

## Circling the World

### O'Malley Tours UMES Agriculture Programs

By Stephen A. Williams, 91.3 FM WESM News



*On behalf of myself, my staff and Secretary Richardson, we really appreciate your hospitality and your courtesy in showing us around. We are very grateful that we have such a tremendous leader at UMES who is letting smart people work together and address the problems that are facing our state, that are facing our globe. We had a very good session, thanks to the delegates and many of the senators who are here with us. We were able to increase funding from MARBIDCO. We were able to increase crop funding to record amounts. And all of that combined with the technology that's coming out for the precision farming, and the other important things you are doing - marrying aerospace and GIS and the best practices of farmers - putting them all together to also show how we can create jobs with this and increase crop yields is really some phenomenal-ly important work. Everything, from the renewable sources of energy to helping farmers become more profitable with the uses of the greenhouses and the awareness of the markets that exist out there for those things, this was really an exciting, action-filled time. . . . Keep on making us proud. This is a great university, as all of your delegates and senator have told me.*

Governor Martin O'Malley, April 19, 2007

Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley toured the University of Maryland Eastern Shore on Thursday, as he learned about the agricultural experiments the University is conducting. O'Malley was joined by a number of local, county and state leaders - including Agriculture Secretary (and Worcester County native) Roger L. Richardson. The delegation met with UMES students, professors and researchers.

Some of the agriculture experiments that O'Malley visited included a poultry house that would reduce emissions of ammonia, a hydroponic greenhouse for orchids and a new 3-D Virtual Reality simulator that could help with homeland security in the nation's ports.

After the tour ended, President Thelma B. Thompson thanked O'Malley for his visit and noted that what he saw was only a fraction of what the university does. She also said that UMES looks forward to working with him in the future.

O'Malley responded that both he and Secretary Richardson found the tour informative and helpful. He also noted the agricultural and farm initiatives that his administration has helped to pass in the General Assembly.

The visit to the UMES campus officially started the Governor's state-wide tour, which will take him to every region of Maryland over the coming weeks. O'Malley plans to highlight this year's legislative session and talk to Maryland families about the opportunities and challenges the state faces.

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**Keep UMES**

**Beautiful!**

**Do Not Litter!!!**



(L to R) Rev. Charles L. White, Jr. (Director, NAACP's National Field Operation Department), Xiomara Okonkwo, Nicholas Clemson, Danielle Taylor (President), Edmund D. Miller, Jr. (1st Vice President), Hermetta O. Hudson (Advisor and Secretary, MD State Conference NAACP), Dr. John H. Jackson (Chief Policy Officer, NAACP's Research, Training and Advocacy Division and Ernest L. Coverson, (NAACP's Region VII Director)

### UMES NAACP Attend Mid-atlantic NAACP Civil Rights Institute

Officers and members of the UMES NAACP College Chapter recently attended the 35th annual Region VII Civil Rights Advocacy Training Institute (CRATI) in Washington, D.C., where the theme for the event was "Operation Excellence: Moving from Good to Great."

UMES NAACP attendees included Danielle Taylor, president; Edmund D. Miller Jr., first vice president; Nicholas Clemson, member; Xiomara Okonkwo, member; and Hermetta O. Hudson, advisor and secretary, Maryland State Conference NAACP. Conference speakers included NAACP Interim President and CEO Dennis C. Hayes, Esquire;

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