University Senate Meeting

February 3, 2026

Agenda

1.   Call to Order

Call to Order – Welcome!

- Welcome to today's meeting.

- University Senate meetings are conducted in accordance with the Senate Bylaws and adhere to Robert's Rules of Order.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Call to Order – Procedures & Guidelines

- We are using the Zoom Webinar format for the meeting. Senators received a separate email directly from Zoom to join the meeting as a **Panelist**, which allows them to fully participate in the meeting.

- Members of the campus community use the general link to join as **Attendees**.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Call to Order – Procedures & Guidelines

- Senate procedures will apply to this virtual meeting to ensure consistency and order.

- Please remember that all University policies and expectations for appropriate conduct apply during all University Senate meetings.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Call to Order – Procedures & Guidelines

- Today's meeting being recorded.

- The audio from all University Senate meetings is utilized to create meeting minutes that will be available prior to the following meeting.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Call to Order – Procedures & Guidelines

- When Chair Dammeyer opens the floor to discussion, Senators may use the '**Raise Hand**' feature, which is located at the bottom of the Zoom window.

- If you click on the **Participants** option at the bottom of the Zoom window, you can see a list of all Senators and the **Raise Hand icon** next to those who have raised their hand.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Call to Order – Procedures & Guidelines

- All Participants are **Muted** when entering the Zoom. You will be asked to unmute yourself when you are recognized to speak. Please listen for that request so you can unmute.

- University Senate Meetings are open to all members of the campus, however, only Senators and Deans may vote.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Call to Order – Procedures & Guidelines

- Senators and Deans may speak and introduce campus community members to speak during discussion of any action items.

- On Zoom, Senators and Deans are labeled as **Panelists** and non-Senators/campus community members are labeled as attendees.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Call to Order – Procedures & Guidelines

- Attendees who would like to identify a Senator to introduce them to speak can find a complete list of Senators at https://senate.umd.edu/CurrentSenators.

- **All speakers must first state their name and constituency after being called on.**

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Call to Order – Chat Etiquette

- The Chat box is not part of the official record.

- If you would like to speak, please use the raise hand feature and wait to be recognized.

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Call to Order – Questions

- Are there any questions about any of the procedures or guidelines that I have described?

- If so, please use the **Raise Hand** feature at the bottom of the Zoom window in the **Reactions** option or come to the microphone and wait to be called on.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Agenda

2. Approval of the December 2, 2025 University Senate Meeting Minutes (Action)

Agenda

3. Report of the Chair (Information)

Report of the Chair – Welcome Back

- Happy New Year!

- Your ongoing participation and service to our University Senate is appreciated and your time is valued.

- Thank you for your efforts.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Report of the Chair – University Senate Holiday Social

- The first University Senate Holiday Social was held on the last day of classes in Marie Mount Hall.

- Chair Dammeyer attended the event along with Director Marin, members of the University Senate Office staff, and Parliamentarian Falvey.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Report of the Chair – University Senate Holiday Social

- Seven Senators attended during the two-hour event.

- This was an enriching time to the University Senate's work this year, and to talk informally about campus and Senate issues.

- Perhaps we will see this event gain momentum in the following year.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Report of the Chair – University Senate Office Hiring Updates

- The University Senate Office has filled the Administrative Coordinator position and two Coordinator positions.

- Jane Nnadi is the new Administrative Coordinator.

- Jeremiah Finley and Juel Okpara are serving as two new Coordinators for the University Senate Office.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Report of the Chair – University Senate Office Hiring Updates

- They began their roles on Monday, January 12, 2026.
- The University Senate Office is excited for the knowledge and enthusiasm they bring to the team and looks forward to their impact in these new roles.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Report of the Chair – Senator-Constituency Google Groups

- The University Senate Office has worked diligently with the Division of Information Technology to update the senator constituency Google Groups.

- This process has taken several months and has prevented the distribution of University Senate Meeting Overviews.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Report of the Chair – Senator-Constituency Google Groups

- The University Senate Office is hopeful that these updates will be finalized in the next week, allowing them to resume distributing the overviews and enabling Senators to engage with their constituencies.

- Additional guidance will be provided via email to Senators soon.

- Your patience and understanding is appreciated.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Report of the Chair – University Senate Staff, Student, and Single Member Elections

- The candidacy period for the staff, student, and single-member constituency elections for the 2026-2027 Academic Year is now open.

- Due to the University's closure last week, the candidacy period has been extended. The candidacy period will end on February 11, 2026.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Report of the Chair – University Senate Staff, Student, and Single Member Elections

- Please encourage your colleagues to run for the Senate, or that you consider running, if eligible.

- All candidates who wish to run for a Senate seat should submit their applications by February 11, 2026, via the University Senate "Take Action" webpage.

- https://www.senate.umd.edu/take-action/run-senate

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Report of the Chair – University Senate Staff, Student, and Single Member Elections

- Elections for these constituencies will begin on February 23, 2026.

- If you are a member of one of these constituencies, we encourage you to vote for your Senators at that time.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Report of the Chair – Nominations for Elected Committees & Councils

- The Nominations Committee will hold its first meeting of the Spring semester in the coming weeks.

- The Committee is tasked with identifying potential nominees for the Senate's elected committees and councils, including the Senate Executive Committee, the Committee on Committees, the Athletic Council, and the Council of University System Faculty.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Report of the Chair – Nominations for Elected Committees & Councils

- Senators will receive an email in the coming days soliciting self-nominations and nominations of their colleagues.

- It is important to continue to have strong nominees running in each of these elections, and Chair Dammeyer encourages you to consider running or nominating your colleagues for these important positions.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Agenda

4. Continued Business:
    Elections, Representation & Governance
    Committee Straw Poll for the Proposal to
    Amend Senate Bylaws Regarding Senate
    Committee Charges
    (Senate Document #25-26-10) (Information)

Continued Business: ERG Straw Poll for Senate Document #25-26-10 (Information)

- Due to time constraints and the charge deadline the Elections, Representation & Governance (ERG) Committee elected to collect responses and feedback via an anonymous Google form.

- Those responses will be considered at our committee meeting this week.

- Thank you to all Senators for your feedback.

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Discussion

Continued Business:
Elections, Representation & Governance Committee Straw Poll for the Proposal to Amend Senate Bylaws Regarding Senate Committee Charges **(Senate Document #25-26-10)**

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Agenda

5. Jeffrey Hollingsworth, Vice President, Division of Information Technology &
Megan Masters, Director, Academic Technology Experience
Overview of the ADA Title II Regulations on Digital Accessibility: Spring 2026 Updates

Overview of the ADA Title II Regulations on Digital Accessibility

Special Order Presentation
University Senate
February 3, 2026

Jeffrey K. Hollingsworth, PhD, Vice President and Chief Information Officer
Megan C. Masters, PhD, Interim Assistant Vice President, ATI
Division of Information Technology

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

FEARLESSLY FORWARD

Agenda

1 Overview of Title II of the ADA for Digital Accessibility

2 Update on UMD Accessible Technology Policy

3 Update on formation of Digital Accessibility Advisory Committee and Liaison Group

4 Overview of Available Digital Accessibility Training Opportunities and Plan Forward

Title II of the ADA for Digital Accessibility

> Requires public educational institutions to ensure their digital services, programs, and content are fully accessible to individuals with disabilities.

> This includes all public and private content related to:
> - Websites
> - Instructional content
> - Multimedia (video captions & audio descriptions)
> - Documents (PDFs, Word, presentations, spreadsheets, etc.)
> - Software and Mobile Apps
> - Social Media

> Compliance timeline: **April 24, 2026**

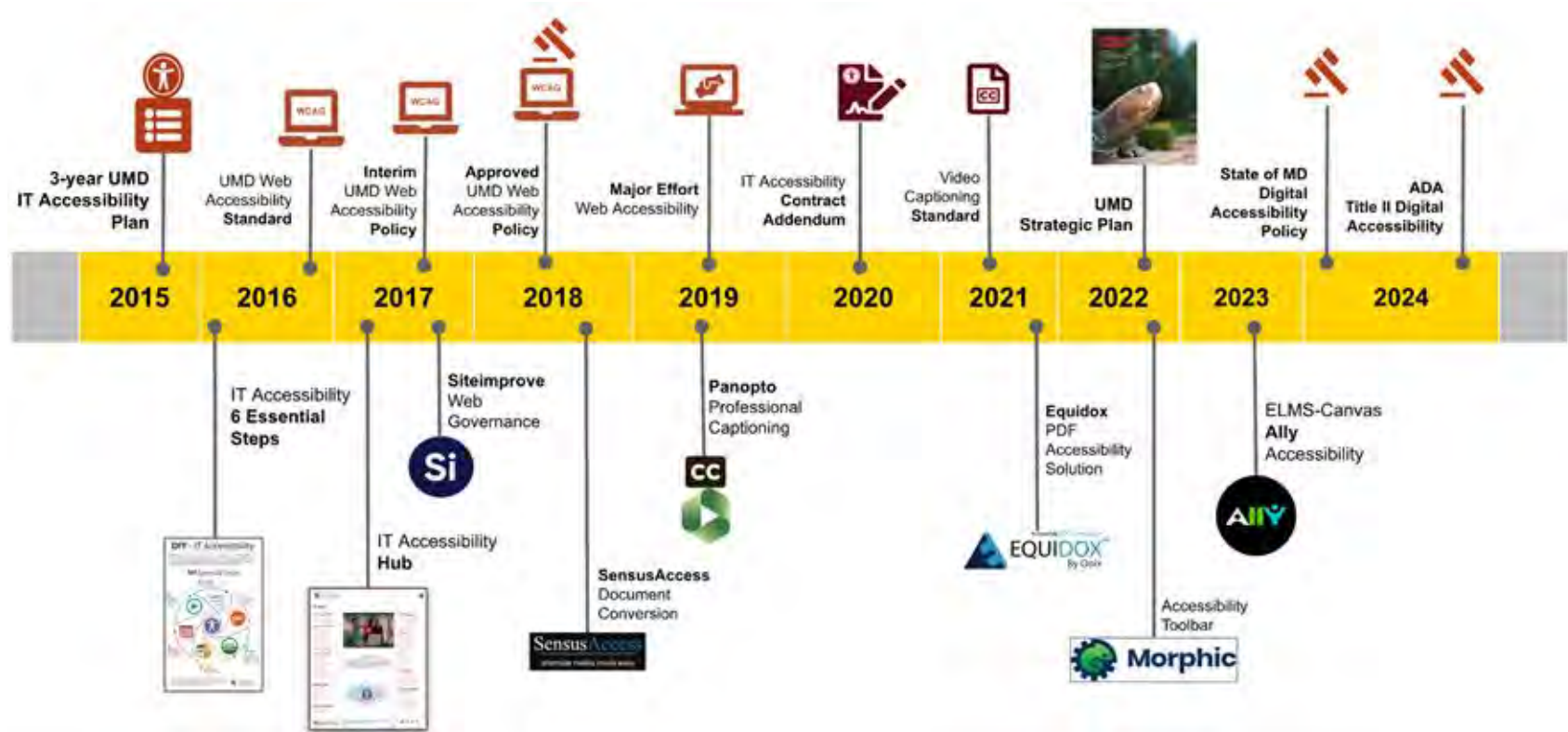> Standard: Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1 and AA

