

**Senate Budget and Taxation Committee  
Capital Budget Subcommittee****House Appropriations Committee  
Capital Budget Subcommittee****February 23, 2021****Testimony by  
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Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of three proposed capital construction and renovation projects at MICUA member institutions. The Governor's fiscal 2022 capital budget provides a total of \$8 million to be divided among a project at Johns Hopkins University (\$3.3 million), Mount St. Mary's University (\$1.4 million), and St. John's College (\$3.3 million). **MICUA respectfully requests an additional \$4 million, for a total of \$12 million, to allow these projects to move forward.** These projects have all been endorsed by the MICUA Board of Trustees, are well-aligned with the goals identified in the *Maryland State Plan for Postsecondary Education*, and are directly related to the academic priorities and missions of each institution. These facilities will be designed and constructed to maximize opportunities for student and faculty collaboration and to promote and facilitate interdisciplinary teaching, learning, and research. Further, these projects will help meet or exceed the postsecondary expectations of a Maryland K-12 population that is increasingly trained to expect state-of-the-art facilities.

Collectively, these projects will leverage over \$100 million in private resources from both Maryland and out-of-state to increase student enrollment, address workforce needs, attract research dollars, and support a vibrant economy. During the construction phase, the projects will support 800 construction jobs. Once completed, the projects will provide future employment for academicians, researchers, and other staff.

***Fiscal 2022 MICUA Capital Project Requests***

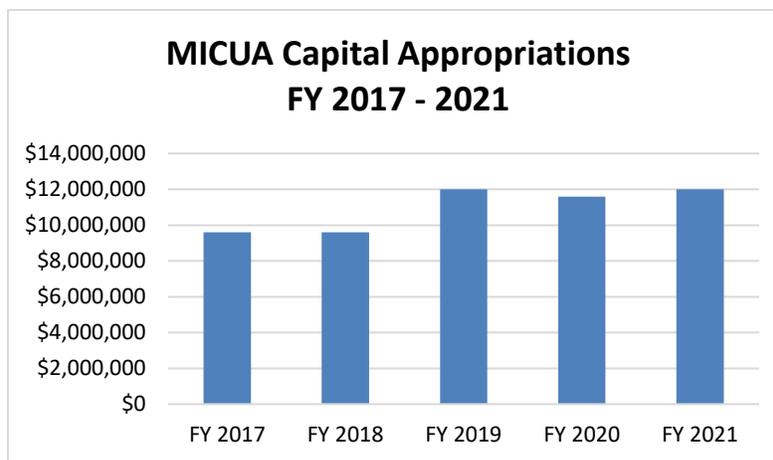
**Johns Hopkins University** requests a \$5 million State matching grant to modernize the Milton S. Eisenhower Library on the Homewood Campus. This project will involve the renovation of approximately 183,000 square feet, distributed over six floors. The project will address code, life safety, and accessibility shortcomings; removal of hazardous materials; and replacement of building systems past their intended life expectancy. The renovation will also repurpose interior spaces to accommodate the needs of 21st century users, including flexible and collaborative study and research space. The estimated total cost of this project is \$100 million.

**Mount St. Mary's University** requests a \$2 million State matching grant to construct an addition to the Coad Science Building, a 50,100 square foot building in the center of campus. Built in 1964, Coad houses the School of Natural Science and Mathematics and contains 7 classrooms, 12 laboratories, and 27 offices. The infrastructure is aging, and in some cases failing; classroom space is limited and lacks configurability; and lab space is insufficient and inflexible. This project will add approximately 10,000 square feet to the building, including new classrooms, labs, and collaborative meeting space. The estimated total cost of this project is \$4.1 million.

**St. John's College** requests a \$5 million State matching grant to renovate portions of Mellon Hall, the largest academic building on campus, to include the construction of an additional floor within the existing structure. The renovations will address Mellon's entryway and lobby, arts program areas, infrastructure and technology improvements, and ADA accessibility. The project will provide needed space to support and expand fine arts programming, renovating 20,000 square feet of existing space and yielding 5,640 square feet in new space—including a black box theatre, music rehearsal space, motion space, and meeting rooms. The estimated total cost of this project is \$10.4 million.

### ***MICUA Capital Grant Program Funding***

The chart below shows the General Assembly's annual appropriations to support MICUA capital projects since fiscal 2017. In fiscal 2017, the MICUA Capital Grant Program was funded at \$9.6 million. The capital needs for renovation and construction projects at MICUA campuses have continued to grow since that time, with aging buildings, new program development, and student enrollment demands. Over the past two fiscal years, the MICUA Capital Grant Program has been funded at \$12 million (fiscal 2021) and \$11.6 million (fiscal 2020). Given our recent funding history and the significant capital needs on our member campuses, we believe that MICUA's fiscal 2022 capital request of \$12 million is consistent and reasonable.



