MEMORANDUM

To: UMBC faculty and staff

From: UMBC President Freeman Hrabowski

Date: June 15, 2015

Subject: Presidential Statement in support of UMBC’s Small Business Program

When UMBC researchers are awarded federal contract funds, they have the opportunity to provide new and innovative answers to scientific questions or to develop unique solutions to problems facing government agencies. These awards also provide the university with the opportunity to develop and encourage relationships with businesses that have not always had access to government contracts. Small, disadvantaged, women-owned, and veteran-owned or service disabled veteran owned firms, have demonstrated time and again the ability to foster new and innovative ideas and products. Numerous benefits result from increasing the participation of small businesses of all types in University research endeavors under Federal contracts. UMBC recognizes these benefits and strongly encourages Principal Investigators (PIs) to consider small businesses first when buying the goods and services needed for federally funded projects.

To support these efforts, the Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) is responsible for notifying the Director of Procurement each time a PI applies for a federal award that requires a Small Business Subcontracting Plan. PIs work with the Director of Procurement to identify potential small business partners, using such sources as the State of Maryland’s Small Business Reserve program, the Federal System for Award Management (SAM) and the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) eLibrary. I am delighted to support UMBC’s Small Business Program.