

MICUA Matters

MEMBERS

1782 Washington College
1784 St. John's College
1791 St. Mary's Seminary & University
1808 Mount St. Mary's University
1826 Maryland Institute College of Art
1852 Loyola College in Maryland
1867 McDaniel College
1873 College of Notre Dame of Maryland
1876 Johns Hopkins University
1885 Goucher College
1893 Hood College
1904 Columbia Union College
1927 Capitol College
1933 Ner Israel Rabbinical College
1947 Villa Julie College
1970 Baltimore Hebrew University
1972 Baltimore International College
1980 Sojourner-Douglass College

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McDaniel Plans Center to Study Aging

As our nation's population grows older, **McDaniel College** is spearheading an effort to improve the lives of older adults by establishing a Center for the Study of Aging with a \$150,000 start-up grant from the Jessie Ball DuPont Fund. The Center will provide both degree and continuing education opportunities for graduate and undergraduate students, service providers, community leaders, policy makers, and others interested in the field of aging. According to the Maryland Department of Planning's population projections, the number of adults over the age of 60 living in Carroll County is expected to grow 123% by 2020.



A grant for the study of aging will soon provide new opportunities to learn about gerontology at McDaniel College.

"We are grateful to the Jessie Ball DuPont trustees in funding this timely educational program and empowering us to serve the community in which we reside," said McDaniel President Joan Develin Coley. McDaniel currently offers a graduate-level Gerontology Certificate for students interested in the interdisciplinary study of aging from a physical, mental, and social perspective. To earn a certificate, students complete five classes and participate in an internship. ■

MICUA Grows Member Services, Increases Efficiency

A year after MICUA signed an agreement with Shared Services Consortium to offer collaborative purchasing programs aimed at increasing efficiency, two plans have garnered the most interest: student insurance and property and casualty insurance. The programs are among five initially offered in a move to help contain the costs of higher education. Other programs available through the consortium include group life insurance, long-term disability insurance, and student tuition payment plans. An agreement signed on Sept. 26, 2005, gives MICUA's 18 member institutions the ability to purchase

goods and services at reduced costs using the collective buying power of participating institutions in Maryland and Pennsylvania.

"With the MICUA property and casualty program, we estimate we will save 10% (or approximately \$5,000) this year on our insurance broker costs," said Calvin Gladden, **Goucher College** Director of Business and Auxiliary Services. "And we anticipate that the collaboration with other institutions will result in discounted premiums, and open a window into viewing and adopting each other's best practices." ■

Villa Julie College Announces Plan for School of Business

Villa Julie College has announced the creation of a School of Business to be housed in a new 60,000 square foot academic building at the Owings Mills campus; groundbreaking is expected to take place in 2007. The new building will be funded in part by a \$2.25 million grant from the State of Maryland. “We’re excited to expand our business, leadership, and entrepreneurial programs for both undergraduate and adult students,” says Villa Julie President Kevin J. Manning.

The new facility will allow for the expanded use of technology in the classroom, including distance learning opportunities, to help students meet the evolving workforce needs throughout the State and region. The school will continue Villa Julie’s distinctive career focus, encouraging internships and other forms of active learning for all students. The hallmark of the academic building will be a courtroom for mock trials, offering students the experience of cutting-edge courtroom technology. The paralegal and forensic studies programs will use the facility to offer law clinic services and to provide experience in presenting sophisticated forensic evidence and expert witness testimony. ■



Kevin Manning, President of Villa Julie College, displays a painting of the new business school.

