

Morgan State University

Maryland's Public Urban  
Research University

# Legislative Testimony

## FY 2018 Capital Budget

Presented to:

House Subcommittee  
on Capital Budget

and

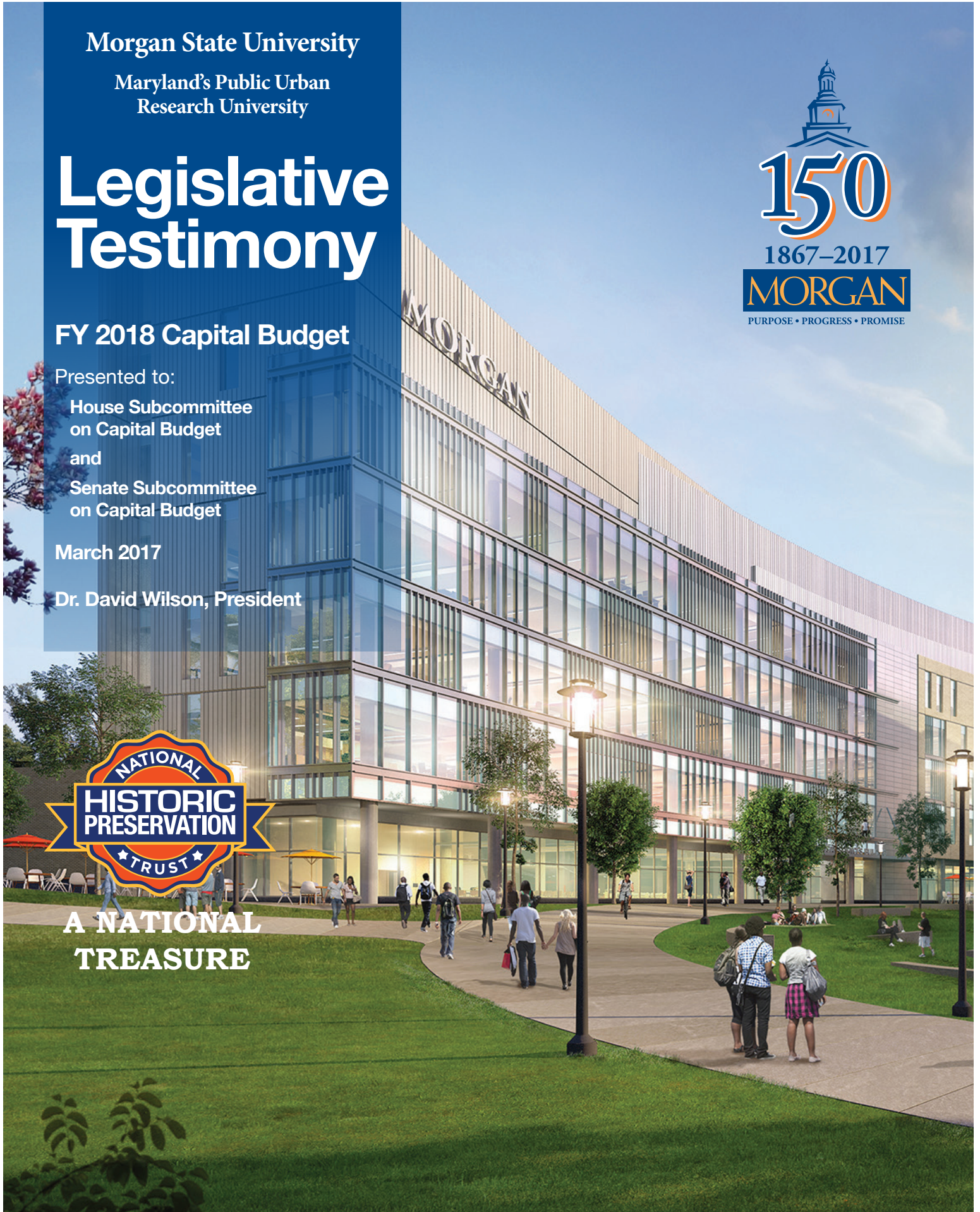
Senate Subcommittee  
on Capital Budget

March 2017

Dr. David Wilson, President



**A NATIONAL  
TREASURE**



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## Testimony

### Fiscal Year 2018 Capital Budget Morgan State University

David Wilson, President

March 2017



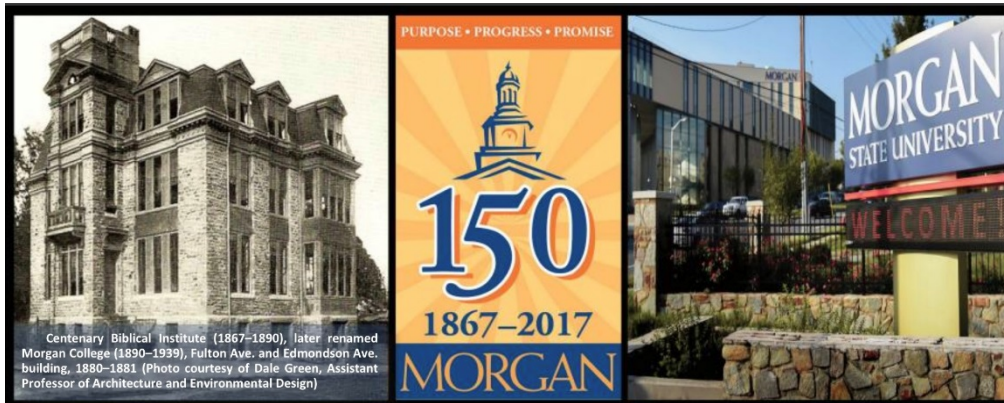
*Chair and members of the Committee, I thank you for the opportunity to testify on the Governor's fiscal year 2018 capital budget allowance for Morgan State University.*

First, I thank Governor Hogan for his support of higher education. I also thank the members of this Committee for your strong and continued support of Morgan State University. Our analyst, Ms. Sara Baker, has once again done an excellent job analyzing our budget, and I will respond to her comments and recommendations as a part of my testimony.

### **MORGAN AT 150: PURPOSE • PROGRESS • PROMISE**

This year, Morgan celebrates its sesquicentennial, marking 150 years of providing educational excellence to the citizens of Maryland and beyond. Upon the vision of African-American Methodist pastors, Morgan was founded in 1867 as an institution devoted to the "moral and intellectual elevation" of Maryland's African-American citizens. Named the Centenary Biblical Institute in recognition of the 100th anniversary of Methodism, the Institute held its first class in the lecture hall at Sharp Street Church on April 30, 1867, and was officially incorporated on November 27, 1867. The Institute's name was changed to Morgan College in 1890 in honor of the Rev. Dr. Lyttleton F. Morgan, a longtime board member who gave a large endowment to the institution. It was also in 1890 that Morgan was given authority to grant college degrees. The Ivy Mill Property in Lauraville, where we now sit, was purchased by the College in 1917. The College renovated the Ivy Mill Hotel on the corner of Hillen and Grindon (now Cold Spring Lane) to hold classes and a library, and renamed it Washington Hall in honor of the Washington Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The College renovated three other structures and named them Young Hall, Cummings Hall and Woolford Hall. In 1919, the first newly constructed building was completed with stones quarried by African-American quarrymen. Named after Andrew Carnegie, who provided the funding

to construct it, the building, Carnegie Hall, still stands today and is part of our Science Complex.



From 1867 to the present, Morgan has evolved from an institution focused on training African-American men for ministry to a comprehensive research institution training a diverse population of students from Maryland and around the world with degree offerings from the baccalaureate to doctorate. The campus has grown to approximately 50 buildings and was recently named a National Treasure by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

## VISION STATEMENT

Morgan State University is the premier public urban research university in Maryland, known for its excellence in teaching, intensive research, effective public service and community engagement. Morgan produces diverse and competitive graduates for success in a global, interdependent society.

