

Appointed members: William Tilghman, 1977; Mrs. William F. Robie, 1978; Mrs. Edward Satterthwaite, 1979; James A. Avirett, 1980; Grace Slocum, 1980; Annie T. Reid, 1981.

The Maryland Advisory Council on Libraries was created by Chapter 770, Acts of 1971 to gather information pertaining to the needs of libraries throughout the State, render advice for consideration by the Division of Library Development and Services, the State Superintendent of Schools, the State Board of Education, and the Governor and engage in other activities to promote continued improvement of library services in the State.

The Council consists of eleven members, all of whom must be residents of the State. The Governor appoints seven of the members for terms of five years, but no member may serve more than two consecutive terms. Of the appointed members, one must be a library trustee, and one a professional librarian. Five members represent the general public, but each must be knowledgeable in library and public affairs. The remaining members must be the Chairman of the Council on Higher Education, the President of the Enoch Pratt Free Library Board of Trustees, the President of the Maryland Library Association, and the Dean of the School of Library and Information Services of the University of Maryland or their designated representatives. The Governor designates the Chairman while the Council members select the Vice Chairman. The Assistant Superintendent for Libraries of the State Department of Education acts as Secretary to the Council.

Funds for the Advisory Council are provided in the budget of the Division of Library Development and Services of the State Department of Education (Code 1975, Repl. Vol., 1975 Supp., Art. 77, sec. 167).

DIVISION OF RESEARCH, EVALUATION, AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS

The fundamental purpose of the Division of Research, Evaluation, and Information Systems is the improvement of the public

educational enterprise by the application of modern techniques in the collection, analysis, and utilization of experimental and operational statistics and information. The Division provides services for and works cooperatively with the other divisions of the State Department of Education, the local school systems, the University of Maryland, the Federal Government, professional associations, and other interested organizations and individuals. Services include assistance in defining areas of investigation, identifying relevant data, designing appropriate data-gathering instruments and procedures, and processing, analyzing, and interpreting data. On the basis of the findings, existing practices may be evaluated and programs for educational improvement may be implemented. The Division maintains a bank of educational data which may be drawn upon in connection with these services. The specific services performed by the Division depend upon the special needs of the recipient, as well as the resources of the Division.

The work of the Division falls into five general categories. Regardless of category, there is overlapping cooperation and responsibility among the staff members. The following are the major functions of the Division: research and evaluation services, information services, planning services, and operation of the Maryland Accountability Program (Code 1957, 1975 Repl. Vol., 1975 Supp., Art. 77, secs. 8, 17, 20, and 28A).

DIVISION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Division of Special Education provides administrative, programmatic, and technical leadership to assist local education agencies in offering free public education to all handicapped children and youth. Administratively, these services include the provision of program planning, fiscal consultation to local education agencies, the evaluation of educational programs within institutional and day care centers, the evaluation and placement of students in non-public settings, and the administration and monitoring of substantial funds under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Programmatically, the Division