Five Main Exceptions

1   **Archived content:** Content that was created before the compliance deadline and is only used for reference, research, or record-keeping (labeled as archived)

2   **Pre-existing documents:** Electronic documents that were created before the compliance deadline

3   **Third-party content:** Content posted by third parties that are not contracted, licensed, or otherwise arranged for by the public entity.

4   **Individualized documents:** Password-protected documents that are specific to an individual, account, or their property.

5   **Pre-existing social media content:** Social media posts that were created before the compliance deadline
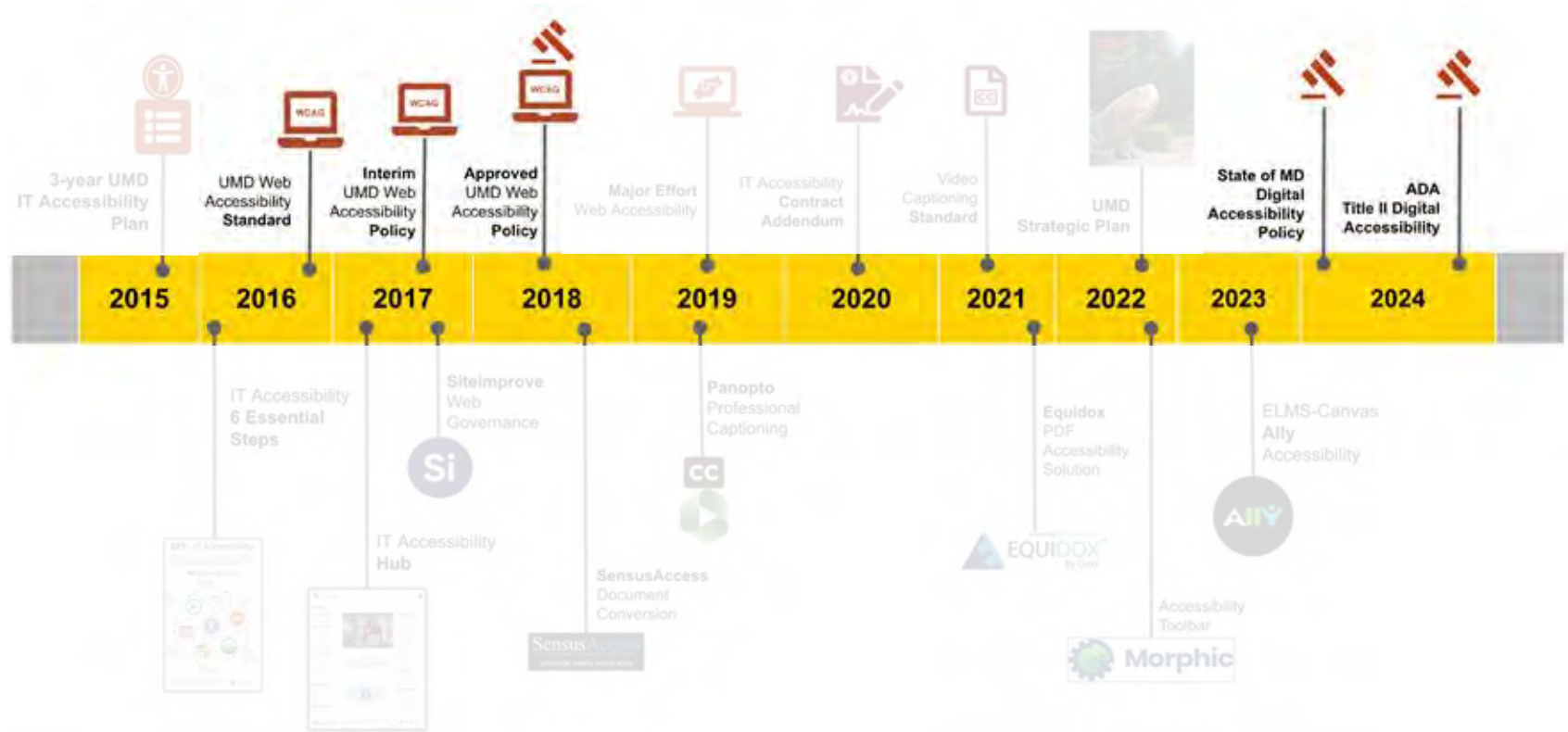
[Fact Sheet: New Rule on the Accessibility of Web Content and Mobile Apps](#)

UMD Digital Accessibility Journey: Standards, Tools and Services

2015 — 3-year UMD IT Accessibility Plan

2016 — UMD Web Accessibility Standard · IT Accessibility 6 Essential Steps · DIT-IT Accessibility

2017 — Interim UMD Web Accessibility Policy · Siteimprove Web Governance (Si) · IT Accessibility Hub

2018 — Approved UMD Web Accessibility Policy · SensusAccess Document Conversion

2019 — Major Effort Web Accessibility · Panopto Professional Captioning (CC)

2020 — IT Accessibility Contract Addendum

2021 — Video Captioning Standard · Equidox PDF Accessibility Solution (EQUIDOX by Onix)

2022 — UMD Strategic Plan · Morphic Accessibility Toolbar

2023 — State of MD Digital Accessibility Policy · ELMS-Canvas Ally Accessibility

2024 — ADA Title II Digital Accessibility

The text version of the Digital Accessibility Journey is available at: go.umd.edu/itaccessibilitytimeline

UMD Digital Accessibility Journey: Standards, Tools and Services

Timeline:

2015 — 3-year UMD IT Accessibility Plan

2016 — UMD Web Accessibility Standard; IT Accessibility 6 Essential Steps

2017 — Interim UMD Web Accessibility Policy; Siteimprove Web Governance (Si); IT Accessibility Hub

2018 — Approved UMD Web Accessibility Policy; SensusAccess Document Conversion

2019 — Major Effort Web Accessibility; Panopto Professional Captioning (CC)

2020 — IT Accessibility Contract Addendum

2021 — Video Captioning Standard

2022 — UMD Strategic Plan; Equidox PDF Accessibility Solution (EQUIDOX); Accessibility Toolbar (Morphic)

2023 — State of MD Digital Accessibility Policy; ELMS-Canvas Ally Accessibility (Ally)

2024 — ADA Title II Digital Accessibility

The text version of the Digital Accessibility Journey is available at: go.umd.edu/itaccessibilitytimeline

To align with the updated Title II of the ADA for Digital Accessibility, UMD's current Accessible Technology Policy requires modification to ensure compliance with updated federal guidelines.

UMD Accessible Technology Policy *(currently under review)*

➤ Policy Number: VI-1.00(E) [University of Maryland Accessible Technology Policy](#) (2017)

➤ All Web-based information newly adopted or redesigned by any university administrative, academic, or programmatic unit on or after the establishment of this policy must be in compliance with the **World Wide Web Consortium's Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG)** **Version 2.1 A and AA** conformance level.

➤ "Web-based information" includes:
- Web pages, web content (hypertext, videos, documents, images, audio files, etc.)
- Web-based applications
- Online instructional content and online services
- Online resources, including those developed by, maintained by, or offered **8** through third-party vendors or open sources

UMD Electronic Information, Communication, and Technology Accessibility Policy *(currently under review)*

➤ An interim policy addressing changes within updated federal regulations was approved by the President on July 25, 2025.

➤ The [IT Council Charged by Senate with Reviewing the updated Accessible Technology Policy](#) (proposed August 11, 2025, IT Council Charged October 6, 2025)

➤ Specifically, the IT Council has been asked to:
1. Review the interim policy and compare UMD's policy to other Big10 and peer institutions
2. Consult relevant UMD community members
3. Consider whether the proposed changes follow and meet federal regulation and propose policy updates or revisions, by January 30, 2026

In parallel, a Digital Accessibility Advisory Committee (DAAC) was created to advise on strategies that align digital accessibility efforts with institutional goals and federal requirements.

