New School of Pharmacy and Allied Health Professions Building

The new School of Pharmacy and Allied Health Professions project is an 110,000 GSF/66,000 NASF building. The building will accommodate the School of Pharmacy programs (Doctor of Pharmacy and Doctor of Pharmaceutical Sciences), Graduate Physician Assistants program, Doctor of Physical Therapy program, Rehabilitation Services program, and support spaces. In the School of Pharmacy, the spaces to be provided will include Pharmacy Practice lab (dispensing lab), Pharmacy Information Center/Resource Room, Anatomy and Physiology labs, Pharmacology labs, Pharmaceutical teaching labs, and auditorium style classroom for 120 students, computer lab, Dean's suite with staff and faculty offices, conference rooms, and support spaces. Similar classroom, laboratory, and office spaces will be needed for the other allied health professions programs as indicated.

The new School of Pharmacy and Allied Health Professions building has been included in the USM 10 year capital improvement plan (CIP). We are requesting continued support to move this project schedule up in the capital budget process. The School of Pharmacy program which

graduated its first class in May 2013, is currently housed in Somerset Hall that was renovated with System funds in 2010. This building is extremely inadequate to run and support this program and the health professions. At present, the School of Pharmacy program alone occupies all available space in Somerset Hall for offices and labs, and also occupies the only 75 seat auditorium in Carver Hall for first-year student classes, another 75 seat auditorium in Food Science and Technology Building for second-year classes, and some modular trailers installed next to Food Science and Technology building serving as seminar rooms. Seminar rooms in the Student Services Center building have been converted for use by third-year Pharmacy students. In addition, UMES is scrambling to find funds to provide necessary research facilities for currently funded faculty research projects within the pharmacy program. It is difficult to maintain academic program effectiveness, competitiveness and accreditation with such facilities distributed across the campus and impacting other programs and general student support services spaces.

In the April 9 – 11, 2013 visit by the Accreditation Council on Pharmacy Education (ACPE), the team noted that the current facilities are not ideal for the program. The evaluation report stated:

"Progress needs to be made by the University in addressing both the short-term and more long-term physical facilities needs of the School of Pharmacy. Evidence of such progress will include a report on the decision regarding the location for a new School of Pharmacy building, a target date for beginning and completing construction, and on measures taken to meet the School's needs in the intervening years".

UMES has to show progress on the design and construction of the new School of Pharmacy and Allied Health Professions facility in order to sustain accreditation. It must be noted that UMES' School of Pharmacy was fully accredited in 2013 and has proven very successful at producing quality pharmacists for the region and state. The inaugural class of UMES Pharmacy program graduates recorded a 95% first time pass rate on the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX) in 2013, and 62% of the graduates are employed on Delmarva and in the State of Maryland.

Due to the slowed capital project funding process of the past years, UMES has a number of building renovation projects that have been deferred. These buildings require renovations and upgrades in space functionality, efficiency, appropriateness, and technology. We will be requesting funding for renovations to the Kiah Hall building. The Kiah Hall building renovation will address the space inadequacies, efficiency, structural issues, and technological deficiencies in the building. It will further address the academic space deficiencies for the expanding academic programs and support spaces for the recently obtained Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) International accreditation requirements. In addition, the Kiah hall building basement floods repeatedly, as it is within the 100 year flood plain as indicated in the 2010 USM and Maryland Emergency Management Administration (MEMA) approved UMES 2008 -2018 Master Plan and the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

We thank the Governor and the State of Maryland General Assembly for your continued support of UMES.