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

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of three capital construction and renovation projects at MICUA institutions. The Governor’s fiscal 2017 capital budget provides $8 million for these three projects. MICUA respectfully requests $9.6 million, equivalent to our fiscal 2016 capital funding, to allow these projects to move forward quickly. These three projects are: Capitol Technology University’s Living and Learning Center ($1.6 million); Johns Hopkins University’s renovation of Macaulay Hall ($4 million); and Maryland Institute College of Art’s Dolphin Building project ($4 million).

These are excellent academic projects that are well-aligned with the goals identified in the Maryland State Plan for Postsecondary Education. The State’s investment will leverage more than $46 million in private resources and support more than 400 new jobs, contributing to Maryland’s economic vitality.

Each year, the MICUA Capital Projects Committee reviews all capital budget requests proposed by its member institutions to determine project readiness, the institution’s ability to meet the State’s matching requirement, and overall compliance with State and MICUA rules. Four member institutions submitted fiscal 2017 capital grant requests to the Committee. After careful review, the Committee recommended that the MICUA Board of Trustees endorse three capital projects. Given the capital needs of our campuses, we believe MICUA’s fiscal 2017 capital request is reasonable.

All three capital projects endorsed by the MICUA Board are directly related to the academic missions of the individual institutions and support the construction or renovation of buildings used for instruction and research. Further, these projects augment the State’s higher education agenda, meet eligibility requirements established by the Department of Budget and Management, and comply with MICUA’s more stringent criteria for endorsement.

The Department of Legislative Services analysis notes that MICUA often receives more funding than the amount proposed when the capital budget is
introduced. Over the past five years, the MICUA Capital Grant Program has been funded between $9 million and $11 million annually, with an average of $10 million. DLS has asked MICUA to brief the committee on projects currently in the pipeline to which additional funding could be directed. Through MICUA’s five-year capital planning process, the following future projects have been identified, totaling $278 million:

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Maryland’s independent colleges and universities require these capital investments to accommodate increased student enrollment, address workforce needs, attract research dollars, support a vibrant economy, and provide choice and opportunity for Maryland’s citizens. The State’s partnership with its independent colleges and universities has proven to be highly effective and efficient.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the MICUA Capital Grant Program. We sincerely appreciate our partnership with the State of Maryland and value your leadership.
House Appropriations Committee  
Capital Budget Subcommittee  
March 16, 2016

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Thank you for your ongoing support of the MICUA Capital Grant Program. We sincerely appreciate our partnership with the State of Maryland and value your leadership.
Honorable Delegates,

I am pleased and honored to offer testimony in support of the MICUA Capital Projects contained within the proposed capital budget for FY 2017, and specifically for the Living and Learning Center (LLC) being proposed by Capitol Technology University. All three MICUA projects enhance the academic infrastructures of the residential campuses of our distinguished private, independent colleges and universities.

The Capitol LLC is a combined facility housing residential quarters and academic technology laboratories, so that students can live and work in the same immediate environment and enjoy the benefits of the practical, hands-on education on which we pride ourselves at Capitol. The state's capital budget is being asked to only support the appropriate portion of the academic facility. The residential component will be financed separately by private banks or developers.

The matching funds of $1,675,350 will be drawn from the university's liquid reserve account currently approved by the board and held for that purpose.

The academic laboratories will expand the facilities for our new and continuing academic programs in engineering, computer science, and cybersecurity. Our growing undergraduate enrollments require additional space to live and study, and to practice technical disciplines. The laboratories will expand our cyber battle lab capabilities, host programs in electrical and energy engineering; and provide space for the mobile computing and gaming program, along with student-faculty meeting and study areas.

Our last new-construction project was the McGowan Academic Center, in 2005, which has greatly enhanced our activities and reputation in astronomical engineering, cybersecurity and related areas. We have been "squeezing" new laboratory functions into that space, and now need both additional space and new technologies to properly engage students and faculty in their engineering and technology pursuits.

On behalf of Capitol's students, faculty, leadership team, President and Board of Trustees, I thank you for your support of our capital project.
Testimony to the House Capital Budget Subcommittee
Mary E. Clapsaddle, Director of State Affairs
March 16, 2016

On behalf of Johns Hopkins University, thank you for recognizing that capital support for the state’s independent colleges and universities is a wise investment that benefits all of Maryland. We are very grateful for the Maryland General Assembly’s steadfast support of the MICUA capital grant program.

Johns Hopkins’ FY 2017 request of $4 million is for a capital project to renovate Macaulay Hall. This half-century-old research facility will be transformed into a more efficient, flexible and robust educational resource to support the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences (KSAS). The attached brochure fully describes the project; highlights are delineated below.