Feb. 8 is Maryland Independent Higher Education Day

To celebrate the partnership between the State and its independent institutions of higher education, MICUA will host Independent Higher Education Day in Annapolis on Feb. 8, 2007. Over 120 students will attend a morning briefing in the Miller Senate Office Building and

visit with State legislators and public officials. Later the independent college presidents and students will reconvene for a luncheon where guest of honor Lieutenant Governor Anthony Brown will speak on the priorities of the O’Malley administration. ■

College of Notre Dame Students Focus on Baltimore Neighborhoods

In a hands-on research project assigned at **College of Notre Dame of Maryland** last fall, “Baltimore Project 2006” introduced students to the city’s neighborhoods. Working in groups of five or six, first-year students researched 11 neighborhoods, using methods ranging from Internet searches to contacting community associations to hands-on neighborhood visits. Students discovered intriguing bits of history, such as the fact that Pigtown—birthplace of Babe Ruth—is named for an annual event: The Running of the Pigs.

At a campuswide event in November, the students became ambassadors for their respective neighborhoods, presenting the history, culture, and character of the areas through posters, scrapbooks, brochures, electronic presentations, and even food. Pigtown, Federal Hill, Little Italy, Fells Point, Waverly, Madison Park, Greektown, Guilford, Washington Village, Canton, and Mount Vernon were all represented. This project is just one of the ways Notre Dame engages students to become more active in the life of the city. ■



From their Homeland campus, Notre Dame students set out to explore Baltimore.

The Sellinger Program

Supporting Higher Education in the Maryland Tradition

The State of Maryland has maintained a partnership with its independent colleges and universities for over 200 years. The first higher education institutions chartered in the State were independent colleges—**Washington College** was chartered in 1782 and **St. John's College** was chartered in 1784. These colleges received the State's first

of the State's independent institutions. In response, the Governor appointed a distinguished panel of citizens from public and private institutions of higher education and local businesses to serve on a committee to evaluate private higher education in Maryland. The Committee was chaired by Philip Pear, member of the Maryland Council for Higher Education. Hence the Committee became known as the Pear Committee.

During the summer of 1972, the Pear Committee met with every private college president in Maryland and hired an independent auditor to review their financial statements, enrollment data, staffing records, cost

containment efforts, and other records. At the conclusion of its work, the Committee recommended that the State provide modest public support of private higher education to preserve and strengthen a dual system of higher education. The panel wrote that "the savings to the State in tax dollars due to the existence of these institutions has contributed substantially to the welfare and well-being of all of the citizens in Maryland. These savings can be continued by assuring, through modest State assistance of these institutions, their existence as private colleges and universities."

As a result of the Pear Committee's findings, in 1973 the State established a program to provide State grants to eligible private institutions. The creation of this grant program was seen as

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operating grants in the late 1790s. Throughout its history, the State has supported independent higher education through different programs. Currently, the primary State support for independent higher education is through the Joseph A. Sellinger Aid Program, which was established in 1973.

At that time, four private institutions of higher education in Maryland had fallen into dire financial straits and closed. In addition, the University of Baltimore—then a private institution—wrote to the State requesting a public takeover. These were the "signs of the times" for independent higher education, prompting the Maryland Council for Higher Education to warn that a financial crisis was imminent for many



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an efficient and effective way to sustain Maryland's private institutions. A moderate State investment provides for a high rate of return through degrees granted, citizens educated, and positive economic impact.

The State grant program is now known as the Joseph A. Sellinger State Aid Program, named for the former Loyola College president and respected higher education leader. The program awards State aid to independent colleges through a formula linked to their enrollment and to the per-student appropriation of selected four-year public institutions. The statutory formula provides per full-time equivalent student (FTES) funding of 16% of the amount granted per FTES at ten public institutions in the prior year.

This self-adjusting formula remains in effect today and continues to be a national model. The Sellinger formula structure encourages cooperation and collaboration among Maryland's segments of higher education. The 16 eligible MICUA institutions receive about 3.5% of the State's investment in higher education, serve over 50,000 students, and award about one fourth of all degrees conferred in Maryland annually. The Sellinger funds are used to support the Maryland goals for higher education as identified in the Maryland State Plan for Postsecondary Education.