Digital Accessibility Advisory Committee

➤ Per the President's Cabinet and Dean's Forum*, formal recommendations were made to establish a **UMD Digital Accessibility Advisory Committee (DAAC).** The committee was established and charged on August 14, 2025 by Jeff Hollingsworth, VP/CIO.

➤ The committee will provide guidance on six strategic areas:
1. Prioritization, Policies, standards, and best practice documents
2. Websites
3. Teaching and Learning - Instructional Content
4. Research
5. Applications and web-based third-party tools
6. Social media

Presented to the Cabinet on 11/19/2024 and the Dean's Forum on 02/03/2025   11

Digital Accessibility Advisory Committee

Milestones and Deliverables

> The committee accomplished the following during the Fall 2025 semester

>> Appointed campus-wide senior-level points of contact to serve as Digital Accessibility Liaisons (30 + members)

>> Published Digital Accessibility Interim Guidelines and Digital Accessibility Guide for Instructors

>> Created and distributed Digital Accessibility planning templates to campus digital accessibility liaisons

>> Created and distributed Digital Accessibility implementation plans and timeline templates for unit-level programs, activities, courses, etc.

>> Distributed campus-wide messaging to all Spring 2026 instructors of record, pointing them to resources, training, and data dashboards

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What can I do now to continue to prepare for the updated ADA regulations by April 24, 2026?

Engage in Digital Accessibility Training

❯ Reach out to your DA Liaison and expand your knowledge by seeking out ongoing training opportunities: Visit it.umd.edu/accessibility/training

❯ Review the Digital Accessibility Guide for Instructors
Visit it.umd.edu/accessibility/digital-accessibility-instructors

❯ Participate in Asynchronous Training Opportunities, including:
1. Basic Principles of IT Accessibility (39 minute webinar, Six Essential Steps)
2. Accessible Course Design (14 minute video overview of Ally, UMD's ELMS-Canvas Accessibility Tool)
3. Document Accessibility (1 hour overview for PDFs using Adobe's Accessibility check, Equidox, and Sensus Access)
4. Web Accessibility (2 hour training for web content producers, editors and managers)

❯ Engage in Upcoming Synchronous Training Opportunities, including:
1. Six Essential Steps for Digital Accessibility (February 11 & 26, 2026)
2. ELMS-Canvas Accessibility Tools (ongoing)
3. Overview of the Ally ELMS-Canvas Accessibility Tool (February 4, 2026)

Develop a plan and document progress

❯ Add Digital Accessibility as a Professional Development (PRD) Goal and include accessibility practices as part of your budget.

❯ Start with new courses, programs, projects, websites, social media, and contracts.

  ❯ By embedding accessibility into new initiatives, units can establish a foundation and gradually extend improvements to existing content over time.

   ❯ For websites, focus on high-traffic, public-facing websites first.

   ❯ For instructional content, focus on:

     ❯ High enrollment, major required, general education courses (e.g., 100+, 200+ students that meet both major and general education requirements).

     ❯ Public-facing courses (Open learning, MOOCs, and free courses).

     ❯ Fully online content, followed by blended and face-to-face courses with available online content.

The Web Accessibility Link has been added to ELMS-Canvas so that any student or instructor can report accessibility

Leverage campus-wide resources

We are stronger together and have numerous campus resources from which to draw, including:

1. The Office of Belonging and Community - Accessibility

2. The Division of IT Digital Accessibility Resources and Training

3. The Teaching and Learning Transformation Center

4. The Maryland Initiative on Digital Accessibility (MIDA)

5. Office of Marketing and Communications

   a. Accessible Media Content

   b. Social Media Content

6. Procurement and Business Services

7. IT Accessibility Best Practice for Researchers

Digital Accessibility Interim Guidelines*

1   **Establish unit liaisons** to coordinate digital accessibility across campus.

2   **Learn about digital accessibility** by reviewing policies and attending training.

3   **Start an inventory** of digital content to understand your digital environment.

4   **Clean up** outdated content using tools such as [TidyUp for ELMS-Canvas](#).

5   **Prioritize efforts with available resources** to establish priority areas.

* The interim guidelines above are currently under review by the DAAC.

What has UMD been doing to support compliance with the updated Title II ADA regulations ?

Fall 2025 Initiatives

1 Increased the number and frequency of digital accessibility training and consultations, hours, and participants (DIT, TLTC, Office of Belonging and Community).

2 Published accessibility dashboards for ELMS-Canvas courses and UMD websites in November 2025.

- List of all UMD websites and ELMS-Canvas courses with accessibility scores
- Updated monthly and shared with Digital Accessibility Liaisons.
- Contains information to help prioritize efforts

3 Added new resources to and redesigned it.umd.edu/accessiblity

- New Digital Accessibility Guide for Instructors
- Redesigned webpage to increase resource use

More trainings and consultations were provided to **more** people in 2025 compared to 2024.

Webinars and In-Person Presentations (aka Trainings)
- 2024: 22
- 2025: 57
- **159% increase**

Trainings Hours Provided
- 2024: 22
- 2025: 83
- **277% increase**

Trainings Participants
- 2024: 76
- 2025: 1,048
- **1,278% increase**

1:1 Consultations with Units and Departments
- 2024: 34
- 2025: 74
- **118% increase**

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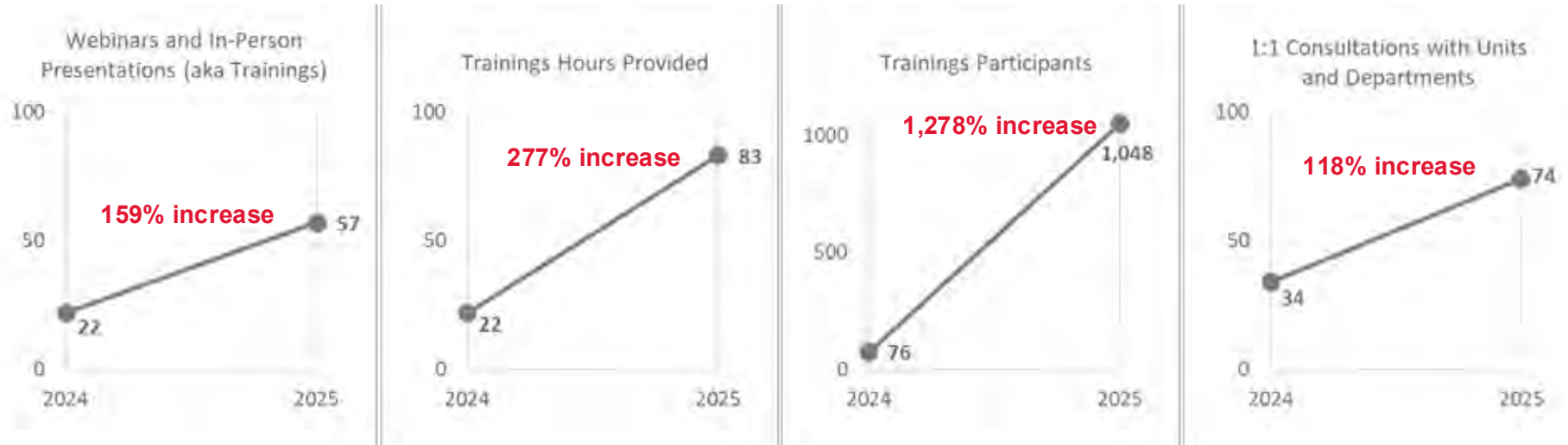
December 11, 2025

Dear Instructors,

The University of Maryland's Strategic Plan reflects a commitment **to taking an inclusive approach to teaching and learning** that enables people of all abilities to reach their full potential. As such, it's important to foster the creation of learning experiences and environments that provide equitable access to information, learning materials, and digital tools to help every student thrive.

Recognizing that digital accessibility is a central university priority, the Division of Information Technology is leading efforts to meet updated legal requirements. This is a valuable opportunity for our campus to transform education in ways that recognize the experiences, strengths and needs of all students.

As you prepare your Spring 2026 courses, please take time to review UMD's **Accessible Technology Policy**, aligned with the **Department of Justice's** new rule on digital accessibility under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, effective on April 24, 2026. Digital accessibility is an explicit expectation under university policy and federal ADA requirements. As instructors, you are responsible for the digital accessibility of your course materials. To support this important campuswide transformation, resources have been developed and more will be added in the future.

Digital accessibility is an ongoing process, not a one-time task

As you prepare for the spring semester, the expectation is that all new course materials are accessible, and that existing materials are remediated over time.

Design *new* course material with accessibility in mind

Whether you are designing a new course or revising an existing one, it's important to prioritize accessibility from the start. The Teaching and Learning Transformation Center (TLTC) has an accessible **ELMS-Canvas template** and offers a virtual coaching series (**Design Sprint**) in January with a **self-paced** alternative to support your inclusive course design process.

Learn about Universal Design for Learning and Digital Accessibility

- Enroll in **a workshop** or **asynchronous** training from TLTC or DIT's Digital Accessibility team. You can also review **digital accessibility training recordings** at your own pace. Topics related to Universal Design for Learning and digital accessibility strategies will help you enhance your course.
- Review self-serve resources in the **Digital Accessibility Guide for Instructors**. It illustrates the **6 Essential Steps** for course-focused strategies such as video captions, heading structure, alternative text, and color contrast principles.

