

Legislative Update

General Assembly Approves Increased Budget

At a very successful Annapolis Legislative Reception, coordinated by the Alumni Association, nearly 300 UMBC alumni, faculty, students and staff spoke with state legislators. As a result, the Governor's budget, as adopted by the General Assembly, provided a 15.7 percent increase for UMBC. With this support UMBC can continue to grow as a national model for educational and research programs. And, strong business partnerships can continue to be established leading to significant contributions to economic development.

UMBC also received significant capital investment from the state. The university continues to grow and develop in order to attract and retain the "best and the brightest" students and faculty. New and expanded facilities are needed to provide the highest quality educational experience for our students. With the increases from the state, UMBC will fund the following projects:

- The Chemistry Building renovations will continue in order to provide much needed, state-of-the-art laboratory and classroom space designed specifically for this purpose. The updated facility will allow UMBC to improve research opportunities for students and faculty and to better prepare students to work and study in many advanced areas of science.
- The new Public Policy Building will provide office and classroom space for the public policy programs currently housed across campus. This building will also provide more suitable facilities for several UMBC centers including The Shriver Center and the Maryland Institute of Public Analysis and Research (MIPAR). This project is scheduled to begin construction in the near future.
- The new IT/Engineering Building has been designed to provide exceptional opportunities for students and faculty in several areas of Information Technology. The new facility will help to the university manage the constantly changing demands of IT programs. And, it will allow UMBC to continue to produce extremely well prepared graduates who have been trained in the most technologically advanced facility available.

Please consider writing to your legislators to thank them for their continued support of UMBC. Be sure to let them know of your own affiliation with UMBC. Thank you to all who attended the Annapolis Reception for taking the time to reinforce the work of the UMBC administration, faculty and staff and the valuable support of our elected officials.