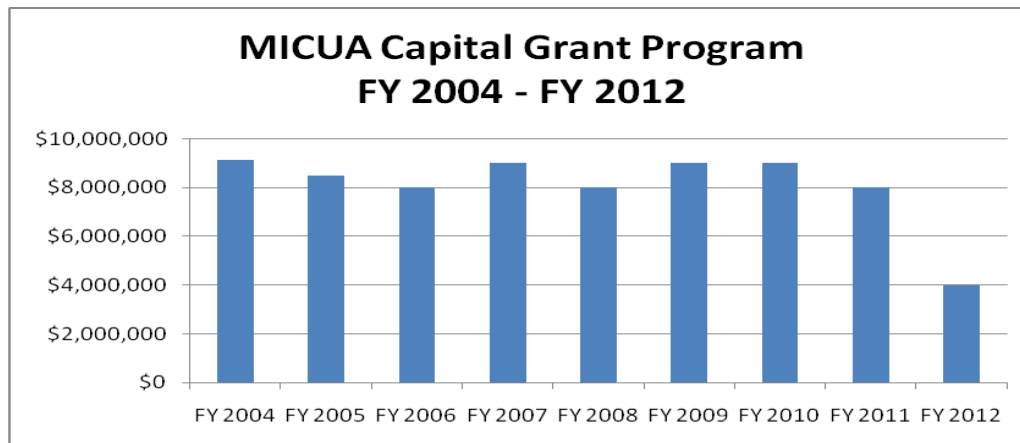


**Testimony by
Tina M. Bjarekull, President
Maryland Independent College and University Association**

**Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Capital Budget Subcommittee
March 18, 2011**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today in support of capital grants for construction and renovation projects at Johns Hopkins University, Maryland Institute College of Art, Mount St. Mary's University, and Washington College. The Governor included \$4 million in his fiscal 2012 capital budget for the MICUA capital grant program. For the previous eight years, the General Assembly has appropriated \$8-9 million for the MICUA Capital Grant Program. The Governor's allowance represents a drastic reduction in State support for capital construction and renovation projects at MICUA member institutions.



MICUA's original request for fiscal 2012 was \$13 million for four capital projects. Due to subsequent developments, MICUA has revised its request to \$10 million. With the support of the MICUA Board of Trustees, MICUA is requesting to de-authorize two capital projects authorized by the Maryland General Assembly in the 2009 session:

- \$2.5 million for the Capitol College to construct the Innovation and Leadership Institute; and
- \$3 million for Baltimore International College to renovate a former elementary school into a culinary arts center.

Major donors for these two projects have withdrawn their gifts due to changes in their financial positions. Capitol College and Baltimore International College would like to delay these projects until they identify new donors. MICUA is requesting that the General Assembly de-authorize these projects and use the previously authorized debt to help fund the MICUA Capital Grant Program for fiscal 2012.

MICUA would appreciate the General Assembly's support to fund these four projects as follows:

- \$4 million allocated in the Governor's Capital Budget Bill;
- \$5.5 million through the de-authorization of the two projects identified above; and
- \$500,000 in additional capital authorizations.

The four capital projects endorsed by the MICUA Board of Trustees for fiscal 2012 are:

- Johns Hopkins University—\$3 million for a 42,500 square foot addition to the Milton S. Eisenhower Library to provide space for group study, teaching, and research;
- Maryland Institute College of Art—\$3 million to renovate the six-story 120,000 square foot Studio Center to expand its graduate programs;
- Mount St. Mary's University—\$1.5 million for the renovation of 20,000 square feet on two floors of Bradley Hall to provide additional classrooms and faculty offices, as well as accessible space for the University's archives; and
- Washington College—\$2.5 million for the renovation of the 40,000 square foot Clifton M. Miller Library to provide space for group study, instructional technology, and the College's archives.

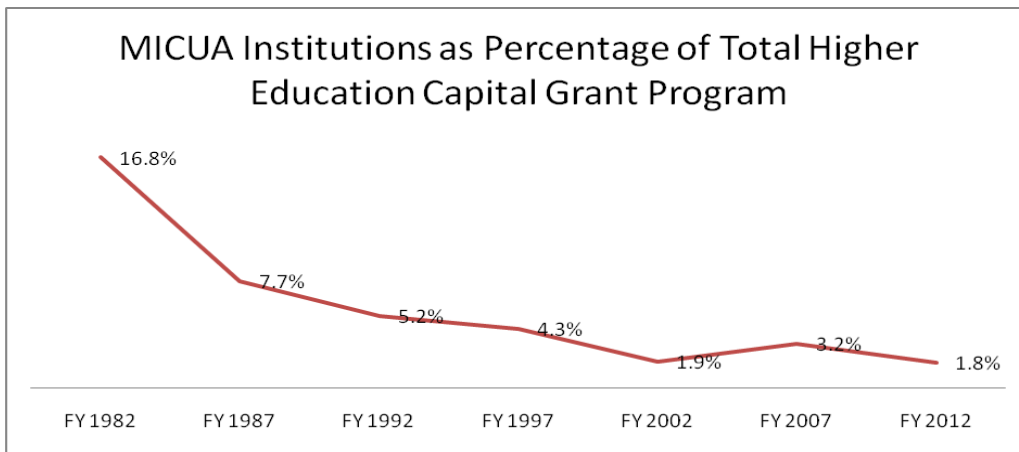
All four MICUA projects are directly related to the academic missions of the institutions and support capital improvements of buildings used for instruction. Furthermore, the projects are aligned with the State's goals for higher education, meet the eligibility requirements established by the Department of Budget and Management, and comply with MICUA's internal guidelines, which are used to establish priorities in bringing capital project requests to the State.

The MICUA Board of Trustees has unanimously endorsed the fiscal 2012 MICUA capital grant projects. On behalf of the Board, I urge the General Assembly to fully fund these four projects, which will leverage private resources and create jobs in the immediate future and prepare students for future employment. For every \$1 million in State capital support, MICUA institutions attract \$4 million in capital investments, contributing to job growth and economic recovery.

The State's investment in the capital infrastructure of Maryland's independent colleges and universities contributes to an efficient and effective system of higher education.

With the State's support, MICUA member institutions are better able to accommodate enrollment growth, address workforce needs, support a vibrant economy, and provide choice and opportunity for Maryland's citizens.

On a relative basis, State support for capital projects at independent colleges and universities has declined over the past thirty years. **Based on the Governor's capital budget, MICUA institutions will receive only about 1.8% of all State capital funds for higher education, significantly less than the amount provided historically.**



In closing, I urge the Committee to fully fund the MICUA capital grant request of \$10 million for fiscal 2012. I am pleased to introduce the institutional representatives who are available to answer questions about the MICUA capital projects included in the Governor's fiscal 2012 capital budget:

- Dr. Fred Lazarus IV, President, Maryland Institute College of Art
- Dr. Thomas Powell, President, Mount St. Mary's University
- Dr. Mitchell Reiss, President, Washington College
- Mr. Winston Tabb, Dean of University Libraries and Museums, Johns Hopkins University

Thank you for your past support of the MICUA capital grant program. We sincerely appreciate our partnership with the State of Maryland and value your leadership.