Take steps to make your content accessible

The Division of Information Technology's **Digital Accessibility website** outlines services, tools, and guidance for creating accessible documents, multimedia, ELMS-Canvas content, and other instructional technologies. It is recommended that you prioritize activities that are required for all students (e.g., core readings, slides, ELMS-Canvas pages, assessments, and required videos).

Seek discipline-specific assistance

We recognize that achieving digital accessibility in some courses may be more complex than in others (e.g., courses with equations, diagrams, musical notation, chemistry structures, interactive simulations, etc.). In these situations, we recommend keeping existing resources in place. Begin by prioritizing materials for major assessments, then create a plan for more comprehensive improvements over time. You can also request a **unit- or department-specific session** to address unique challenges and solutions.

Continue supporting students with approved accommodations

UMD's **Accessibility and Disability Service (ADS)** will continue to provide guidance to students with approved accommodations. DIT's Digital Accessibility team and TLTC staff are available to help with instructional questions regarding how to best serve individual students. Should a student with an accommodation contact you with specific digital accessibility needs, these accommodations must be provided promptly, even if other digital accessibility steps are still underway.

Digital accessibility across all campus functions

Lastly, as an instructor, it may also be helpful to familiarize yourself with members of the **Digital Accessibility Advisory Committee** and **Digital Accessibility Liaisons**, who can serve as key points of contact between you, your college or school and the central digital accessibility efforts across campus. These individuals can help you navigate questions, prioritize next steps, and connect with relevant tools, training, and support. Both groups have access to digital accessibility analytics dashboards, which provide key metrics for ELMS-Canvas courses in **Ally** and UMD websites registered on **Siteimprove** and **DIT's Website Registry**. The dashboards are designed to support your unit in advancing accessibility efforts within your area of responsibility. Individuals on both committees can serve as resources in establishing a digital accessibility plan for your course(s).

We appreciate your commitment to inclusive instruction. Your efforts ensure equitable learning experiences for all students and are essential to fulfilling the university's commitment to digital accessibility.
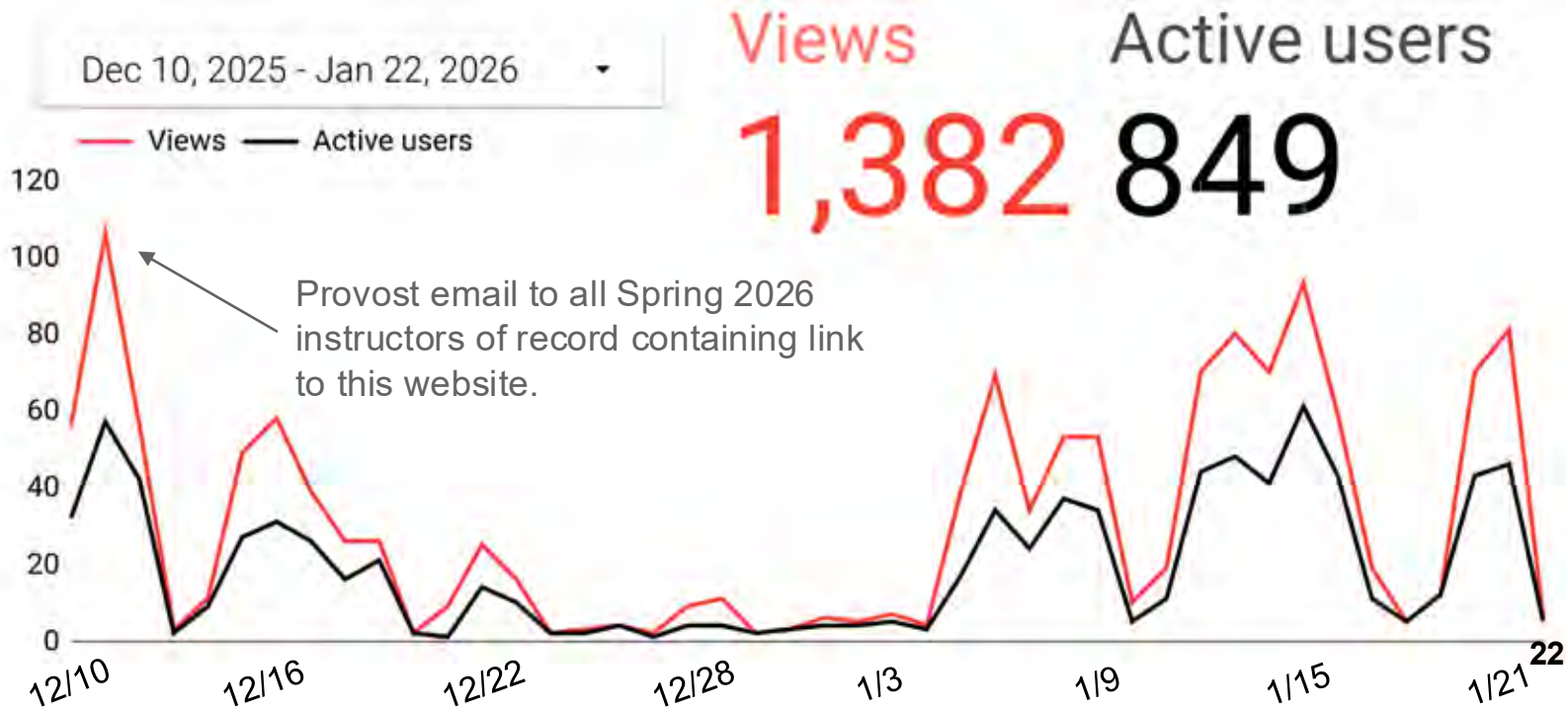
Sincerely,

Jeff Hollingsworth

Jeffrey K. Hollingsworth
Vice President IT & CIO

Jennifer King Rice

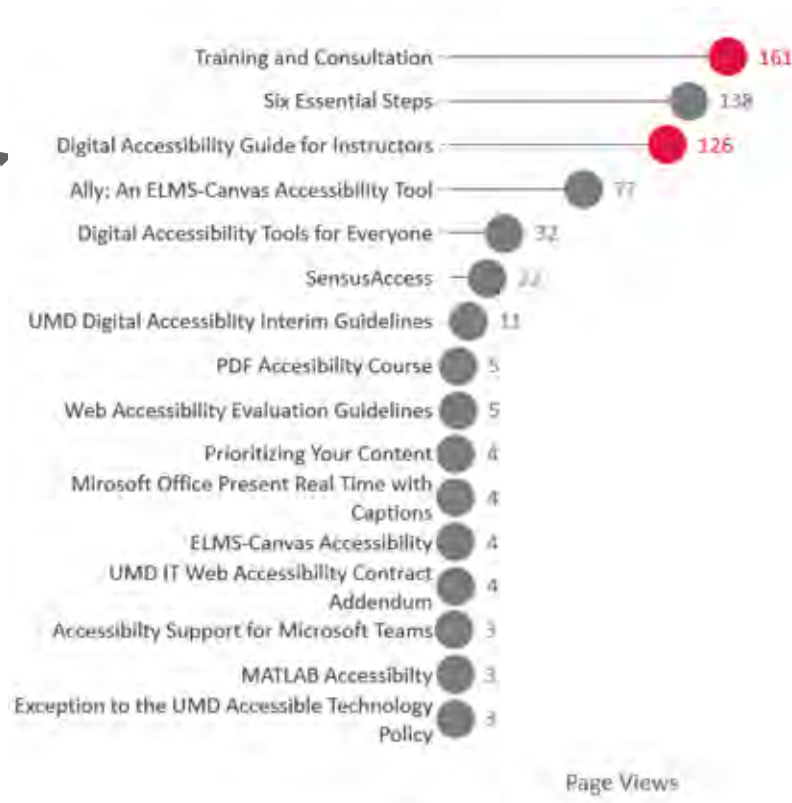**Jennifer King Rice**
Senior Vice President and Provost

Website views spiked on Dec. 11 and have remained steadily high in January.

it.umd.edu/accessibility

Dec 10, 2025 - Jan 22, 2026

— Views — Active users

Views **1,382** Active users **849**

Provost email to all Spring 2026 instructors of record containing link to this website.

The most popular links on the IT Digital Accessibility website help Terps sign up for trainings and guide instructors on accessibility essentials.

New page launched in Fall 2025.

Link	Page Views
Training and Consultation	161
Six Essential Steps	138
Digital Accessibility Guide for Instructors	126
Ally: An ELMS-Canvas Accessibility Tool	77
Digital Accessibility Tools for Everyone	32
SensusAccess	22
UMD Digital Accessiblity Interim Guidelines	11
PDF Accesibility Course	5
Web Accessibility Evaluation Guidelines	5
Prioritizing Your Content	4
Mirosoft Office Present Real Time with Captions	4
ELMS-Canvas Accessibility	4
UMD IT Web Accessibility Contract Addendum	4
Accessibilty Support for Microsoft Teams	3
MATLAB Accessibilty	3
Exception to the UMD Accessible Technology Policy	3

Page Views

January 2026 has been busy too!