***Thank you for your ongoing support of the MICUA Capital Grant Program and your consideration of our fiscal 2022 request for an additional \$4 million. We sincerely appreciate our partnership with the State of Maryland and value your leadership on this issue.***



**Testimony to the Senate Capital Budget Subcommittee & the House Capital Budget Subcommittee**

**Thomas Lewis, Vice President, Johns Hopkins Government and Community Affairs  
February 23, 2021**

On behalf of Johns Hopkins University (JHU), 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 appreciate the General Assembly's steadfast support of the MICUA capital grant program.

JHU, with the endorsement of MICUA, seeks a **\$5 million State capital grant** in fiscal year 2022 in support of an estimated \$100 million renovation of the Milton S. Eisenhower Library (MSEL) centrally located on JHU's Homewood Campus in Baltimore. The requested grant will augment institutional funds and philanthropy to finance this project.

Modernization of the MSEL will include renovation of approximately 180,000 GSF of existing space, distributed over six floors. Since originally constructed in 1964, the Library has had few renovations. The facility needs significant upgrades to serve the university community and the other constituents who benefit from this resource. Renovations will include the following:

- ✓ Life safety/accessibility upgrades to make them compliant with applicable building codes and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- ✓ Replace outdated, inefficient building services that are past their life expectancy with modern, energy efficient systems that will enable the modernization project to achieve the JHU standard of LEED Silver equivalent.
- ✓ Hazmat abatement throughout all front of house and back of house spaces.
- ✓ Re-configuration of interior spaces that will repurpose the building to serve the needs of the contemporary scholar. The program generally will shift away from book storage towards contemporary study spaces that serve a variety of learning styles, including more collaborative learning and research resource space.
- ✓ Re-configuration of interior spaces that promote the introduction of more natural daylight throughout the facility, thereby increasing the quality of space for students. Modifications may include the addition of clerestories, fenestration, and light wells.

The MSEL serves as the principal research library. As part of the larger Sheridan Libraries network, the MSEL supports the JHU community of over 26,000 students and 7,500 faculty spread across nine academic schools/divisions.

Additionally, students from other local universities, such as MICA, Loyola University, Notre Dame of Maryland University, Goucher College, Towson University, University of Maryland, University of Baltimore, and Morgan State University are frequent users of the MSEL. As a member of the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP), the MSEL is required to be open to the public and

provides free access to government publications.

Demand on the library has grown with the increase in student body over the years. Since 2012 alone, the MSEL has experienced a 40% increase in entrance counts (which includes students, faculty, campus tours, and community member visits).

While the building is heavily used, focus groups with JHU students and faculty conducted during a feasibility study indicated there would be even more use of the MSEL if the building provided the quality and types of environments sought out by contemporary students. Despite the high reliance on technology practiced by today's students, they view the MSEL as a vital and necessary component of the living/learning campus. The MSEL currently houses unique services for the University, including the following:

**Data Services Suite:** Provides several unique spaces for users in MSEL, including a robust computer lab outfitted with specialized software for working with data and GIS, and a Visualization Studio that provides hardware and software for large format, interactive, 3D, and virtual reality visualization applications.

**Digital Research & Curation Center (DRCC):** Develops and supports the information technology infrastructure of the Sheridan Libraries related to the institutional repository, data archive, and customized user interfaces and provides critical digital services for the entire Johns Hopkins enterprise. The DRCC has secured over \$20 million of funding for grants that have resulted in numerous papers, presentations, technology transfer and societal impact.

**Special Collections:** Curates and manages a collection of over 400,000 rare books, archives, and manuscripts. JHU actively promotes use of its Special Collections through exhibits, classroom instruction, and support of individual research. The department teaches over 75 classes a semester that focus on teaching students to use primary source materials. The department hosts over 800 researchers each year in the reading room who consult over 3,000 items.

**Conservation Lab:** The Sheridan Libraries conservation laboratory assesses, repairs, and conserves both the general collections within the Milton S. Eisenhower library and the Special Collections and Archives within the Sheridan Libraries and Museums. The conservation laboratory is a purpose-built laboratory with the sole function of preserving and treating damaged library materials.

A signature piece of the MSEL renovation is an expansion of spaces to serve the greater Baltimore community. The current scope of the project includes a state-of-the-art lecture/symposium space as well as new spaces for student-curated exhibitions, which will be open to members of the community.

