



MARYLAND
STATE RETIREMENT
and PENSION SYSTEM

Board election slated for summer 2011

MEMBERS AND RETIREES OF THE MARYLAND STATE RETIREMENT AND PENSION SYSTEM WILL ELECT TWO RETIREE REPRESENTATIVES to the system's board of trustees in an election slated for summer 2011.

To be eligible to vie in the election, candidates must be retirees of either the Teachers' Systems or Employees' Systems. The Teachers' Systems include the Teachers' Retirement and Pension Systems. The Employees' Systems include the Correctional Officers' Retirement System, the Employees' Pension and Retirement Systems, the Judges' Retirement System, the Legislative Pension Plan, the Local Fire and Police System, and the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System.

Both active members and retirees of the respective plans may cast ballots.

The two successful candidates will serve terms in office from August 1, 2011, through July 31, 2015.

Dr. A. Melissa Moyer succeeds Mansco Perry as interim CIO

A. MELISSA MOYER, PH.D., HAS BEEN NAMED INTERIM CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER (CIO) by the Board of Trustees of the Maryland State Retirement and Pension System.

Dr. Moyer, a former board member who currently serves as Maryland deputy treasurer for financial policy, replaces former CIO Mansco Perry, III, who left the agency in October to accept a new position with Macalester College in Saint Paul, Minnesota.

"We are very fortunate to have someone with Dr. Moyer's skill and experience who is prepared to assume the duties as interim CIO during this transition period," said State Treasurer and Board Chairman Nancy K. Kopp. "Dr. Moyer brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to this key position as well as intimate knowledge of the state retirement system, which I know will serve the board of trustees and the members of the system well."

Dr. Moyer has served as deputy treasurer since 2007 and will continue in that capacity, advising Treasurer Kopp on financial policy issues deliberated on by various governmental boards and commissions, such as the \$34 billion State Retirement and Pension System, the Supplemental Teachers and



Dr. A. Melissa Moyer

Employees Retirement Plans and the College Savings Plans. From 2003 to 2007 she served as a SRPS trustee, chairing the board's corporate governance committee and sitting on the investment committee.

"The system's investment portfolio has been well-positioned by Mr. Perry under the oversight of the board and its investment committee," said Dr. Moyer. "I look forward to leading the talented financial professionals of the State Retirement Agency Investment Division over this interim period."

Dr. Moyer received her B.A. from Earlham College, continued her studies at Temple University and received her Ph.D. in Economics at the University of Notre Dame.

A career change isn't complete until you transfer your retirement credit

YOU'VE UNPACKED YOUR WORK SUPPLIES, received your new ID card and even scouted out a few places for lunch. Your career change isn't complete, though, until you apply to transfer your retirement credit.

If you recently changed jobs and retirement or pension systems, you may be eligible to transfer the service credit that you earned in the former system into your new retirement or pension account. To qualify for the transfer of service credit, your employment must be continuous and you must apply to transfer the qualified credit within one year of becoming a member of your new system.

Under limited circumstances, this one-year time limit may be waived, as follows:

- A waiver may be granted if you submit your transfer application in a timely manner but your employer fails to surrender your member contributions and interest to the State Retirement Agency.
or
- You may request a waiver from the filing deadline if you fail to submit your transfer application in a timely manner due solely to:
 - 1) misinformation from or mishandling by your employer or
 - 2) your own physical or mental

incapacity. Such a request must be made within four years of joining your new system or, if you became eligible to transfer prior to July 1, 2007, the request must be submitted on or before June 30, 2011.

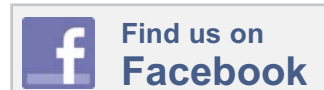
The rules of your new system determine the amount of employee contributions with interest needed to accompany the transfer of service. If you do not pay these funds, a contribution deficiency will be placed on your account. At retirement, any deficient funds and accrued interest owed to the system will result in an actuarial reduction of your monthly benefit.



For more information on eligible service transfers, forms and requirements, contact a retirement benefits specialist at 410-625-5555 or toll free at 1-800-492-5909.

On the 'Net

STAY INFORMED of issues affecting your pension by visiting the Maryland State Retirement and Pension System on Facebook.



The page includes timely announcements for members and retirees as well as links to the latest media reports about the system and the state's Public Employees' and Retirees' Benefit Sustainability Commission.

Forms, investment performance reports, benefits handbooks and pamphlets, and benefit calculators will continue to be available online at www.sra.state.md.us. For documents relating to the Sustainability Commission, click on "Related Links" from the homepage.



AS A RESULT of a mailing sent to more than 38,000 former members, the Maryland State Retirement Agency has received a surge of requests for estimates in recent weeks. These estimates are being processed as quickly as possible and will be delivered in approximately 12 weeks. Requests requiring special review may take longer. Your patience is appreciated.

Retirement Checklist



MEMBERS PLANNING TO RETIRE within the next 12 months should now be taking specific steps toward that goal. The checklist printed below provides a general timetable for retirement preparation for members of the Employees' and Teachers' Retirement and Pension Systems. But it is also a useful guide for members of other systems. This schedule shows the best time to begin filing some of the required forms and making the necessary contacts with the Retirement Agency.

One to three years prior to retirement

- ❑ Attend one of the Retirement Agency's pre-retirement seminars. Registration forms are available online. Seminars are conducted bi-annually in the spring and fall.

Twelve months prior to retirement

- ❑ Request an *Application for an Estimate of Benefits* (Form 9). Keep in mind that this form is not a retirement application. It is designed for planning purposes only. You may request an estimate only during the 12 months prior to your planned retirement date.