## MISSION STATEMENT

Morgan State University serves the community, region, state, nation and world as an intellectual and creative resource by supporting, empowering and preparing high-quality, diverse graduates to lead the world. The University offers innovative, inclusive and distinctive educational experiences to a broad cross section of the population in a comprehensive range of disciplines at the baccalaureate, master's, doctoral and professional degree levels. Through collaborative pursuits, scholarly research, creative endeavors and dedicated public service, the University gives significant priority to addressing societal problems, particularly those prevalent in urban communities.

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The University continues to be guided by the goals articulated in our Strategic Plan, which include enhancing student success, increasing





our status as a doctoral research institution, improving our infrastructure and operational processes, growing our resources and engaging the community. The University's strategic goals are consistent with the State's goals for higher education.

Consistent with the State's goal of increasing the percentage of the college-age population earning a college degree, we launched *Morgan's 50 by 25 Campaign* in the spring of 2016, as a University-wide effort to increase graduation rates to 50% by the year 2025. We hope to improve student retention and significantly increase on-time and six-year completion rates. In addition, we continue to strive to make college accessible and affordable. Our undergraduate tuition is the second-lowest in the State, thus enhancing access for those students in the lower socioeconomic status group.

Faculty are actively engaged in research activities and collaborations, resulting in increased exposure and opportunities for our students and the State of Maryland. Collective efforts have resulted in Morgan-awarded sponsored grants and contracts of \$32M in FY 2016 from various federal and state agencies, including a combined total of \$1.2M in research grants for calendar year 2016 from the National Science Foundation. The funding supports a variety of cutting-edge research projects that advance the frontiers of innovation.

## CONTINUING STATUS AS A STATE AND NATIONAL LEADER

Morgan continues to be leader in the production of minority degree-holders in the State of Maryland and nationally in key areas of study, as reflected in the statewide and national rankings.

Statewide Rankings: Degrees Awarded to African Americans		
Bachelor's	Master's	Doctorate
1st – Architecture and Related Services	1st – Architecture and Related Services	1st – Total Doctorate
1st – Communication, Journalism and Related Programs	1st – Social Work	1st – Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services
1st – Engineering	2nd – Visual and Performing Arts	1st – Public Health
1st – Civil Engineering	3rd – Engineering	2nd – Engineering
1st – Electrical Engineering	4th – Total Master's	2nd – Education
1st – Industrial Engineering	4th – Public Health	
1st – Family and Consumer Sciences / Human Sciences	5th – Social Sciences	
1st – Hospitality Administration/Management		
1st – Marketing		
1st – Philosophy and Religious Studies		
2nd – Education		
2nd – Total Bachelor's		
2nd – Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services		
2nd – Accounting and Related Services		
2nd – Finance and Financial Management Services		

Source: IPEDS Degrees 2014–2015



National Rankings: Degrees Awarded to African Americans		
Bachelor's	Master's	Doctorate
2nd – Architecture and Related Services 4th – Engineering 6th – Communication, Journalism and Related Programs 7th – Marketing 9th – Hospitality Administration / Management 10th – Family and Consumer Sciences / Human Sciences 14th – Education 15th – Business, Management, Marketing and Related Services 15th – Philosophy and Religious Studies 18th – Finance and Financial Management Services 19th – All Disciplines Combined 22nd – Accounting and Related Services	5th – Engineering 6th – Architecture and Related Services	6th – Engineering 11th – All Disciplines Combined 21st – Business, Management, Marketing and Related Services 22nd – Education

Source: *Top 100 Producers of Minority Degrees 2016 (2014–2015 data used)*, *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education*

