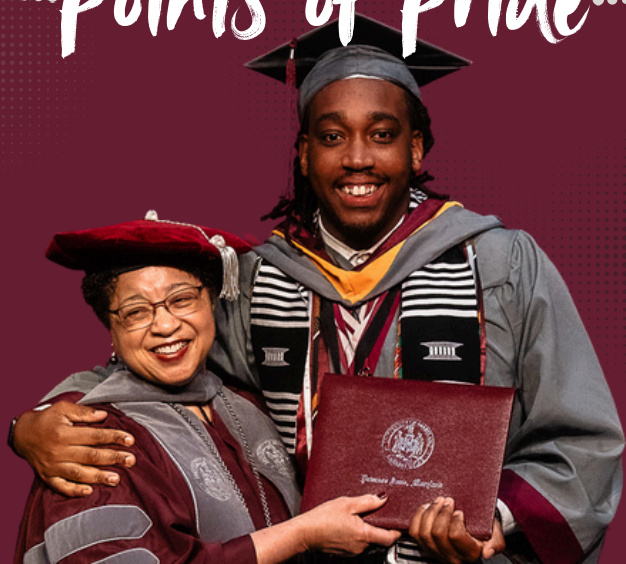


FALL 2025



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
EASTERN SHORE

Points of Pride



Greatness is happening at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore! As a public HBCU and 1890 land-grant university, UMES is committed to serving first-generation and underserved students by providing exceptional educational, research and community engagement opportunities that transform the lives of students, communities, the state, the region, and the world.

umes.edu



UMES Aviation Sciences Program Soars High

The University of Maryland Eastern Shore's Aviation Sciences program is **Maryland's only four-year, bachelor's degree program in aviation.** The Bachelor of Science degree offers concentrations in professional pilot, aviation management, aviation electronics, and aviation software.

With the need for pilots and aviation maintenance at an all-time high, major employers are supporting the education available at UMES. UMES has developed an additional focus - in partnership with Piedmont Airlines, the Salisbury-Wicomico County Regional Airport, and the Salisbury-Wicomico Economic Development - the Aviation Maintenance Technology program.

Piedmont Airlines donated a retired aircraft and two static Rolls-Royce turbofan engines in September 2025.

"It's an investment in tomorrow for the community and it's an investment in our business," said Eric Morgan, president and CEO of Piedmont Airlines. "We need talented workers with specific certifications and highly technical skills to work on sophisticated aircraft. If we can help create a workforce development pathway that allows local students to gain those credentials, it benefits everyone."



UMES to Open State's Only Stand-Alone Veterinary School

The University of Maryland Eastern Shore is building a world-class veterinary educational program that will serve as a hub for innovation, research, and community outreach in Maryland and beyond. Students will receive training in urban, suburban, and rural settings, including clinical exposure and rotations in equine, bovine, poultry, avian, aquatic, zoo, and wildlife medicine.

Here are some fast facts about the UMES program:

- **Opening Date:** The target start date for the first cohort of students to the UMES School of Veterinary Medicine is pending approval from our accrediting body, which will be visiting the University in June 2026.
- **First Public HBCU:** There are only 34 veterinary colleges in the United States - and only one at an HBCU! Tuskegee University in Alabama, which is a private institution, is currently the only HBCU with a veterinary program. **The UMES School of Veterinary Medicine will be the first public HBCU to establish a veterinary school.**
- **Only One of Its Kind in Maryland:** While some institutions in Maryland offer pre-veterinary programs, the **UMES School of Veterinary Medicine will be the state's first and only stand-alone veterinary school.** There are no other full-fledged veterinary programs in Maryland, Delaware, or Washington, DC.
- **Diverse Need:** White Americans make up more than 87% of the veterinary profession while black Americans comprise 3% to 4%.



UMES Receives \$38 Million Donation From MacKenzie Scott

Philanthropist MacKenzie Scott donated **\$38 million** unrestricted to the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in October 2025 - the largest single gift in the institution's history.

Scott donated \$20 million to UMES in 2020, bringing her total giving to the institution to \$58 million.

"This gift is a resounding vote of confidence in UMES and in the strategic direction President Anderson has set," said University System of Maryland (USM) Chancellor **Jay A. Perman**. "MacKenzie Scott's generosity will deepen the university's capacity to serve students, strengthen communities across the Eastern Shore, and expand UMES's national impact as a high-value, high-quality HBCU."