Of the **17 hours** worth of campus training provided to **273 enrollees** in January 2026, the **6 Essential Steps** was the most popular training course.
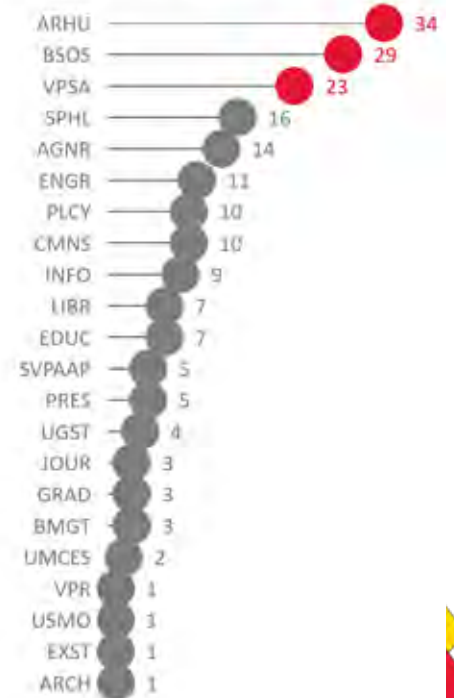
Faculty, staff, and student employees participated in trainings, with **faculty** being the majority of participants.
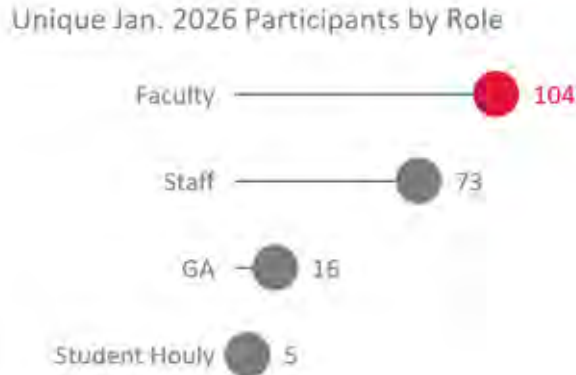
ARHU and **BSOS** had the most participants among academic units, and **VPSA** among administrative.
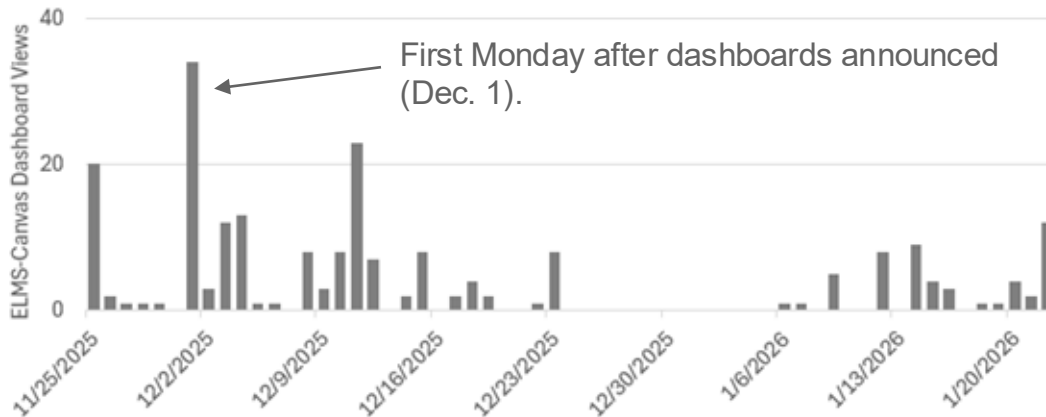
Unique Jan. 2026 Participants by Training Course.

6 Essential Steps	115
ELMS-Canvas Accessibility Tools	69
PDF Basics	63
Ally Overview	20
PDF Beyond Basics	18
Panopto Video Captioning & Audio Description	10

Unique Jan. 2026 Participants by Role

Faculty	104
Staff	73
GA	16
Student Houly	5

Unique Jan. 2026 Participants by Unit

ARHU	34
BSOS	29
VPSA	23
SPHL	16
AGNR	14
ENGR	11
PLCY	10
CMNS	10
INFO	9
LIBR	7
EDUC	7
SVPAAP	5
PRES	5
UGST	4
JOUR	3
GRAD	3
BMGT	3
UMCES	2
VPR	1
USMO	1
EXST	1
ARCH	1

The accessibility dashboards are being viewed consistently.

ELMS-Canvas Courses
Views: 172
Viewers: 42

UMD Websites
Views: 179
Viewers: 44
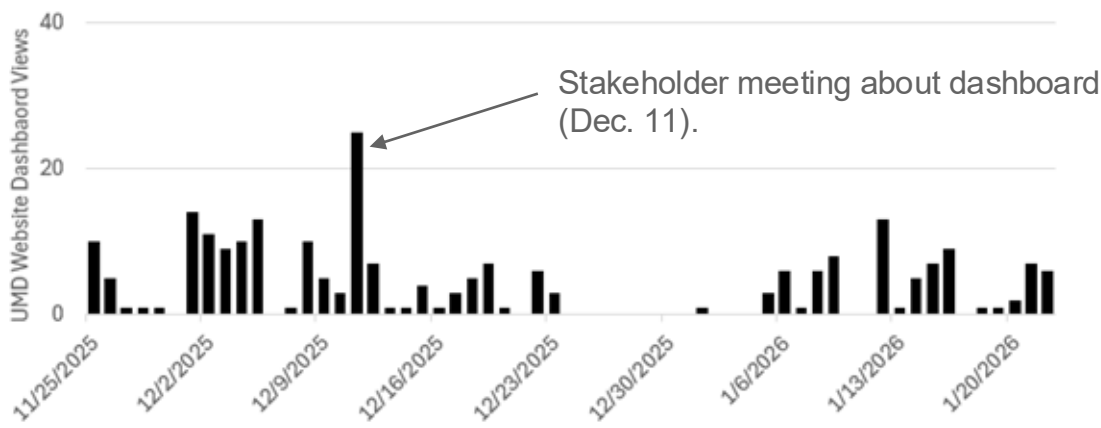
First Monday after dashboards announced (Dec. 1).

Stakeholder meeting about dashboard (Dec. 11).

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ELMS-Canvas Accessibility Dashboard

Course	Number of Students	Number of Sections	Number of ELMS-Canvas Course Spaces	Number of Instructors	Format	Median Overall score	Median Wysiwyg score	Median Files score	Total files	Discussion Topics	Document	Html Page	Image
TEST101	37	10	2	5	Face to Face	8%	100%	5%	4,350	0	158	20	0
	215	10	2	5	Face to Face	50%	92%	42%	1,674	12	437	0	208
	44	1	1	1	N/A	48%	98%	42%	1,374	4	226	2	50
	65	3	2	2	Face to Face	55%	94%	44%	1,340	5	428	0	184
	20	1	1	1	Face to Face	59%	81%	54%	1,311	3	14	8	808
	55	49	2	20	Face to Face, Online, N/A	72%	90%	67%	1,081	21	827	0	89
	19	9	1	6	Face to Face	39%	99%	33%	1,053	0	311	0	103
	16	19	1	4	Face to Face	21%	71%	18%	1,042	1	9	0	538
	30	1	1	1	Face to Face	28%	100%	24%	1,004	1	0	0	8
	34	1	1	1	Face to Face	56%	99%	52%	975	1	117	0	128
	46	97	3	44	Face to Face, Blended Learning	53%	88%	33%	948	4	145	0	176
	51	1	1	1	Face to Face	39%	91%	32%	883	3	30	25	539
	46	1	1	1	N/A	41%	97%	32%	736	0	90	0	14
	18	1	1	1	Online	54%	95%	48%	715	22	397	0	30
	82	2	1	1	Face to Face	27%	84%	23%	712	2	1	1	661
	40	2	1	1	Face to Face	28%	95%	10%	706	22	14	0	110
	189	8	1	1	Face to Face	49%	92%	34%	690	114	37	0	422
	3	1	1	1	Blended Learning	44%	86%	28%	637	17	30	0	293
	29	1	1	1	Face to Face	71%	96%	66%	636	0	120	0	56
	11	1	1	1	Blended Learning	47%	95%	28%	633	14	30	0	293
	8	31	1	6	Face to Face, N/A	36%	95%	28%	600	9	21	0	374

UMD Websites Accessibility Dashboard

URL	Unit	Site Name	Pages	Accessibility Score	Total Visits ...	Number of Issue Categories	Potential Issues
ditisgreat.umd.edu	DIT	DIT's new 2025 website	1466	75.2	18320434	35	12
			14	92.07	11011330	0	3
			1001	85.13	10101454	15	2
			2314	75.06	4496495	26	6
			77	82.44	2965694	14	2
			192	82.21	2781398	8	8
			273	87.55	2502810	13	5
			777	86.38	2239797	10	4
			67	85.6	1849363	14	4
			252	84.57	1837284	13	5
			35	91.06	1458504	6	3
			195	86.08	1327793	12	4
			2162	79.12	1237004	15	5
				Not in Siteimprove	1180930		
				Not in Siteimprove	1171041		
				Not in Siteimprove	936767		
			50	82.34	814904	11	9
			1231	83.63	798548	14	5
			1550	81.38	794030	16	3
			130	84.4	585821	6	6
			73	89.3	568087	7	2
			130	84.4	585821	6	6
			73	89.3	568087	7	2

What should campus leadership do to support UMD's compliance with the updated Title II ADA regulations ?

Spring 2026 Initiatives

- Continue to promote campus understanding of upcoming digital accessibility federal regulations, associated training, data dashboards campus-wide resources.

- Collaborate with members of the DAAC to create a central repository of unit-level digital accessibility implementation plans and associated timelines.

- Analyze file storage patterns using ELMS-Canvas API data, with a specific focus on PDF characterizations (searchable or non-searchable texts, contains images, includes interactive content).

- Complete the procurement of pilot digital accessibility tools to facilitate PDF remediation/accessibility efforts and STEM material (GrackleDocs and MathPix SNIP).