## CAPITAL INVESTMENTS ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE AT MORGAN

The value added to the educational experience of our students by capital investments cannot be overstated. The Earl G. Graves School of Business and Management opened in the fall of 2015, expanding our campus to the west. Equipped with state-of-the-art learning laboratories that simulate real-life work environments, the facility provides our students with hands-on instruction that makes them more marketable and better prepared for success in their careers. In only one short year, the impact of this facility has been phenomenal. For instance, the Capital Markets training room features Bloomberg financial data and securities trading terminals, and it was the impetus for garnering a research grant from *Master Your Card* (an entity of MasterCard) to study “financial deserts” in American cities. Several students have completed Bloomberg Terminal training and are certified, thus giving them a competitive advantage in the job market. The facility has attracted high school students from throughout the region to attend financial literacy summer camp. There has been an increase in outreach programs to Baltimore start-ups, and partnerships with business and industry have increased as well as research funding. The School partnered with Northrop Grumman and Digit All City to deliver cybersecurity training to Morgan students and prepare them for security certification that would make them highly sought after by corporations and government. The Network Security Laboratory has been used for this training and several other network security courses and projects. Special Secretary Jimmy Rhee of the Governor’s Office of Minority Affairs visited in October 2016 and expressed enthusiasm regarding the entrepreneurship and innovation activities at the School. Commensurate with our focus on economic and community



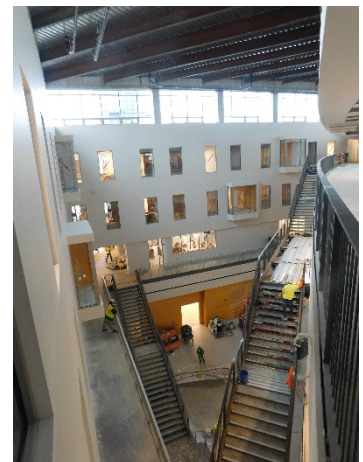
development, the construction of the School of Business and Management facility has also served as a catalyst for further development that will revitalize the entire Northwood Shopping Center.

Likewise, our Center for the Built Environment and Infrastructure Studies (CBEIS), which opened in the fall of 2012, has yielded positive returns. Overall enrollment in this facility increased by 78% between fall 2012 and fall 2016. In particular, at the undergraduate level, transportation systems increased 82%, civil engineering increased 89% and construction management increased 167%. At the master's level, the School of Architecture and Planning had a 13% increase. Associated research projects and funding have also increased.

Certainly, facilities have played and will continue to play a critical role in the rate of advancement of the University, and we are extremely grateful for the support of this Committee over the last several years.

## **PROJECTS IN PROGRESS**

Construction of the New Jenkins Behavioral and Social Sciences Center is ongoing on the West Campus, with an anticipated opening later this fall. Labs include but are not limited to a Forensic Anthropology Lab, a Human Factors Research Lab, a Neuropsychology Lab and a Vivarium. These types of experiential learning facilities are essential to giving our students the skills to compete and excel in the workforce as well as advance our research mission. As our research capacity increases, so does our ability to attract a diverse body of students, qualified faculty and additional research dollars, which in turn will enhance our status as a doctoral/research institution.







Exceptional service is also essential to attracting and retaining students, and we are excited that the design for our New Student Services Building is underway and that construction is scheduled to commence in early 2018. This facility will provide replacement space for the student service functions now located in the Old Montebello Hospital. More than 60 years old and still serviced by original building systems, the complex experiences constant service interruptions, and the University is anxious to move these student service functions out of Montebello.

## **NEED FOR CONTINUED INVESTMENT**

These facilities are essential to enhancing the competency and competitiveness of our students. Continued investment in the University's facilities will position it to further enhance the quality of education while also enabling it to compete for grants and contracts. The State's investment is the cornerstone of Morgan's mission, which encourages research valuable to the City of Baltimore and ultimately spurs economic and community development within the region.