Despite the positive benefits of higher education to the citizens of Maryland, the Administration significantly decreased funding for college and universities in response to the fiscal crisis of the early 2000s. In fiscal 2003

alone, higher education reductions totaled over \$120 million. Cuts to independent higher education were considerable and resulted in funding levels below the 1990 appropriation.



These severe reductions had a chilling effect on student financial aid and educational services. In addition, the cutbacks threatened the competitiveness of Maryland's independent institutions, being far deeper than the reductions in funding passed by legislators in neighboring states. Since that time, there has been bicameral support for higher education funding and restoration of the Sellinger formula. In 2006, Sellinger funding was equivalent to a 15.8% multiplier. In fiscal 2007, the Sellinger formula was fully funded at the 16% multiplier.

Unpredictability in higher education funding remains a concern. During periods of fiscal constraint, State appropriations for higher education are treated as discretionary spending. This practice creates financial instability for Maryland's colleges and universities and causes financial hardships for students and their parents. Given the importance of higher education to the State's economic wellbeing and quality of life, Maryland should adopt sound fiscal policies that provide stable and predictable funding. ■

Need-Based Financial Aid

Providing Students with Access and Choice

There has never been a greater need for a strong investment in proven student financial aid programs than there is today. And the need has never been greater for a strong partnership between Maryland's higher education institutions and the State to make college possible for all students. Already, thousands of students enrolled in MICUA colleges and universities come from low-income families. This group will grow larger in the years ahead.

The Maryland Higher Education Commission projects a 24% growth in college enrollment over the next ten years and anticipates a significant



change in student demographics. Fifty percent of Maryland's high school graduating class of 2008-2009 will be minority students. In addition, trends

suggest that there will be more economically disadvantaged students, more first-generation college students, and more students who lack a support structure. If we are to meet the workforce needs of our State with a new generation of educated Americans, Maryland must invest in an efficient system of financial aid that provides critical assistance for capable and economically disadvantaged residents.

In recent years, student aid from federal sources has not kept pace with the needs of students and families. For the past four years, the federal Pell grant maximum award has been frozen at \$4,050. Furthermore, the most recent federal budget freezes the Pell Grant award amount for a fifth year and level funds the federal Work Study and Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant Programs.

In contrast, the State of Maryland has increased its need-based financial aid budget substantially over the last four years. Need-based aid has doubled, and the State estimates that the fiscal year 2007 funding increase to the Educational Excellence Awards Program will enable the Maryland Higher Education Commission to make awards to all eligible applicants. For the first time, MHEC will have the resources to



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provide eligible students with the maximum statutory award of \$3,000 in the Educational Assistance Grant Program.

Nevertheless, existing need-based financial aid is not sufficient to provide meaningful awards that truly enable college choice. The \$3,000 EAG cap was established fifteen years ago and tuition has risen significantly during this period. This level of aid falls far short of the cost of attendance for most students.

Maryland's private colleges and universities are working hard to provide access and choice. MICUA offers multiple opportunities for quality education through its diverse membership, including small liberal arts colleges; an internationally recognized research university; and a variety of specialized institutions providing programs in engineering, information technology, culinary arts, and the visual arts. All Maryland students deserve access to these unique opportunities, and MICUA institutions are devoted to providing that access. As a group, MICUA's institutional need-based grant awards have increased by 300% over the past ten years, a rate that far exceeds tuition increases. Even more



remarkable, 74% of need-based financial aid awarded to MICUA students is provided by institutional or private resources. Only 26% is supplied by the State or federal governments. Almost every MICUA member institution has seen its financial aid budget grow disproportionately large relative to total revenues. Frankly, the independent institutions cannot keep pace with the growing demands for student assistance.