- Engage with campus stakeholders to create a centralized and systematic process for categorizing of any received complaints/lawsuits associated with UMD

Questions

Questions & Answers

Overview of the ADA Title II Regulations on Digital Accessibility: Spring 2026 Updates

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Agenda

6. Courtney Brown, Senior Director, Office of Administrative Services &
Casey Ferraro, Project Manager, Office of Administrative Services
The Purple Line: Advancing from Construction to Testing & Operations

The Purple Line: Advancing from Construction to Testing & Operations

Courtney Brown
Senior Director, Division of Administration

Casey Ferraro
Project Manager, Division of Administration

February 3, 2026

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
FEARLESSLY FORWARD

Agenda

- Overview
- Project Status
- Impacts & Planning
- Questions

Purple Line Overview

Overview

- 16-mile light-rail line from New Carrollton to Silver Spring and Bethesda

- Operated by the Maryland Transit Administration

- System scheduled to be operational in December 2027

Light Rail Shares the Road

- Quiet, electrically powered vehicles

- 15 mph speed limit on campus

Light Rail Serves Other Universities

Purple Line Alignment

Connects 4 Metro Stations, 3 MARC Lines and Amtrak

Benefits

- **Free rides** for students, faculty, staff among the 5 UMD stations
- New **bike lanes** through campus
- **Reduces** the need for **cars**
- Dramatically **improves access** to campus and the surrounding area
- Plays a key role in the Greater College Park initiative to cultivate a **vibrant college town**

Light-Rail Vehicles

- Single 140-foot car

- 431 passengers

- 80 seats

- Low floor for easy boarding

- On-board bicycle storage

Light-Rail Vehicles

Operating Schedule

Hours

- Weekdays - 5 am to midnight Monday through Friday
- Weekends - 7 am to midnight

Frequency

- Every 7.5 minutes during rush hour
- Every 10 minutes during mid-day hours
- Every 15 minutes during off-peak hours (e.g., early morning and late night)

UMD Stations

Adelphi Road-UMGC-UMD

Campus Drive-UMD

Baltimore Avenue-UMD

Riverdale Park North-UMD

College Park-UMD

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Purple Line Art-in-Transit

- Make public art an **integral element** of the project

- Further **enhance** the high-quality **stations**, aesthetic treatments, and landscape designs

- Reflect the character and history of the **surrounding communities**
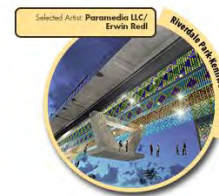
Art-in-Transit
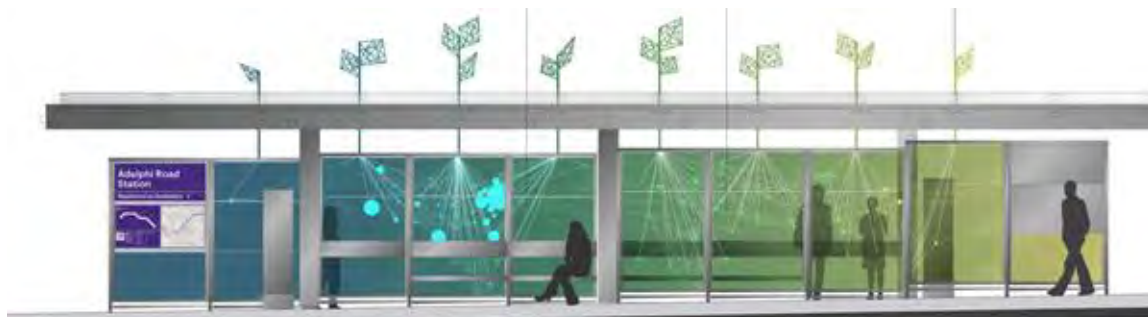
Adelphi Road-UMGC-UMD
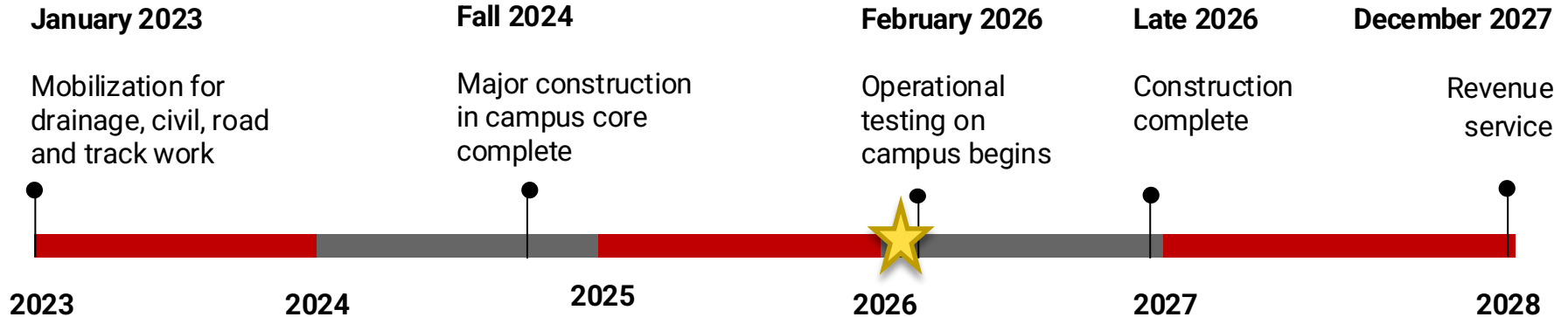
Campus Drive-UMD
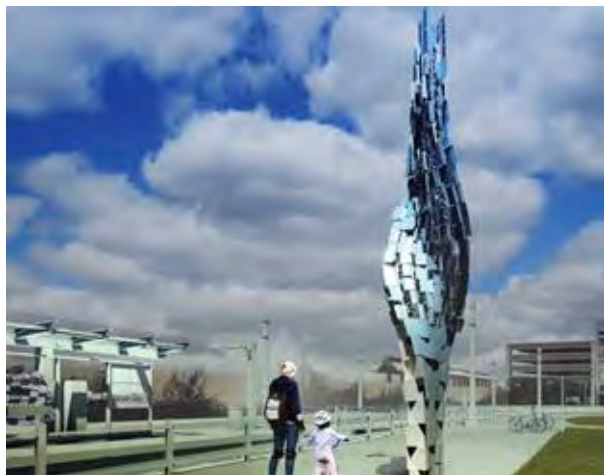
Riverdale Park North-UMD

College Park-UMD

Baltimore Avenue-UMD

Project Status

Project Schedule

January 2023

Mobilization for drainage, civil, road and track work

Fall 2024

Major construction in campus core complete

February 2026

Operational testing on campus begins

Late 2026

Construction complete

December 2027

Revenue service

2023   2024   2025   2026   2027   2028

Construction Progress

[Maryland Transit Administration's Fall 2025 Purple Line Progress Update Video](#)

Project Impacts & Planning

Managing Impacts

Leadership Groups

- ○ UMD Purple Line Executive Oversight Group

- ○ UMD Purple Line Work Group
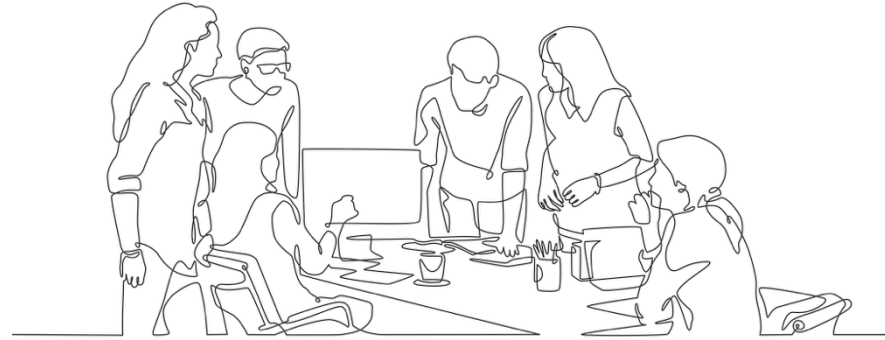
Light-Rail Vehicle Testing

- Scheduled to start mid- to late-February
- Initial testing from 10 pm to 6 am with periodic traffic stoppages for up to 15 minutes
- Campus communications
- First responder training
- Worker safety program led by ESSR and FM
  - 20-minute UMD training video
  - Safe Work Plan
  - Informational webpage

Safety & Security

Safety

- 15 mph speed limit through campus
- Bollard and chain fencing in busiest areas
- New bike lanes so micromobility riders can stay off the road
- Light-rail vehicles follow all traffic laws
- Federal Transit Administration safety procedures

Security

- Agreement between Maryland Transit Administration Police and UMPD
- Enhanced security measures (including cameras and frequent patrols)

SPEED LIMIT 15

Precautions for Overhead Wires & Rails

Overhead Catenary Wires

- Completely safe at ground level
- Never get near them with any tall objects, such as a ladder
- Never throw anything on the lines
- Call 911 for downed wires

Rails

- Micromobility riders should use bike paths where available and use caution when traveling near tracks
- Micromobility riders and wheelchair users should cross the tracks at a 90-degree angle

Impacts to Traffic

- Three **new traffic signals** will facilitate future light-rail vehicle traffic

- Initial traffic modelling showed **no significant impacts** on pedestrian or vehicle travel times

- As is the case now, there will be traffic delays during **class change**

- **Operational testing** will identify any issues so they can be addressed prior to operations

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Traffic Pattern in Campus Core
Summer 2026 (est.)

