



MARYLAND **VOTERS** BELIEVE IN  
INDEPENDENT HIGHER EDUCATION

PUBLIC OPINION POLL & VOICES OF MICUA

## SURVEY METHODOLOGY & RESULTS

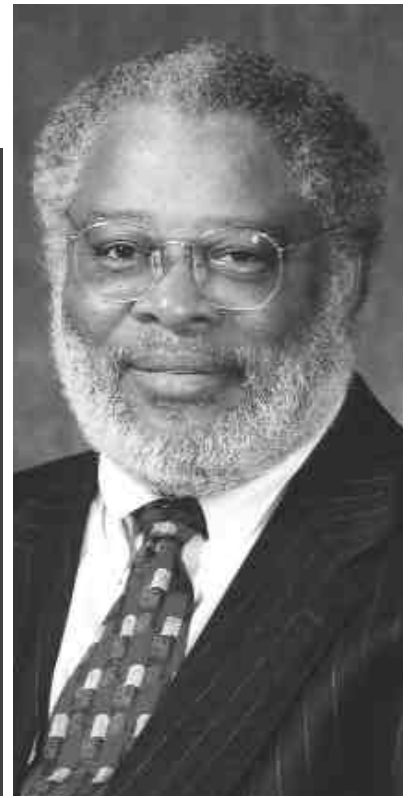
From April 19 through April 23, 2003, a survey was conducted by Gonzales/Arscott Research & Communications, Inc. Registered Maryland voters were interviewed by telephone. A cross-section of calls was made in each jurisdiction within the State to reflect general election voting patterns. The margin for error, according to customary statistical standards, is no more than plus or minus 3.5 percentage points.

Almost two-thirds (64%) of Maryland voters said they favor the current system of grants to private colleges and universities, while 28% said they were opposed. The remaining 8% offered no answer. Responses varied little among the demographics subgroups (meaning gender, race, region, and party registration), with every subgroup favoring the system at a rate of at least 60%.

When asked to choose among options for dealing with funding for private colleges and universities in light of the current budget crisis, 74% of respondents said the Governor should make no additional cuts to the program. Furthermore, half of the respondents believe the Governor should work to restore the funds already taken.

DR. CHARLES SIMMONS  
PRESIDENT OF  
SOJOURNER-DOUGLASS COLLEGE

The concerns I wish to express regarding Sellinger aid relate to the impact that cuts have on the community served by Sojourner-Douglass College, a community that is already disproportionately disadvantaged by the State budget crisis. As a small, developing institution, Sojourner-Douglass makes a social, cultural, and economic impact on minority and low-income communities far beyond that which is familiar to many observers. Through its geographically dispersed campuses throughout Maryland, the College serves educationally by-passed residents in Baltimore City, Anne Arundel, Calvert, and Prince Georges Counties, Cambridge and Salisbury. Additional cuts to Sellinger aid would weaken the College's ability to provide access and success to minority students and provide financial aid to Maryland's economically disadvantaged students.





The State of Maryland **HAS HISTORICALLY SUPPORTED** a system of grants to higher education that links both public and private institutions.



## BONNIE DREW

CLASS OF 2001

COLLEGE OF NOTRE DAME OF MARYLAND

“Growing up, I never worried about paying for college. I came from a two-parent home that was not considered economically disadvantaged. Unfortunately our situation took a turn for the worse. My father was diagnosed with lung cancer and underwent a year and a half of chemotherapy and radiation treatment before he passed way during my junior year of high school. College was a dream that he and I shared and I was determined to keep that dream alive. Notre Dame was able to help me to do just that, as it has for many other economically disadvantaged students and families. Notre Dame can only continue to do so if the reduction to the Sellinger Funds are kept to a minimum.”



## ANTHONY DEBELLA


CLASS OF 1996 & 1998

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

“I was only able to attend Johns Hopkins University because of the merit-based scholarships I received. Without those scholarships, I would have had to attend a different school, I’d have probably never found out about the Applied Physics Lab, never bought my house one mile away, and probably not be able to afford my wife’s tuition for graduate school! That’s the kind of impact that the proposed deeper cuts to the Sellinger program can have...There will be less money for scholarships. There will be less money for community outreach programs at Johns Hopkins University. The students that will be able to afford to attend might have to spend more time working part-time jobs rather than in service-based learning in the community.”