In keeping with the building's current space programming, all events held there, whether JHU or community-sponsored, will be open to the public.

In addition, the project will provide hundreds of construction jobs during the anticipated 36-month construction phase. As part of Johns Hopkins' commitment to economic inclusion, and the HopkinsLocal program, this project has an established goal of a minimum of twenty percent (20%) participation by Minority and Woman owned businesses (MBEs) and ten percent (10%) participation

with Local Business Enterprises that have offices within the limits of Baltimore City.

Thank you for considering **our request for a \$5 million MICUA capital grant in FY2022**. We are grateful for the General Assembly's steadfast support of MICUA, Johns Hopkins University, and all higher education in the State of Maryland.



**Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, Capital Budget Subcommittee  
House Appropriations Committee, Capital Budget Subcommittee**

February 23, 2021

Kraig Sheetz, Executive Vice President

William Davies, Vice President for Business and Finance

On behalf of Mount St. Mary's University, thank you for the capital support of Maryland's independent colleges and universities. This wise and valuable investment benefits the entire state. We are grateful for the Maryland General Assembly's continued recognition of the vital role of independent colleges and universities in educating 66,000 students annually and providing 27 percent of the four-year degrees conferred in Maryland. We are proud of these accomplishments which demonstrate the impact of being the beneficiary of only 3 percent of Maryland's investment in higher education.

Mount St. Mary's University's FY2022 **request of \$2 million** is for an estimated \$4.1 million project to construct an addition to our Coad Science building, one of the primary instructional buildings on the University's Emmitsburg campus. Built in 1964, the building is the location of our School of Natural Science and Mathematics which currently houses 7 classrooms, 12 labs and 27 offices. The project will include new construction for approximately 10,000 square feet of classroom, laboratory, "classatory", and collaborative space to enhance the learning environment. This request is for construction to be performed commencing in the summer of 2022 with completion in the summer of 2023.

We were founded in Emmitsburg, Maryland in 1808 and have been serving Maryland residents for over 212 years. Approximately 56% of our current undergraduate student body resides from Maryland. We have a very diverse student body with 43% students of color, with our freshmen class 23% first generation and 33% Pell eligible. Our strategic plan focuses on graduating ethical leaders who are inspired by a passion for learning and lead lives of significance in service to God and others.

Mount St. Mary's University is the second largest employer in Northern Frederick County, slightly surpassed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. We are committed to strengthening Maryland's regional economy and economic competitiveness. We are dedicated to educating and developing ethical leaders who are driven by core values and a desire to change their community and the world.

Mount St. Mary's STEM programs (science, technology and mathematics) are undergoing tremendous growth and evolution. The number of students majoring in these programs has increased more than 30% in the past three years...and continues to grow! Typically, about 35% of incoming freshman indicate they intend to major in one of our STEM programs. This year, we had a record-

sized freshman class, and 47% claimed interest in a STEM program. This growth is driven in part by expansion into highly relevant programs such as Data Science and Neuroscience, as well as Pre-Allied Health offerings.

To remain on this trajectory of academic excellence requires focusing resources so that we can expand and modernize our STEM education facilities and provide a state-of-the-art learning environment that is commensurate with the Mount's outstanding academic programs. In our current science building, the infrastructure is aged and, in some cases, failing. Classroom space is limited, dated and lacks configurability required for modern pedagogical practices. Laboratory space is insufficient and inflexible, limiting our students' exposure to cutting-edge research techniques. Additionally, our current STEM education facility lacks the collaborative spaces that serve as the focal point for student engagement that is essential to solving society's most important interdisciplinary problems.

Expanding the science building is a critical first step to enable the planning for and flexibility to renovate the 64,000 square feet of the main building over the next few years. We began working with an architectural firm back in 2018 so that we could bring faculty, administrators, engineers and designers together to ensure that we maximize our opportunity to bring our vision for a state-of-the-art science and technology facility to fruition and continue to be a regional leader in STEM education.

The University intends to finance the project with \$2.1 million of funds that have been raised from our recently completed Forward Capital Campaign. As a result we have these funds ready to deploy with the project to meet the matching fund requirement. With the growth of the science programs, this project is aligned to sequentially renovate and enhance our academic facilities to meet the needs of our current and projected student body. If we are unable to secure this funding we will recalibrate our overall renovation planning and adjust primarily by delaying expansion then proceeding with required renovations when future funds become available.

