

STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Chairperson: Samuel P. Massie, 1990

Homer O. Elseroad, 1985; Miriam D. Sanner, 1986; William S. Sartorius, 1987; William V. Lockwood, 1988; Francis H. Morris, 1988; Charles Mindel, 1989; Linda S. Stroh, *student member*, 1985.

James D. Tschechtelin, Ph.D., *Executive Director*

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The State Board for Community Colleges was established by Chapter 454, Acts of 1968, to coordinate the community colleges in the State. Until July 1, 1969, the Board served as an advisory board to the State Board of Education; thereafter the Board assumed its statutory duties.

The Board consists of eight members. Seven are appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate for six-year terms. One is a student appointed for a one-year term by the Governor upon the recommendation of the community college presidents, with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Board selects its own officers and employees.

Prior to 1974, community colleges were governed by local boards of education. Chapter 454, Acts of 1968, provided that local boards of education sponsoring community colleges could request of the Governor that they be divested of authority, which authority would then be vested in separate local boards of community college trustees. Chapter 538 of the Acts of 1976 maintained existing boards of trustees, and authorized the Governor to establish, upon petition of the respective counties, boards of trustees where no community colleges currently exist, upon recommendation of the State Board for Higher Education and the State Board for Community Colleges. All local boards of trustees are appointed by the Governor, except in Baltimore City where appointments are made by the Mayor and City Council.

The State Board for Community Colleges establishes general policies for the operation of the State's community colleges. In addition, it conducts studies on the problems of community college education, assists the colleges in providing expert professional advice in all areas of their

activities, reviews and advises upon all curriculum proposals for newly established community colleges and for proposed major additions to or modifications of programs in existing community colleges, and recommends, reviews, and advises upon proposals for the establishment of new community colleges. The Board also coordinates relationships among the community colleges to assure the widest possible educational opportunities for the students of the State and the most efficient use of funds; facilitates the transfer of students between the community colleges and the University of Maryland, the State colleges, and other institutions of higher education; coordinates relationships between the community colleges and the State and local public school systems and the private high schools in order to facilitate cooperation with them in guidance and admission of students to the community colleges; and arranges for the most advantageous use of facilities. The Board establishes and maintains a system of information and accounting of community college activities and provides grants-in-aid for the prompt and adequate planning of new colleges and new programs in existing colleges. It administers the State's program of support for the community colleges, and assists and represents the community colleges in seeking and administering federal funds available to them. The Board also assists the State Board for Higher Education in the performance of its duties as they pertain to community colleges and in its preparation of plans and recommendations for the establishment and location of new facilities and programs relating to community colleges.

The Board is also responsible for the establishment of guidelines for community college financial record keeping and the preparation of annual audit reports (Chapter 642, Acts of 1978). The Board reviews community college audits and management letters to ascertain that community colleges are audited in accordance with the statute and that appropriate recommendations are implemented by each college.

Chapter 279, Acts of 1979, authorized the Board to designate certain community college instructional programs as statewide or regional programs. Twenty-six programs have been so designated by the Board. The intent of the designations is to minimize unnecessary duplication in programs while providing wider educational opportunities to students.

Fifteen community colleges and two regional community colleges have been established. Branch campuses operate in three counties, administered by a community college in a different political subdivision under contract with the county govern-