

# THE FACTS: The UB/Towson MBA is Educationally Justified and a State Model

In March 2005, the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) approved the joint UB/Towson MBA program. MHEC distributed a news release outlining that the joint MBA was educationally justified, not unnecessarily duplicative, and how the program's creation can serve as a state model. Excerpts of release:

## On the need in the state:

- There is a state need for the joint degree MBA program.
- The joint degree MBA program helps position Towson University as a key USM growth institution for absorbing a large share of the expected 5,900 student enrollment growth over the next 10 years.

## On duplication:

- There is no discernable harm to the MBA programs existing at a Historically Black Institution (HBI).
- There will be a pool of students for degree programs at all institutions including HBIs.

## On educational justification:

- The joint degree MBA program will be the most effective and efficient use of educational resources.
- The joint degree MBA program will undoubtedly strengthen the educational programs of both Towson University and the University of Baltimore.
- Towson University will be better able to recruit and retain business faculty.
- Towson presently has faculty qualified to teach the proposed programs at the graduate level.
- The joint degree MBA program was offered by Towson University to Morgan State University. Morgan declined to participate in partnership with Towson University.
- The joint degree MBA program is consistent with State and USM promotion of collaboration and institutional partnerships to achieve cost effectiveness, institutional and statewide efficiencies, and economics of scale.”

## On being a 'state model':

- There is an interest in institutional partnerships which this joint degree program can serve as a model in the state.

- The Maryland Higher Education Commission ruled on November 9, 2005 by a 10-1 vote that the joint MBA program was educationally justified. MHEC determined that the program would:
  - Strengthen the overall business program at Towson, which is the region's primary provider of undergraduate business degrees.
  - Meet a documented unmet need of regional employers for business administration graduates.
  - Increase access to a publicly offered MBA in the region at an affordable cost.

Maryland Higher Education Commission. (2005, November 9). November 2005 Press Release. Retrieved November 11, 2007, from Maryland Higher Education Commission: <http://www.mhec.state.md.us/pressroom/November2005/Nov05HigherEducationCommissionAllowsJointMBAProgram.asp>