Morgan's location in an urban community, coupled with its outstanding programs and mission, uniquely position it to serve as a valuable resource to the surrounding communities. At the same time, however, our location also impedes our development potential, as we are landlocked, with limited expansion sites within our campus boundaries. With the growth in programs, research and changing technologies, it is becoming increasingly difficult to respond to academic needs in some of our aging, obsolete facilities. There is virtually no open land space available for the construction of new facilities, making it is nearly impossible to construct new facilities without demolishing existing ones. Where renovation is feasible, the facilities often have to be repurposed because of design and capacity constraints. For instance, the size, configuration and obsolescent building systems in the Science Complex preclude its renovation to effectively meet the needs of the Natural Sciences. Although not in the State's five-year plan, our Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) provides for



the construction of a New Science Building on the site of the existing Washington Service Center, which would be demolished. The New Science Building will provide space for Biology, Chemistry and a Science Education Center. The existing Dixon Research Center will be renovated for Physics, and McMechen will be renovated for Math and Computer Science. The existing Science Complex will be renovated/repurposed to meet other pressing University needs.

Our next major priority is a New Health and Human Service facility to provide space for the School of Community Health and Policy, to include: Nursing, Nutrition, Public Health, the School of Social Work, Family and Consumer Sciences, Medical Technology and our Health and Counseling Centers. Our School of Community Health and Policy is now surged in makeshift space located off-campus in a former recording studio, and the remaining academic programs are housed in Jenkins, which is to be demolished. The proposed site for this very important project, along Hillen Road, is occupied by Turner's Armory, which will have to be demolished. The State's CIP includes design funds for the demolition in FY 2019.

## **GOVERNOR'S CAPITAL BUDGET RECOMMENDATION**

The Governor's capital budget allowance for Morgan is for \$10,360,000 in GO Bonds inclusive of the following projects.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Phase</b>	<b>Amount</b>
New Behavioral & Social Sciences Center	C,E	\$2,105,000
New Student Services Building	P,C	\$8,255,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$10,360,000</b>

*Key: C – Construction, E – Equipment, P – Planning*

This will provide for the final phase of construction and equipment funding for the new Jenkins Behavioral and Social Sciences Center, which is scheduled to open in the fall of 2017, and additional design and the first phase of construction funding for the new Student Services Building, which is scheduled to open in 2020.

As noted in the analysis, during design of the New Student Services Building, it was determined that the total project budget cost has increased by \$6.7 million to a total of \$88 million. The majority of the

increase (approximately \$5.2 million) is related to an increase in the square footage cost. The remainder is related to an increase in the gross square footage and unanticipated site costs. Consequently, our out-year request will be higher than anticipated.



## **CLOSING**

Thank you, again, and, on behalf of Morgan State University, I request your support of the Governor's recommendations for FY 2018. I will respond to the issues presented by the analyst and will be happy to respond to any additional questions you may have.





## **Response to Comments & Recommendations in the Department of Legislative Services' Analysis**

### **GO Bond Recommended Actions**

1. **Approve \$2.1 million in general obligation bonds to complete construction and equip the Behavioral and Social Sciences Building.**

**Response:** The University agrees with the recommendation.

2. **Approve \$8.3 million in general obligation bonds to continue design and start construction of the New Student Services Support Building.**

**Response:** The University agrees with the recommendation.

3. **Approve the de-authorization of \$0.3 million in general obligation bonds for the Lillie Carroll Jackson Museum, because the project is complete.**

**Response:** The remaining balance is actually \$0.25 million so the amount available for de-authorization is only \$0.25 million.