Although MICUA member institutions are committed to providing educational opportunity and choice for all students, these colleges and universities cannot meet the growing demand for financial assistance without help from the State and federal governments. MICUA advocates for substantial increases in the maximum awards available through the Educational Excellence Awards Program at the State level and the Pell Grant Program at the federal level. By working together, we can ensure access to college for all who have the ability and desire to succeed. ■



Survey Shows Strong Support for Maryland's Colleges, Universities

Most Marylanders have a very favorable impression of the State's colleges and universities, and believe that Maryland's higher education institutions are better in quality today than they were 10 years ago, according to a survey of more than 1,100 registered voters across the State. But while respondents rated the State's colleges and universities highly for academic quality, many of the same voters voiced concerns about the affordability of higher education in Maryland. These are among the key findings of a statewide survey commissioned recently by a coalition of Maryland's community colleges, four-year public universities, and independent colleges and universities.

In addition, when asked to rate what issues they believed should be the top priorities for Maryland's leaders, respondents overwhelmingly cited education. Higher education, specifically, ranked fourth among a wide range of issues voters were asked to rate, in terms of importance, behind only K-12 education, crime and public safety, and health care. Furthermore, respondents cite government funding as being of nearly equal importance for both primary/secondary education and higher education; 96% said it was "very important" or "somewhat important" in the case of K-12 education, compared to 92% for higher education. More information on the Maryland survey can be found at <http://www.mhec.state.md.us/higherEd/SolMDFuture.asp>. ■

Culinary School Offers Advanced Hospitality Degree

Baltimore International College has launched a new master's of science degree program in hospitality and tourism management, the first of its kind in Maryland. The culinary school's new degree program has been approved by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education and the Maryland Higher Education Commission, and classes have already begun in the spring 2007 semester. The program will help fill a major workforce need in Maryland, where the tourism is now a \$10 billion industry.

"Receiving approval to offer a master's degree is tremendous for the college," said Roger Chylinski, founder and President of BIC. "To grow from offering certificates in culinary arts when the College began in 1972 to offering a master's degree has been the culmination of many years of work and perseverance by everyone in the College community." ■



Susan Hendee, Dean of the School of Graduate Studies, is heading up the new master's degree program at Baltimore International College.

Columbia Union College to Retain Liberal Arts Focus

The Columbia Union College Board of Trustees voted to maintain the school's current liberal arts focus, after considering a proposal to reorganize by creating a College of Health and Sciences and Professional Studies with Adventist HealthCare. The result was a majority vote on Oct. 18 in favor of continuing operation as a four-year liberal arts college.

The board also voted a four-point action plan to strengthen the College for the future. CUC intends to develop a school of arts and sciences and a school of nursing and allied health. These programs are planned to complement CUC's new school of

graduate and profession studies, which offers an MBA program as well as online classes and degree completion for adult students. The College will partner with Adventist HealthCare in the development of the school of nursing and allied health.

"This is an exciting opportunity for all of us," said CUC president Randall Wisbey. "We need the support of all our students, faculty, staff, alumni, church members, and the community as we embrace our future." Founded over 100 years ago in Takoma Park, CUC remains the only four-year college based in Montgomery County. ■

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and Universities—
A Vital Public Resource*



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Loyola College Celebrates “Year of the City”

Loyola College in Maryland launched a “Year of the City” initiative in September with a Mass and street fair at the site of the College’s former campus in downtown Baltimore. Since then, Year of the City programming has continued with courses on Baltimore architecture and literature, a film series, and a variety of service projects designed to celebrate Baltimore’s culture and history and encourage better understanding of the challenges the city faces today.



Loyola College President Brian Linnane, S.J., announced at his inauguration in fall 2005 that the 2006-07 academic year would be a “Year of the City” at Loyola, a period marked by celebration of the city’s strengths as well as reflection on how the College and its educational mission intersect with the life and needs of Baltimore. Linnane focused on the role Loyola should play in the support of those at the margins of society.

This spring, the College will host a symposium on the theme “Urban Spaces, Urban Voices” and an academic conference on secondary education that will focus on the development of collaborative relationships between the public school system and the business, cultural, and university communities in the Baltimore region. For more information on Loyola’s Year of the City, visit www.loyola.edu/yotc. ■