Note: You are not required to obtain an estimate before retiring. However, it is strongly recommended, as retirees are not permitted to change their option after their first monthly benefit is paid.

Note: The Retirement Agency is processing a large volume of requests. Please make sure to plan up to 12 months in advance so you can receive your estimate before making any irrevocable retirement decisions.

- ❑ Apply to purchase any eligible service by submitting a *Request to Purchase Previous Service* (Form 26) along with your request for an estimate.
- ❑ Apply for any eligible military credit using a *Claim of Retirement Credit for Military Service* (Form 43).
- ❑ Contact the nearest Social Security office for an estimate of your Social Security benefits. You can obtain an estimate request form by calling the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213.

Six months prior to retirement

- ❑ If desired, schedule an appointment with a retirement benefits specialist to review your estimated benefits. It is recommended that you bring a copy of your latest estimate so you and the specialist can discuss

this information at the meeting.

- ❑ Discuss your estimated benefits and options with your family and financial advisor.
- ❑ Obtain proof of birth for beneficiary (for allowance Option 2, 3, 5 or 6).
- ❑ Contact your personnel office to inquire if you may continue employer-provided benefits, such as health insurance, after retiring.
- ❑ Prepare a retirement budget, estimating your retirement expenses against your state pension benefit, Social Security and any other income.
- ❑ Update or prepare a will and, if desired, a power of attorney.

Three months prior to retirement

- ❑ Contact Social Security to file for benefits (if age 62 or older).

Two months prior to retirement

- ❑ Contact your personnel office and file your actual retirement application, *Application for Service or Disability Retirement* (Form 13-23).
- ❑ Provide proof of birth for designated beneficiary (for allowance Option 2, 3, 5 or 6).
- ❑ If eligible, complete authorization forms to continue your health coverage and any other benefits provided by your employer.
- ❑ Complete and submit a *Direct Deposit Electronic Fund Transfer Sign-Up* (Form 85) for the electronic transmission of your payment to your bank, savings institution or credit union.

Note: Direct deposit is mandatory for all retirees.

- ❑ Complete *Reemployment After Retirement* (Form 127) to acknowledge an understanding of any consequences of reentering the workforce.
- ❑ Complete a *Federal and Maryland State Tax Withholding Request* (Form 766).

One month prior to retirement

- ❑ Submit a formal letter of retirement to your employer.

Board notes

AN UPCOMING TRUSTEE ELECTION, INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE AND THE SUCCESSFUL LAUNCH OF A NEW COMPUTER SYSTEM

were among topics addressed during recent meetings of the Board of Trustees of the Maryland State Retirement and Pension System.

October 19, 2010

Trustee Morris L. Krome, vice chairman of the board's administrative committee, reported on upcoming trustee elections.

Current terms in office of Trustees Theresa Lochte and John W. Douglass, representatives of the Teachers' and Employees' Systems, respectively, end in August 2011. On a motion by Major Krome and seconded by Trustee Sheila Hill, the board approved an election schedule in which voting materials, including candidate biographies, will be mailed to eligible voters in May 2011. Election results will be announced following the July 2011 meeting of the board of trustees.

In other business, on a motion by Trustee Hill and seconded by Comptroller and Board Vice Chairman Peter Franchot, the board ratified the appointment of A. Melissa Moyer, Ph.D., as interim chief investment officer. Dr. Moyer replaces former CIO Mansco Perry, III, who recently resigned from the Maryland State Retirement Agency. (See article, page 1).

In his final report to the full board, Mr. Perry stated that as of September 30, 2010, the system's trust fund totaled \$35.2 billion with a fiscal year-to-date investment return of 11.5%.

September 21, 2010

Trustee Robert W. Schaefer, chairman of the investment committee, provided a detailed overview of the system's portfolio performance during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010. For that period, the system's overall plan performance was 14.03%. Details of Mr. Schaefer's presentation are available in the full board minutes posted online at www.sra.state.md.us.

State Treasurer and Board Chairman Nancy K. Kopp, Trustee Douglass and Maryland State Retirement Agency Executive Director R. Dean Kenderdine recognized the numerous employees who worked diligently in the planning, development and testing of the new Maryland Pension Administration System (MPAS). A multi-phase endeavor to modernize the Retirement Agency's core pension benefits administration information systems, MPAS "went live" in August and is now in use throughout the agency.

Major Krome, as part of his administrative committee report, stated that Mr. Kenderdine had introduced the agency's budget request for fiscal year 2012. Major Krome reported that it is essentially a flat budget similar in format to those pre-

sented in prior years. The workload for the agency continues to increase. Based on the year's record volume of requests for pension estimates, it can be anticipated that the system may experience a significant increase in retirees, he said.

August 17, 2010

As part of his monthly executive director's report, Mr. Kenderdine acknowledged and congratulated Chairman Kopp on her election as president of the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers. Mr. Kenderdine also recognized Deborah Bacharach, general counsel for the agency, for her appointment to the executive board of the National Association of Public Pension Attorneys.

Mr. Perry noted that the fiscal year 2010 Trust Universe Comparison Service (TUCS) report for public pension funds greater than \$25 billion ranked the system in the 35th percentile and in the 28th percentile for public funds greater than \$1 billion.

The 14-member board, which is responsible for establishing investment and administrative policy and overseeing the management of the Maryland State Retirement Agency, meets each month at the system's administrative offices in Baltimore. Full meeting minutes are available the month following the meeting at www.sra.state.md.us.

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