Thank you for your continued efforts and support of the mission of independent colleges and universities to serve Maryland's higher education needs and for your favorable consideration of our **request for a \$2 million MICUA capital grant**. This funding is critical to enable Mount St. Mary's University to continue its quest to graduate ethical leaders who are inspired by a passion for learning and lead lives of significance as well as meet the needs for a highly skilled workforce in Maryland.



# ST JOHN'S College

## **Testimony to the Senate Capital Budget Subcommittee and the House Capital Budget Subcommittee**

**Ally Gontang-Highfield, Treasurer of St. John's College  
February 23, 2021**

On behalf of St. John's College, President Kanelos, and our Board of Visitors and Governors, thank you for the opportunity to present our planned capital project. We are grateful for the Maryland General Assembly's wonderful support of our past endeavors, and we are hopeful for the continued support for these upcoming transformative MICUA capital projects.

With the endorsement of MICUA, the college proposes a phase one renovation of Mellon Hall, the largest academic building on campus. The building was originally constructed in 1958, with two additions completed in 1988 and 2002. The dedication ceremony for Mellon Hall was held on May 22, 1959, with President Dwight D. Eisenhower as the primary speaker. Richard Neutra, acclaimed architect and one of the most significant mid-century modernists, and his partner of ten years, Robert E. Alexander, designed the building in the flat-roofed modern style for which Neutra was internationally known. Mellon Hall is one of the few buildings designed by Neutra that remain standing on the east coast.

With the exception of the conference room addition in 2002, the college has not introduced new programmatic space since the construction of Mellon Hall in 1958. In spite of a robust arts and music program, the St. John's campus is lacking in adequate group performance space and individual practice rooms. Undergraduate students at St. John's take two years of music as part of the liberal arts curriculum, which includes the Freshman Chorus and the Sophomore Music Tutorial. These aspects of the academic program extend into music-related extracurricular activities on campus, including choruses, bands, and weekly singing. St. John's also offers vigorous visual and performing arts programs, including the King William Players, a student-run theater troupe. Space shortages have been exacerbated by student enrollment growth of 22% between Fall 2015 and Fall 2019, increasing from 406 to 494 undergraduate students. As a result, students often utilize spaces poorly designed and ill-equipped for performance, practice, and collaboration. When performances are scheduled in the Great Hall of the McDowell building, one of the few larger event spaces on campus, classrooms directly adjacent to the hall become unsuitable for academic purposes due to proximity.

The College believes that a significant investment in proper performance facilities and space dedicated to flexible use will invigorate the artistic and creative aspects of the College's unique program and help attract students to the program. Through construction of an additional floor within the existing structure, several exciting new spaces will be created – a black box theatre, music rehearsal space, motion and movement studio, and meeting rooms.

The renovations in Mellon Hall will include entryway and lobby redesign, infrastructure and technology improvements, and ADA accessibility – seeking to address the problems of functionally inadequate space for faculty and student collaboration and issues with obsolete building systems.

The project will transform the large open lobby area and immediate courtyard area of Mellon Hall to create an inviting space for faculty and student meeting places, casual and open student gatherings, and flexible options for larger-scale College events. The project will include renovations to Mellon Hall's Conversation room, a central campus assembly room for students and faculty, and will address the room's outdated layout, seating configuration, lighting, and accessibility. All renovations to exterior and historic spaces will be undertaken with deference to the original Neutra vision.

Mellon Hall is the 'workhorse' main academic building on campus, serving as the center of the College's academic program. Failure to keep the building operational, attractive, and accessible will severely impact the College's academic operations, its ability to attract new students, and its relationship with its alumni base.

Although small in size, St. John's College is an internationally recognized liberal arts school known for having 'the most rigorous education in America,' with a chronological study of more than 200 great books and scientific experiments spanning 3000 years of human thought and achievement. A low student-to-faculty ratio contributes to an excellent classroom environment, and small class sizes ensure that all students have a voice and the opportunity to participate in the "Johnnie" experience. The college also has a great commitment to affordable education for all students, having reduced tuition prices in fiscal year 2020 by more than 33% and featuring a tuition rate among the most affordable of top-ranked liberal arts colleges in the country.

St. John's College is **requesting a \$5 million State matching grant** to support this project. The estimated total State-eligible cost is \$10.4 million. The match will be met through private donations and a recently completed bond issuance. Without the full state funding, the scope will have to be significantly reduced, likely resulting in the loss of new and expanded academic space.

The college recognizes that much of its success is due to the ongoing support from the state of Maryland. In support of Maryland, the college strives to utilize locally owned businesses and contractors. Through the course of this project, we estimate that 35-40 businesses will be engaged, supporting more than 100 Maryland jobs.

We appreciate your consideration of this project.