Campus Drive
One-Way Westbound Traffic
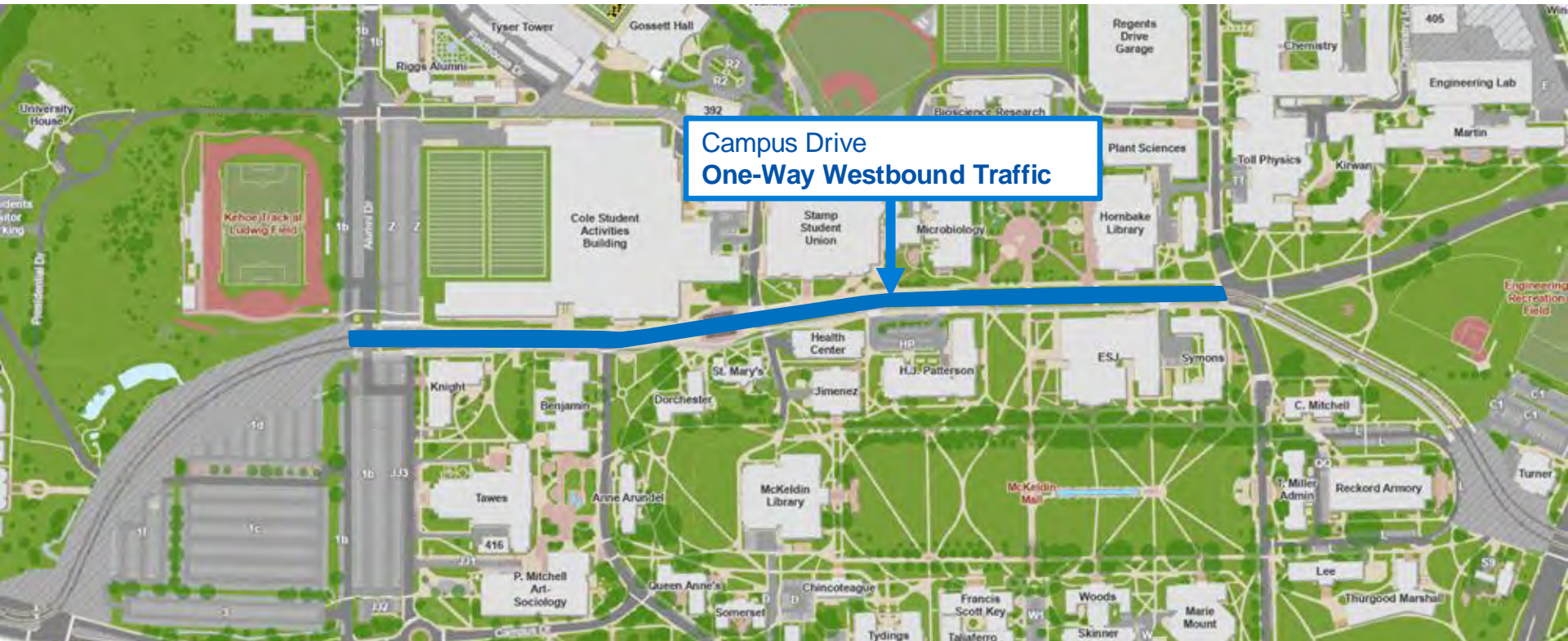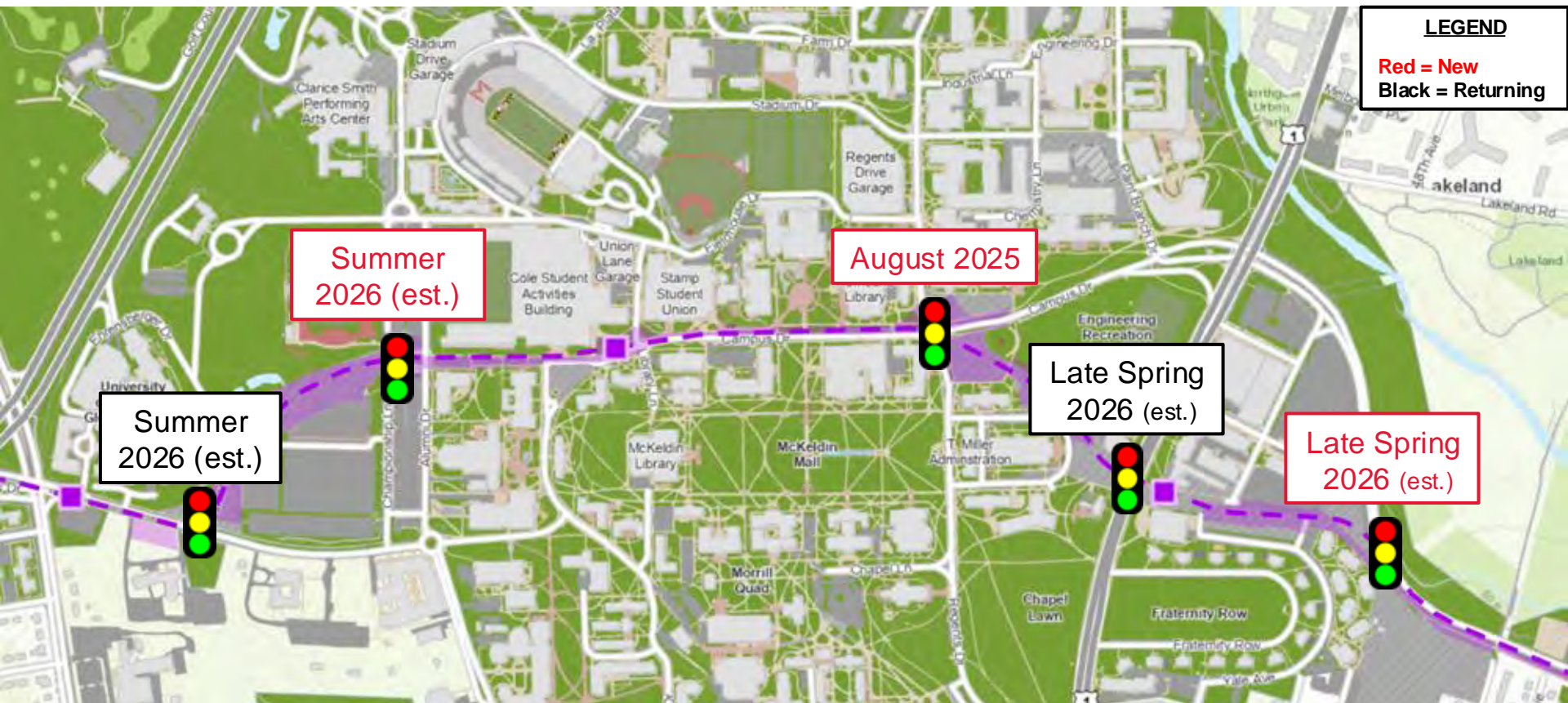
Stay Up to Date

- Sign up for construction notices at purplelinemd.com

- Web: umd.edu/purpleline

- Email: purpleline@umd.edu

- Text alerts for those subscribed
  - Text the keyword "UMDPURPLE" (not case sensitive) to 888777

- Campus email, Maryland Today, social media posts

Questions

Traffic Signals on Campus

Questions & Answers

***The Purple Line:
Advancing from Construction to Testing & Operations***

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Agenda

7.   Updates to the 2021 Plan of Organization Review Committee Slate (Senate Document #21-22-27) (Action)

Updates to the 2021 Plan of Organization Review Committee Slate (Senate Document #21-22-27) (Action)

- The Plan of Organization Review Committee (PORC) reviews the Plan of Organization for Shared Governance at least once every 10 years.

- The University Senate and President approved the original committee slate in December 2021; PORC convened in 2022.

- PORC suspended its work in Fall 2022 due to staff transitions in the University Senate Office.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Updates to the 2021 Plan of Organization Review Committee Slate (Senate Document #21-22-27) (Action)

- The Senate Executive Committee (SEC) proposes an updated committee slate so that PORC may resume its work.

- The SEC contacted all eligible members of the original slate; 7 of 21 members agreed to continue serving.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Updates to the 2021 Plan of Organization Review Committee Slate (Senate Document #21-22-27) (Action)

- Following Article 6.3(c) of the Plan, the SEC solicited nominations to fill the remaining seats from the following constituencies:

  a. Dean of each College/School/Library with a vacant position
  b. Senate Faculty, Staff, and Student Affairs Committees
  c. Presidents of the Student Government Association and the Graduate Student Government
  d. Senior Vice President and Provost
  e. Vice President for Student Affairs

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Updates to the 2021 Plan of Organization Review Committee Slate (Senate Document #21-22-27) (Action)

- The Senate Executive Committee (SEC) moves that the Senate approve the updated slate as presented.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Discussion

**Updates to the 2021 Plan of Organization Review Committee Slate
(Senate Document #21-22-27) (Action)**

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Updates to the 2021 Plan of Organization Review Committee Slate (Senate Document #21-22-27)

A. In Favor

B. Opposed

C. Abstain

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Agenda

8.   PCC Proposal to Modify the Master of Public Health - Add Area of Concentration in Health Literacy and Public Health Communication (Senate Document 25-26-37) (Action)

PCC Proposal to Modify the Master of Public Health - Add Area of Concentration in Health Literacy and Public Health Communication (Senate Document 25-26-37)

- PCC Proposal to Modify the Master of Public Health - Add Area of Concentration in Health Literacy and Public Health Communication (PCC 25041)

- The School of Public Health's Department of Behavioral and Community Health proposes to modify the Master of Public Health (MPH) by adding a new Area of Concentration in Health Literacy and Public Health Communication.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

PCC Proposal to Modify the Master of Public Health - Add Area of Concentration in Health Literacy and Public Health Communication (Senate Document 25-26-37)

- Areas of Concentration are formal course sequences focused on specific topics within an existing degree program. They require external approval by the Maryland Higher Education Commission and the University System of Maryland.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

PCC Proposal to Modify the Master of Public Health - Add Area of Concentration in Health Literacy and Public Health Communication (Senate Document 25-26-37)

- The 45-credit MPH model consists of a core set of courses of 14-15 credits and remaining coursework focused on the concentration's subject area.