KSAS is Johns Hopkins University’s core academic division, enrolling a majority of the undergraduate students. Comprised of 22 departments and 33 centers, programs, and institutes, KSAS offers a total of 600 majors and is home to students interested in the arts, humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences. The School’s mission is discovery: the creation of new knowledge through research and scholarship, and the education of our students, undergraduate and graduate alike.

Macaulay Hall is located amid the KSAS core natural science facilities. In its current state the 51-year-old facility is functionally inadequate with a layout premised on rigid laboratory design principles prevalent in the early 1960’s. Its functional obsolescence has rendered the building unusable for research and instruction; more than 7,500 square feet of obsolete lab space is currently vacant. While the space in the building has been modified over the years to adapt to programmatic needs, the infrastructure has remained essentially unchanged, has been pushed beyond its useful life, and is in need of renewal.

Estimated to cost $30 million, the renovation will generate 20,500 NASF of modern laboratory space. The additional research space to house eight primary investigators and their teams will stabilize and improve the overall ratio of students to full-time tenure-track faculty. The research conducted in this facility will potentially provide employment and expertise to more than 50 highly-educated and skilled scientific researchers, strengthening Maryland’s knowledge economy. The project will support the recruitment of world-class interdisciplinary scholars through the University’s Bloomberg Distinguished Professorship (BDP) program. Flexible, technology-rich lab space is critical to the successful recruitment and retention of BDPs. JHU anticipates that at least half of the BDPs will have homes in the KSAS; 3 of the 8 laboratories in Macaulay Hall are planned to house BDPs. Macaulay Hall will also host an electron microscopy suite, which will provide centrally-located expansion of the Integrated Imaging Center, a core facility that serves the entire Johns Hopkins University community as well as members of the Baltimore Research and Development community.

In today’s extraordinarily competitive environment, inadequately used or vacated laboratory space limits the productivity of investigators and present a threat to the School’s ability to thrive. Renovation will increase the building’s flexibility by rearranging its spatial layout, accommodating lab groups ranging in size from five to as many as twenty researchers. Modernizing the building’s infrastructure and removing hard partitions that “silo” conventional labs, will transform Macaulay into a highly flexible, well-equipped lab facility that supports interdisciplinary collaboration. The renovation will support KSAS’ mission of collaborative discovery by improving the student-to-instructor ratio in Chemistry, Biophysics, Neuroscience, and Psychological and Brain Sciences.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of our request for a $4 million MICUA capital grant to assist in the renovation of John Hopkins University’s Macaulay Hall.
Sara Benninghoff Warren
Executive Director, Corporate, Foundation and Government & Major Gifts
Maryland Institute College of Art

Testimony to the House Capital Budget Subcommittee
March 16, 2016

On behalf of MICA and our Board of Trustees, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to present this exciting project for consideration and express our gratitude for the State of Maryland’s past support of the College. It has been a critical factor in our role in Baltimore and Maryland as well as in our leadership nationally.

With the endorsement of MICUA, Maryland Institute College of Art is seeking a State Capital grant for FY 2017 in the amount of $4 million to support the construction of a new Baltimore City facility on MICA’s growing campus. MICA plans to raze a facility owned by the College, the Dolphin Building (100 Dolphin Street, Baltimore, MD) located on our historic campus in Bolton Hill, to be replaced with a 25,000 square foot facility to house our new majors in Product Design and Game Design and new digital facilities. This new construction will create much-needed, highly functional classrooms, technology and prototyping labs, and seminar and studio spaces dedicated to product design and three-dimensional design. The project is an integral part of MICA’s long-range strategic and campus plan.

The expansion of the programs located in these two facilities is essential to our continued development as one of the nation’s leading visual arts schools and is key to MICA’s ability to strengthen the State’s professional workforce and thus enhance the economy of the State of Maryland.

MICA's current facilities are inadequate to meet the needs of our expanding curriculum and student demand for new technology and industry driven academic programs.
In response to our current need, MICA is planning to raze the former automotive building, a three-story 15,000 square feet building, to build a new five-story 25,000 square foot structure. MICA’s current facilities are inadequate to meet the needs of our growing enrollment - and cannot expand to accommodate the use of new and emerging technologies in our art and design programs. In addition, specific space is needed for the highly-anticipated new undergraduate major in Product Design. The capital project will allow the College to meet the needs of our growing undergraduate
population while providing new facilities adapted for an evolving curriculum that balances traditional art-making facilities with new technologies.

