The proposal has gone through the standard review and approval processes with USM institutions having time to submit objections. Via the USM process, there were no objections. Further, the presenters noted that this would be the only program of its type within 100 miles of SU, which meets a major regional need. However, it is noted that, via the process conducted by the Maryland Higher Education Commission, other institutions in the state will have the opportunity to object to the establishment of this program. Nevertheless, the USM staff believes the institution has done its due diligence regarding a state-wide examination of programs to try to ensure there is no duplication.

The Chancellor recommends that the Education Policy and Student Life and Safety Committee recommend that the Board of Regents approve the proposal from Salisbury University to offer an M.A. in Public Communication.

The motion was moved by Regent Gourdine, seconded by Regent Gooden, and unanimously approved.

Vote Count: Yeas: 6 Nays: 0 Abstentions: 0

## Salisbury University Proposal for a Graduate School

Dr. Laurie Couch, Provost, and Dr. Dr. Clifton Griffin, Dean of Graduate Studies & Research, presented the proposal for Salisbury University to transition its existing Office of Graduate Studies and Research to a Graduate School and a separate Office of Research and Sponsored Programs. The goals of the change are to facilitate branding and the prestige of

and Community Engagement Council, the Civic Education and Civic Engagement Symposium, the Carnegie Elective Classification for Community Engagement, Civic Education and Civic Engagement Institutional Grants, the Langenberg Legacy Fellowship Program, USM Student Civic Leaders Committee, and the National Study of Learning Voting and Engagement.

After Dr. Shapiro's presentation, Regent Hugh Breslin led a discussion about the potential of including a civic engagement requirement in general education requirements at USM institutions. There was discussion about what that might look like, how it might be implemented, and potential issues that may arise. Dr. Wrynn and Dr. Caraco provided context for the discussion and how such requirements work in other states and systems. The USM team will further explore and engage with campus partners on this topic and will report back to the Committee at a later date.

USM Board of Regents
Committee on Education Policy and Student Life and Safety
Minutes from Closed Session
January 16, 2024
Zoom

## **Minutes of the Closed Session**

The Committee on Education Policy and Student Life and Safety (EPSLS) of the University System of Maryland (USM) Board of Regents (BOR) met virtually (via Zoom) in closed session on Tuesday, January 16, 2024. The meeting was convened at 11:42 a.m. Committee members present were: Regents Smarick (Vice Chair, presiding), Gooden, Helal, Leggett, Parker, and Wood. Chancellor Perman and