- The School of Public Health has nine existing MPH Areas of Concentration in areas such as community health, environmental health, epidemiology, biostatistics, health policy, health care management, and physical activity.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

PCC Proposal to Modify the Master of Public Health - Add Area of Concentration in Health Literacy and Public Health Communication (Senate Document 25-26-37)

- MPH concentrations are offered in both in-person and online modalities. The proposed concentration will also be offered in both formats.

- The proposed concentration in Health Literacy and Public Health Communication will train students in the theory, methods, and application of health literacy and health communication for public health information, messages, materials, and campaigns.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

PCC Proposal to Modify the Master of Public Health - Add Area of Concentration in Health Literacy and Public Health Communication (Senate Document 25-26-37)

- As with other MPH concentrations, students will take a 14-credit core sequence that includes courses in public health, epidemiology and biostatistics, data science, program and policy development, ethics, and leadership; Students must also complete an experiential requirement.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

PCC Proposal to Modify the Master of Public Health - Add Area of Concentration in Health Literacy and Public Health Communication (Senate Document 25-26-37)

- The specific coursework for this concentration includes courses in public health communication, health literacy, health behavior, public health research, and public health informatics.

- All of the core courses and multiple concentration courses are already offered to students in existing MPH concentrations.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

PCC Proposal to Modify the Master of Public Health - Add Area of Concentration in Health Literacy and Public Health Communication (Senate Document 25-26-37)

- As a result, many of the instructional and administrative resources to launch and operate the concentration are already in place.

- Tuition revenue will be used to cover new costs associated with the program.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

PCC Proposal to Modify the Master of Public Health - Add Area of Concentration in Health Literacy and Public Health Communication (Senate Document 25-26-37)

- The proposal was approved by the Senate Programs, Curricula, and Courses Committee at its meeting on November 7, 2025.

- The Program, Curricula, and Courses Committee moves that the proposal to modify the Master of Public Health - Add Area of Concentration in Health Literacy and Public Health Communication be approved.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Discussion

PCC Proposal to Modify the Master of Public Health - Add Area of Concentration in Health Literacy and Public Health Communication (Senate Document 25-26-37)

UNIVERSITY SENATE

PCC Proposal to Modify the Master of Public Health - Add Area of Concentration in Health Literacy and Public Health Communication (Senate Document 25-26-37)

A. In Favor

B. Opposed

C. Abstain

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Agenda

9. Interim University of Maryland Consulting Policy, II-3.10(E) (Senate Documents #22-23-13 and #25-26-08)(Action)

Interim University of Maryland Consulting Policy, II-3.10(E) (Senate Documents #22-23-13 and #25-26-08)

- The Research Council was charged with reviewing the interim Consulting Policy in November 2022.

- It reviewed the charge from 2022 through Spring 2025, reviewing first the original interim policy and then the second interim policy in Spring 2025.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Interim University of Maryland Consulting Policy, II-3.10(E) (Senate Documents #22-23-13 and #25-26-08)

- The Consulting Policy was created in 2022 to respond to changes in the federal government's approach to federal research funding caused by:

  - The 2021 National Security Presidential Memorandum known as NSPM-33 on U.S. research & development; and
  - Related new rules and policies from federal agencies.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Interim University of Maryland Consulting Policy, II-3.10(E) (Senate Documents #22-23-13 and #25-26-08)

- The Research Council understood from its review of the legal framework that:
  - The University must have a policy that is in full compliance with federal and state laws, policies, regulations, and funding agency guidelines; and
  - The University has a responsibility to protect its researchers from False Claims Act allegations.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Interim University of Maryland Consulting Policy, II-3.10(E) (Senate Documents #22-23-13 and #25-26-08)

- The Research Council consulted with a wide range of key stakeholders and campus community members to gather feedback, and it partnered with the Division of Research to hold over 20 presentations campuswide on the new policy.

- In Spring 2024, the Research Council made decisions on a series of items reflected in the charge and in the feedback it received.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Interim University of Maryland Consulting Policy, II-3.10(E) (Senate Documents #22-23-13 and #25-26-08)

- In Summer 2024, the Division of Research determined that the policy urgently needed to be updated due to new federal laws, regulations, and funding agency requirements.

- The Division developed the second interim version of the Consulting Policy, and it incorporated the decisions that had already been made by the Research Council into the policy before it was approved.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Interim University of Maryland Consulting Policy, II-3.10(E) (Senate Documents #22-23-13 and #25-26-08)

- There were a number of substantive issues addressed by the Research Council's review.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Interim University of Maryland Consulting Policy, II-3.10(E) (Senate Documents #22-23-13 and #25-26-08)

- The Research Council reviewed the impacts of new federal requirements, updated guidance on Maryland State Ethics Law, and changes in implementation with the introduction of the inTERP system, to better understand how each should be reflected in the policy.

  - The language of the policy is very precise due to legal requirements and was carefully crafted to mirror language used at the federal and state levels.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Interim University of Maryland Consulting Policy, II-3.10(E) (Senate Documents #22-23-13 and #25-26-08)

- The Research Council determined who should be affected by the policy.

    - The Research Council determined that employees with appointments of 50% FTE and above should be allowed to engage in consulting, with the number of days available prorated to their percentage of appointment.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Interim University of Maryland Consulting Policy, II-3.10(E) (Senate Documents #22-23-13 and #25-26-08)

- Those with appointments of under 50% FTE should not be subject to the policy, but they are subject to the COI/COC Policy.

- Non-exempt staff were previously not required to submit disclosures, so including them in the Consulting Policy would create a new burden.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Interim University of Maryland Consulting Policy, II-3.10(E) (Senate Documents #22-23-13 and #25-26-08)

- Non-exempt staff often have secondary employment that would fall into the definition of consulting, but these activities don't pose the same risks for conflicts of commitment for the University.

- The Research Council decided to exclude non-exempt staff from the policy, so that they are allowed to engage in activities that may be defined as consulting without limitations.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Interim University of Maryland Consulting Policy, II-3.10(E) (Senate Documents #22-23-13 and #25-26-08)

- Graduate students were also excluded from the policy (unless they are funded on a federal award), as the Research Council felt their ability to engage in activities defined as consulting should not be limited by the policy.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Interim University of Maryland Consulting Policy, II-3.10(E) (Senate Documents #22-23-13 and #25-26-08)

- The Research Council addressed banking of consulting days and professional service.
  - The Research Council agreed with the feedback it heard that banking of consulting days should be allowed.

  - The policy now states that banking is allowed with approval of the unit head, in order to balance the community's desire for more flexibility with the need to ensure unit-level obligations are being met.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Interim University of Maryland Consulting Policy, II-3.10(E) (Senate Documents #22-23-13 and #25-26-08)

- The Research Council addressed banking of consulting days and professional service.
  - The Research Council agreed with the feedback it heard that banking of consulting days should be allowed. The policy now states that banking is allowed with approval of the unit head, in order to balance the community's desire for more flexibility with the need to ensure unit-level obligations are being met.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Interim University of Maryland Consulting Policy, II-3.10(E) (Senate Documents #22-23-13 and #25-26-08)

- Consulting and professional service vary widely across fields, so it would be impossible to create one standard that could be applied throughout the University.

- Instead, the Research Council decided that the Unit Head should decide what constitutes professional service for their discipline.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Interim University of Maryland Consulting Policy, II-3.10(E) (Senate Documents #22-23-13 and #25-26-08)

- On May 5th, 2025, the Research Council voted unanimously that it has met all elements of its charge and no further revisions to the policy are needed.

- The Research Council unanimously recommends that no further changes be made to the second interim University of Maryland Consulting Policy, and that it be finalized as approved. As a result, the Senate Documents for #22-23-13 and #25-26-08 should be closed.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Discussion

Interim University of Maryland Consulting Policy, II-3.10(E) (Senate Documents #22-23-13 and #25-26-08) (Action)

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Interim University of Maryland Consulting Policy, II-3.10(E) (Senate Documents #22-23-13 and #25-26-08)

A. In Favor

B. Opposed

C. Abstain

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Agenda

10. Special Committee on Policy
    Review Report
    (Senate Document #24-25-21)
    (Action)

Special Committee on Policy Review Report (Senate Document #24-25-21)

- During the last University of Maryland (UMD) accreditation review, one of the concerns raised was the absence of a formal process for reviewing older policies to ensure their relevance and currency.

- To address this, the Senate formed a special committee to start the process and assess the need for a permanent committee.

- The committee was formed in Spring, 2025, and was charged with reviewing UMD policies, identifying those needing updates or elimination, and delivering a final report to the Senate by January 2026.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Special Committee on Policy Review Report (Senate Document #24-25-21)

- The Special Committee on Policy Review moves that the report be accepted and that a new standing Committee on Policy Review be established.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Discussion

**Special Committee on Policy Review Report
(Senate Document #24-25-21) (Action)**

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Special Committee on Policy Review Report (Senate Document #24-25-21)

A. In Favor

B. Opposed

C. Abstain

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Agenda

11.   New Business
12.   Adjournment

Thank you for attending!