Maryland's private colleges and universities serve a diverse population of **46,000 STUDENTS** annually and confer more than **25%** of all degrees awarded in the State.



In a recent poll of registered Maryland voters, almost two-thirds of **VOTERS STATED CLEARLY** that they support the current system of grants to private colleges and universities.



**JOHN MCGINTY**  
DIRECTOR OF THE LOYOLA /  
NOTRE DAME LIBRARY  
LOYOLA COLLEGE IN MARYLAND /  
COLLEGE OF NOTRE DAME OF MARYLAND

“Our single library supports two independent colleges, the College of Notre Dame and Loyola College, a cost effective partnership that provides excellent service and extensive resources to those two colleges with over 9,000 constituents. Over 20% of our daily usage is from the surrounding community and several public institutions located nearby, including Morgan State University, Towson University, and the University of Maryland Baltimore to which we provide their students and faculty with resources not available at their campus library. This is effective use of private and public monies on behalf of our State in order to advance the commonwealth and knowledge.”

In that same poll, 74% of the respondents said the Governor should make **NO ADDITIONAL CUTS** to the grants program for independent colleges and universities. Furthermore, 50% of respondents believed he should work to **RESTORE THE FUNDS** already taken.



## M. NATALIE McSHERRY

TRUSTEE OF MOUNT ST. MARY'S COLLEGE  
WHITEFORD, TAYLOR, & PRESTON LLP

"The Sellinger money helps make it possible for a relatively small college such as the Mount to provide a high quality education for local students which it would not otherwise be able to provide. It also brings potential talent to Maryland. A number of alumni decide, after getting to know the people and potential for success in Maryland, to locate in Maryland and add to its growing reputation as a State which attracts good minds and good people in furtherance of the good of all and the economic reputation of the region."

As early as 1782, Maryland's private colleges and universities have been a SOURCE OF PRIDE in our State. Today, their graduates affect every part of life here, serving as model citizens in every profession. Maryland VOTERS BELIEVE in these institutions.



Barbara J. Bonnell and  
William P. Miller

PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
GREATER HOMEWOOD ORGANIZATION,  
A COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION IN  
BALTIMORE CITY

“These institutions do more than teach students, employ large numbers of people, and buy large quantities of local goods and services. Loyola College in Maryland, College of Notre Dame of Maryland, and Johns Hopkins University are making substantial commitments in our neighborhoods through coordinating students to tutor and mentor children in our schools and recreation centers, students and faculty research projects, contributions to neighborhood projects, public safety activities, and promoting economic development, etc.”


Isaac Lawson  
CLASS OF 2004  
GOUCHER COLLEGE

“A Goucher education goes beyond obtaining a degree and securing a job, it is preparation for a life-long quest for knowledge and wisdom; it is about creating whole, complete people. Goucher is not in the business of producing cookie-cutter, programmed people; instead, Goucher produces passionate, catalytic individuals who are not afraid to blaze new paths and stand up for their morals and beliefs. ”

“As a rising senior, I now think back to my first visit to Goucher as a prospective student. Goucher was the nice school, with nice people and a beautiful campus. While Goucher’s campus remain one of the most beautiful I have seen, nice is an extremely inadequate description of the school and its students. Over the years Goucher has become a second home to me: a place of refuge and family, personal growth, and intellectual stimulation. The time I have spent at Goucher is invaluable! I can think of no other place I would have rather been or that would have been more beneficial to my development. As a result of my experience at Goucher, I am now a very strong supporter of the private Liberal Arts institutions.”



**MARYLAND CITIZENS AGREE** that private colleges and universities are a critically important educational resource. Together with the State's public institutions, they prepare talented and educated citizens who ensure the **FUTURE GROWTH** of Maryland.



## MICUA MEMBER INSTITUTIONS

Baltimore Hebrew University

Baltimore International College

Capitol College

College of Notre Dame of Maryland

Columbia Union College

Goucher College

Hood College

Johns Hopkins University

Loyola College in Maryland

Maryland Institute College of Art

McDaniel College

Mount St. Mary's College

Ner Israel Rabbinical College\*

Sojourner-Douglass College

St. John's College

St. Mary's Seminary and University\*

Villa Julie College

Washington College

*\*Receives no direct State aid.*