The Dolphin Building, in its current state, is not structural sound and is illegible for a renovation-based solution. The antiquated mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, leaking roof and structural issues compromise the integrity of the structure and the life safety systems must soon be overhauled in order to comply with modern code requirements. Additionally, the three-story Dolphin Building lacks access for the disabled, and is not air-conditioned, which limits its use in the summer months. Proper ventilation is a top priority year round when dealing with chemicals and materials involved in art-making, and the Dolphin Building is sorely underperforming in its current state. In order to attract and retain outstanding students and faculty, our facilities must be updated so that they integrate current technologies, are environmentally responsible, and meet health and safety codes.

Financing Plan:
MICA’s long range strategic plan outlines the need for specialized facilities for education and artistic programs. Of the total $8.1M project budget for the Dolphin Building, MICA has requested $4M from the State of Maryland and will raise $4.1M primarily from private sources and institutional capital funds. Individual and foundation donors are being approached to provide initial support to match the State funding. In addition, through new strategic partnerships, MICA will expand its funding base to ensure that new sources of corporate and industry support, through sponsored studios and institutional/industry partnerships, will be secured.

The Board of Trustees at MICA will be working over the next 18 months to raise funding for this capital project from key partners, loyal funders and corporate partners to create the capacity for the new programming in Product Design and Game Design. A lead group of funders have been identified and is being engaged in a series of tours and visits in April, May and June 2016. There also have been a select number of asks from philanthropic partners at both the regional and national level who are considering support for the initiative.

Over the past three decades, MICA has benefited from the State’s capital grant program and through that support the campus and the ability to offer cutting-edge programming has transformed the College. Enrollment has soared and the College’s reputation nationally and internationally has been unmatched. MICA has successfully raised funding from external constituents and philanthropic institutions coupled with tax credits and investment support to successfully meet the match for the State capital construction and renovation projects. The Dolphin Building project is a priority of
the Board of Trustees and the President and the College's is leveraging its core
supporters in the match for this important effort.

This project will benefit the State in many critical ways:
MICA is the only institution of its kind in the State which has been preparing students
for careers in art and design for over 180 years. To maintain this standing as one of
the nation's preeminent colleges of art, MICA must provide excellent and safe
facilities, while access to the newest technologies which are increasingly central to the
art and design fields. MICA students and faculty bring their problem-solving and
communication skills into the fields of health, the environment and education, and
continue to pursue new solutions to complex social issues.

This project, in particular, is well-suited to serve the needs of the State. With adequate
resources, such as those that would be made possible by a dedicated design- and
technology-based facility on campus, MICA can facilitate the education of future
design innovators and leaders in the field. In partnership with the State of Maryland,
MICA can help build a highly qualified workforce that both feeds and inspires the
creation of new industries. The 2012 National Governors Association report New
Engines of Growth: Five Roles for Arts, Culture and Design outlines how arts,
culture, and design can compel economic solutions in five ways: 1) Creating a fast-
growth, dynamic industry cluster; 2) Helping mature industries become more
competitive; 3) Providing the critical ingredients for innovative places; 4) Catalyzing
community revitalization and 5) Delivering a better-prepared workforce.

The expanded facility will create space for the new Product Design undergraduate and
Game Design majors which specializes in a multidisciplinary design approach focused
on product development and commercialization. It also encourages collaboration in
sustainable and innovative design through facilitating and combining the fields of art,
business, engineering and technology. MICA will be partnering with new industries to
connect students to real life solution development for commercial products and
services. Through sponsored studios and funded research, these students will be
connected to businesses and opportunities which will advance multi-sector innovation
throughout our State.

With increased demand throughout the State for sustainable careers, new industries
development and technological growth, MICA will continue to play a key role in
Maryland’s future. Over the next few years, industrial designer jobs are projected to
leap by 29 percent according to the NEA report Valuing the Art of Industrial Design.
Likewise, Time Magazine reported that product design is one of the 15 hottest
professions in terms of job growth and compensation in 2014.
Currently, more than 50% of our students stay for at least three years in the local area after graduation and contribute to the local economy as members of the workforce, consumers, home owners and entrepreneurs. Many of our graduates have engaged in community-based learning and projects as students at MICA and continue to participate as volunteers, staff, advocates and supporters at many of our community organizations serving Marylanders. Through new majors and partnerships with local industries, more graduates will stay and contribute to the long-term vitality and innovation in the State.

The support for this capital project will allow the College to meet the needs of our expanded programming and our growing undergraduate population while providing new facilities adapted for an evolving curriculum that will seed future industries in Maryland for years to come.