UMES will steward the \$38 million to advance high-impact priorities that sustain long-term excellence and student opportunity, including:

- **Student Access & Affordability:** Expanded need-based scholarships, emergency grants, and paid experiential learning to reduce time-to-degree and debt burden.
- **Academic & Research Excellence:** Seed funding for interdisciplinary research, labs, and faculty recruitment in areas such as agricultural innovation, coastal resilience, aviation science, health professions, and data science.
- **Student Success Infrastructure:** Strengthening advising, mental health services, tutoring, and career development; modernizing classrooms and student spaces for collaborative learning.
- **Regional Engagement & Economic Mobility:** Community-based initiatives and small-business partnerships that create internships, apprenticeships, and jobs across the Lower Eastern Shore.



UMES Welcomes Third Cohort of STEM STARS

The University of Maryland Eastern Shore welcomed its third cohort of STEM STARS for the fall of 2025. UMES was selected as a recipient of the **\$2.5 million** Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Driving Change Initiative Award in 2022. To date, UMES is the first and only HBCU to receive this award. As a result, the UMES STEM STARS Program was created.

The mission of the UMES STEM STARS program is to increase the number of students from underrepresented groups who pursue and earn PhDs and MD-PhDs in STEM disciplines by identifying and removing barriers to equity in the STEM learning environment.

Fifth Consecutive Year of Enrollment Growth at UMES

For the fifth year in a row, the University of Maryland Eastern Shore has seen enrollment growth, with approximately 1,000 new students joining the Hawk family in 2025!



Scan the QR code for
information on Student
Engagement Day 2026





Super Success:

UMES Fine Arts Department Hosts HawkCon, Serves Up Nation's Only Public Sequential Arts Program

The University of Maryland Eastern Shore's inaugural HawkCon took place in March. The event featured art and comic book exhibits, a costume contest, panel discussions and more. HawkCon was produced by the UMES Department of Fine Arts and provided an opportunity to spotlight the school's Sequential Arts Program.

UMES offers the only four-year Sequential Arts Program in the nation at a public institution. Sequential arts focus on visual storytelling such as comic books and graphic novels.



Golf Greatness:

Only HBCU With PGA-Certified Golf Management Program Gets New Director

The University of Maryland Eastern Shore became the **first and only HBCU with a PGA-certified golf management program** in 2008, and has now added a distinguished professional to lead the program's efforts.

PGA-pro **G. Sean Schley** joined UMES in for Fall 2025 as the new lecturer and director of its the PGA golf management program. With a background blending leadership, education, ministry, and community service, Schley brings a unique perspective and a wealth of experience to this role.

Schley holds both a Master of Divinity degree and a Master of Arts degree from the Methodist Theological School in Ohio, and a Bachelor of Arts in philosophy and religion from Florida A&M University.

His academic and professional excellence has been recognized through multiple scholarships, leadership roles, and published works. He is a respected member of numerous professional and fraternal organizations, including Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, where he has served as chaplain at various levels. His dedication to mentorship and community engagement has been a cornerstone of his career.



G. Sean Schley



Nearly 30 New Faculty Members Join UMES for Fall 2025

The University of Maryland Eastern Shore added 29 professors, researchers, and lecturers this school year, marking one of the University's largest infusions of new faculty members in its history.

"Each new faculty member brings fresh perspectives, expertise, and a deep commitment to student success," said **Dr. Rondall Allen**, UMES Provost. "Their arrival strengthens our academic community, expands opportunities for research and innovation, and ensures that we continue to provide our students with an exceptional, high-quality education." New faculty members for fall 2025 include:

School of Pharmacy and Health Professions

- Dr. Jinglu Ai
- Catherine Campbell
- Dr. Susann Galloway
- Dr. Matthais Goldstein
- Dr. Mary Harshman
- Dr. Shao-Hsuan Hsia
- Dr. Rebekah Torchon
- Dr. Chang Hoon Shin
- Dr. Anwer Ul Azim

School of Education, Social Sciences, and The Arts

- Dr. Vermandi R. Greene
- Brandon Graves
- Dr. Lauren Herbert
- Jocelyn Martin
- Dr. Stephen Minter
- Saswati Sen
- Karen Simon

School of Agriculture and Natural Sciences

- Dr. Bernice Bediako
- Dr. William Burke
- Dr. David Brown
- Dr. David Die
- Dr. Abiodun Omotayo
- Jesu Raj Pandya
- Dr. Preeti Sharma

School of Business, Engineering, Applied Sciences, Technology and Tourism Management

- Dr. Sandeep Aryal
- Dr. Hun-Jin Jeong
- Dr. Jia Liu
- Dr. Shalini Saini
- G. Sean Schley
- Dr. Haydar Teymourlouei

