

President Pines emphasizes "cutting edge" research during 2023 State of the Campus Address
Nene Narh-Mensah

University of Maryland President Darryll Pines **acknowledged the rise of ChatGPT by using it to write part of his State of the Campus address** on Wednesday.¹

"The calculator was just a tool, just a tool. ChatGPT is the newest of our tools," Pines said. "So don't be afraid of it. We have to understand it — its limitations, its benefits, its pitfalls. "²

He also celebrated accomplishments by students and faculty.

The university now has 67 members of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine among its faculty, Pines said. He **highlighted** the achievements of professors Ruth Zambrana³ — the only fellow in the National Academy of Medicine at this university⁴— and Ji-Cheng Zhao⁵— who is a member of the National Academy of Engineering, the National Academy of Inventors and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.⁶

Pines also talked about distinguished university biology professor Sean Carroll⁷, who was nominated for an academy award for his role as executive producer of the documentary *All That Breathes*.⁸

This university placed fourth in the William Lowell Putnam Mathematical Competition, a national math competition for undergraduates across the United States and Canada.⁹ **This was the school's** best finish in more than four decades, Pines said, ranking first of all the public schools in the event.¹⁰ Three students at this university made the top 100 scorers out of **more than 3,000** participants.¹¹

During his previous address in the fall semester, Pines announced the finalists for the Grand Challenges Grant Program, which was designed to give \$30 million in awards to research[CQ] focusing on pressing social and policy issues.¹²

¹ https://otter.ai/u/q1V1FUgDtLDiVgtc0tw0UCuxw9M?utm_source=copy_url (3:25)

² https://otter.ai/u/q1V1FUgDtLDiVgtc0tw0UCuxw9M?utm_source=copy_url

³ <https://socy.umd.edu/facultyprofile/zambrana/ruth>

⁴ https://otter.ai/u/q1V1FUgDtLDiVgtc0tw0UCuxw9M?utm_source=copy_url (5:06)

⁵ <https://mse.umd.edu/clark/faculty/1195/JiCheng-JC-Zhao>

⁶ https://otter.ai/u/q1V1FUgDtLDiVgtc0tw0UCuxw9M?utm_source=copy_url (6:33)

⁷ <https://biology.umd.edu/people/sean-carroll>

⁸ https://otter.ai/u/q1V1FUgDtLDiVgtc0tw0UCuxw9M?utm_source=copy_url (6:51)

⁹ <https://www.maa.org/math-competitions/putnam-competition>

¹⁰ https://otter.ai/u/q1V1FUgDtLDiVgtc0tw0UCuxw9M?utm_source=copy_url (11:03)

¹¹ https://otter.ai/u/q1V1FUgDtLDiVgtc0tw0UCuxw9M?utm_source=copy_url (12:01)

¹² <https://dbknews.com/2022/11/03/pines-state-of-campus-address-2022/>

During Wednesday's address, Pines announced the winners of the grant, which has the largest award amount¹³ of up to \$1 **million** per year for three years of funding.¹⁴ The winners were Addressing Climate Change for a Sustainable Earth¹⁵, the Maryland Initiative for Literacy and Equity¹⁶ and the Global FEWture Alliance.¹⁷

Six other projects won¹⁸ impact awards,¹⁹ which provide up to \$250,**000** per year for two years of funding: the Maryland Initiative for Digital Accessibility²⁰; Urban Equity Collaborative²¹; Democracy Research, Education, and Civic Action²²; Microbiome Sciences²³; Values-Centered Artificial Intelligence²⁴ and the Pandemic Preparedness initiative.²⁵

“Winners of these competitive grants will engage undergraduate and graduate students, community members and other stakeholders in taking creative evidence-based strategies out into the real world where they can have a tangible impact,” Pines said.

SLUG: 3.9.2023.state.of.the.campus

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¹³ https://otter.ai/u/q1V1FUgDtLDiVgtc0tw0UCuxw9M?utm_source=copy_url (24:02)

¹⁴ <https://research.umd.edu/gc/ig>

¹⁵ <https://research.umd.edu/climatechallenges>

¹⁶

<https://research.umd.edu/mile#:~:text=The%20Maryland%20Initiative%20for%20Literacy.policy%2C%20and%20community%20stakeholder%20outreach.>

¹⁷ <https://research.umd.edu/globalFEWture>

¹⁸ https://otter.ai/u/q1V1FUgDtLDiVgtc0tw0UCuxw9M?utm_source=copy_url (25:47)

¹⁹ <https://research.umd.edu/gc/ia>

²⁰ <https://research.umd.edu/mida>

²¹ <https://research.umd.edu/urbanequity>

²² <https://research.umd.edu/idreca>

²³ <https://research.umd.edu/microbiome>

²⁴ <https://research.umd.edu/vcai>

²⁵ <https://research.umd.edu/ppi>

LENGTH: 500 words

DEADLINE: Mar 8 at 6:30 p.m.

WHAT'S THE NEWS: President Pines will be delivering the state of the campus address during a [university senate meeting](#) on Mar 8.

SO WHAT: It would be good to see where the campus is in terms of its current goals, and what future goals it's looking to accomplish

SOURCES: Pines, university information

ART: Pines giving the speech in the Colony Ballroom of the Stamp Student Union

TRANSLATION: could go either way

CUTS

highlighted university initiatives enacted as a part of his Fearlessly Forward strategic plan.²⁶

During that speech

²⁶ <https://dbknews.com/2022/11/03/pines-state-of-campus-address-2022/>