



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

March 2, 2006

To the Commission on Higher Education of the
Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools

On behalf of the faculty, staff and students at the University of Maryland, Baltimore, the State of Maryland's health, law and social work center, I am pleased to submit this 2006 Self-Study to the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

The University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB), the oldest campus in the University System of Maryland, will celebrate its bicentennial in 2007. UMB includes the six professional schools of medicine, law, dentistry, pharmacy, nursing and social work and an interdisciplinary graduate school. Located in downtown Baltimore, UMB, together with its partners, the University of Maryland Medical System, the various physician and dental practice plans, the UMB BioPark and the UMB Foundation, has been a catalyst for the revitalization of its neighborhood and an engine for economic development.

UMB has accomplished much in the ten years since its last Middle States reaccreditation. Externally sponsored research has soared, reaching \$410 million in FY 2005. All of the professional schools have been recognized nationally for the excellence of their academic and research programs. Our graduates make up the majority of physicians, social workers, baccalaureate and graduate nurses, pharmacists and dentists practicing in Maryland, and a plurality of Maryland's attorneys.

In keeping with its long history in an urban setting, UMB plays an extensive public service role, not only in the City of Baltimore, but throughout the region, the state and the nation. Our students, faculty and staff provide hundreds of thousands of hours of volunteer service annually to some of Maryland's neediest citizens.

The campus has welcomed the opportunity provided by the Middle States review and especially the self-study process to reflect on our achievements, but also to identify areas for possible improvement, given the uncertain financial and regulatory environment that all academic health centers face going forward into the next ten years.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David J. Ramsay".

David J. Ramsay, PhD
President