4. **Approve the de-authorization of \$0.4 million in general obligation bonds for campuswide site improvements, because the funds are not needed to complete the project.**

**Response:** The University agrees with the recommendation.

5. **Approve language amending the athletic facilities renovation to include replacement of the scoreboard at Hughes Stadium.**

**Response:** The University agrees with the recommendation.

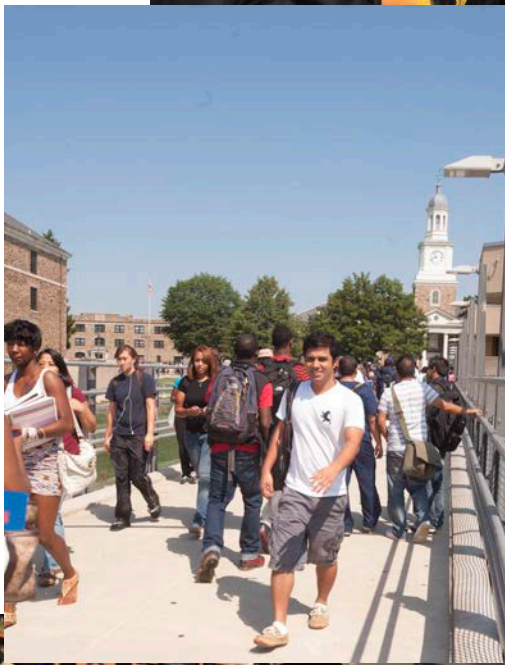
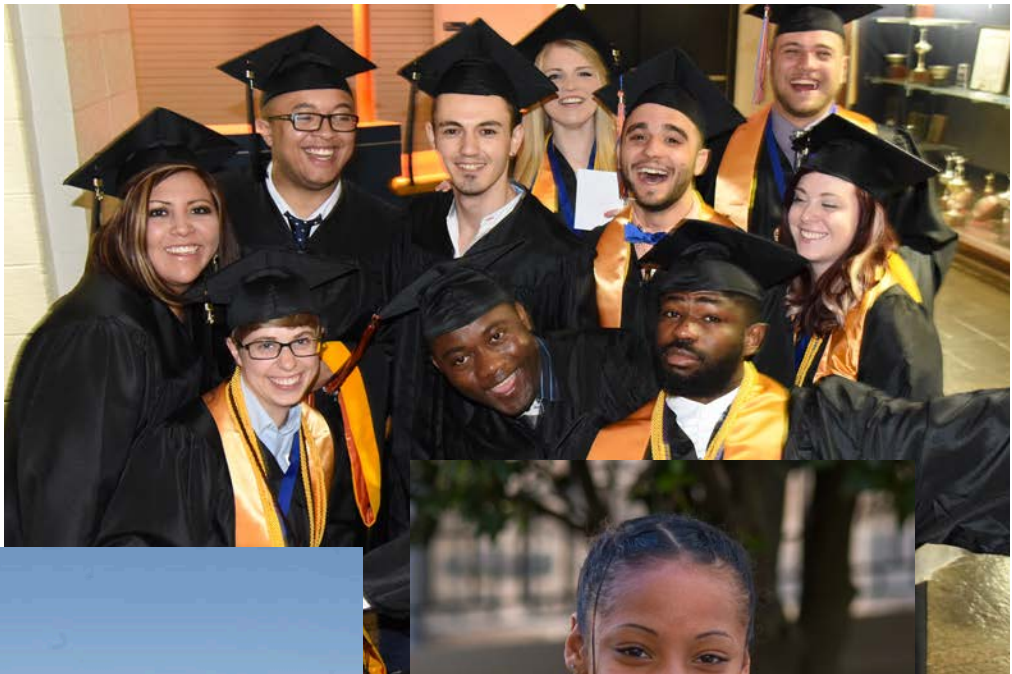


6. **Approve the pre-authorization of \$39 million in general obligation bonds for fiscal 2019 to continue construction of the New Student Services Support Building.**

**Response:** In light of the increased total project budget cost, the University is requesting that the pre-authorization amount be increased to \$45.7 million.

7. **Approve the pre-authorization of \$20 million in general obligation bonds for fiscal 2020 to complete construction of the New Student Services Support Building.**

**Response:** The University agrees with the recommendation.





PURPOSE • PROGRESS • PROMISE

1867 2017



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MORGAN





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