



The President's *Message*

*L*ife is a lot more pleasant when we get along with our neighbors. This is true of neighbors at home and at work.

Making sure the University is a good neighbor has been among my priorities since returning here in 2010. It's more than just being civil, although you know the importance I place on that. Getting along with our neighbors can be the difference between an initiative being good or being great. Buy-in from the surrounding community makes all the difference.

Take the \$200 million Maryland Proton Treatment Center on which we recently broke ground, for instance. Aside from bringing the most advanced radiation technology in cancer treatment to the Baltimore-Washington area for the first time, the 110,000-square-foot center marks the latest expansion of the BioPark, promising employment opportunities, restaurants, retail shops, and more to the surrounding community.

It was wonderful to see local residents and our political representatives in attendance as proton center director William Regine, MD, of the School of Medicine led the governor, the mayor, and others in the groundbreaking. As I said in my remarks that day, the Maryland Proton Treatment Center and, indeed, the entire BioPark would not have been possible without the cooperation of the city and the West Baltimore community in which our campus is located.

The previous day at a group Q&A (which is detailed beginning on page 8), our police chief, Tony Williams, spoke of how the University Police Force has been embraced by the neighborhood. He said the University and its police force has done such a good job in the 800 block of W. Baltimore St. where the BioPark is located that he gets calls asking, "Chief, can you move up to the 900 block? Can you move up to the 1000 block? Your 800 block looks clean and safe and we love it."

There are too many positive interactions between the University and the West Baltimore community to fit into this space. But I would like to mention CLUB UMD, the mentoring and youth leadership program that is part of our President's Outreach Council. Club UMD just completed its fourth year of partnering with Southwest Baltimore Charter School, Vivien T. Thomas Medical Arts Academy, and the Y of Central Maryland at George Washington Elementary to provide after-school activities, high school internships, and support for the schoolchildren's parents.

The UM Staff Senate has led efforts to support the Ronald McDonald House across from the Lexington Building. The Westside Task Force that I co-chair with Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake also is doing good things (see page 13).

We're making great strides. But, like in most of our endeavors, we have a long way to go. Thanks for being a good neighbor to your colleagues and for helping the University be a good neighbor to our community.

All the best,

Jay A. Perman, MD
President



Laurels

CAMPUSWIDE



Devin Barnett

Devin Barnett, intramural sports specialist at University Recreation and Fitness (URecFit), has accepted a full paid graduate assistantship at Texas State University, San Marcos.

“Using an Automated Tool to Calculate Return on Investment and Cost Benefit Analysis Figures for Resources: The Health Sciences and Human Services Library (HS/HSL) Experience”—an article written by **Aphrodite Bodycomb, MSM, MBA**, associate director for operations and technology at HS/HSL, and **Meg Del Baglivo, MLS**, serials metadata librarian at HS/HSL—was published in the April issue of the *Journal of the Medical Library Association*.

The University Student Government Association officers for 2012-13 recently were elected. They include: **Shannon O'Connor**, Graduate School, president; **Justin Taylor**, Graduate School, vice president; **Angela Chiang**, School of Medicine, secretary; **Amanda Pfaff**, School of Nursing, treasurer; **Jessica Minacapelli**, School of Medicine, program chair; **Stephanie Walters**, School of Pharmacy, webmaster; **Theresa Card**, School of Nursing, parliamentarian.



Anna Roskowinski

Anna Roskowinski, MS, assistant director of sports programs at URecFit, spoke about professional networking skills during the J. Michael Dunn Student Professional Development Workshop, which was part of this year’s National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association’s annual conference in Tampa, Fla.

The Eastern Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators has chosen **Patricia Scott**, assistant vice president of the Office of Student Financial Assistance and Education, to serve as chair of its Multicultural Diversity Committee.



Hoai-An Truong

Hoai-An Truong, PharmD '05, MPH '07, alumnus of the School of Pharmacy and School of Medicine, assistant professor in the School of Pharmacy’s Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, and assistant director of the School’s Experiential Learning Program,

received the Alumnus of the Year Award from the Phi Lambda Sigma Pharmacy Leadership Society Beta Lambda Chapter. He will also be inducted as an alumnus member into the Delta Omega Honorary Society in Public Health through the School of Medicine’s Beta Tau chapter.

Deno Tufares, JD, functional manager in the Center for Information Technology Services, Student Systems Center, has been named a 2012 outstanding contributor to SunGard Higher Education Commons, an online information source about the education component of SunGard, a software and technology services company.

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY



Gary Hack

Gary Hack, DDS, associate professor in the Department of Endodontics, Prosthodontics, and Operative Dentistry, and director of simulation, delivered the presentation “Teaching, Learning, and Curriculum Development” during the American Dental Education Association’s annual session in Orlando, Fla., in March.



Norbert Myslinski

Norbert Myslinski, PhD, associate professor in the Department of Neural and Pain Sciences, was named the Best Professor of the Year by the School's Class of 2015.

Endodontics resident **Prashant Verma, DDS**, received the Outstanding New Dentist Award from the Maryland State Dental Association. The award includes a \$1,000 sponsorship to attend the American Dental Association New Dentist Conference in June in Washington, D.C.

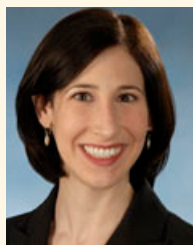
FRANCIS KING CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW

Avery Blank, JD '11, was named an outstanding law student by the National Association of Women Lawyers. The honor recognizes high academic achievement, advancement of women in society, and promotion of issues facing women in the legal profession.

Honorees during the Black Law Student Association's recent annual banquet included **Terese Brown, JD '06**, director of student affairs; **Larry Gibson, LLB**, professor; and alumni **Emerson Dorsey Jr., JD '79**, **Harry Johnson, JD '79**, **Joan Sessoms-Ford, JD '71**, and **Elva Tillman, JD '87**.

Students **Brendan Costigan**, **Matt Haven**, and **Derek Simmons** advanced to the regional finals of the National Moot Court Competition. **Kirsten Hiera** and **Rachel Sauter** advanced to the semifinals in the William B. Bryant-Luke Charles Moore Invitational Moot Court Competition at Howard University School of Law, and **Brian Hill** and **Pauline Pelletier** won the award for best appellant brief during the Northeastern Region round of the Giles Sutherland Rich Memorial Moot Court Competition in Washington, D.C.

Michelle Harner, JD, co-director of the Business Law Program, was appointed the reporter for the American Bankruptcy Institute's Commission to Study the Reform of Chapter 11.



Leslie Meltzer Henry

Op-Eds by the following faculty were recently published: **Leslie Meltzer Henry, JD, MSc**, assistant professor, and **Max Stearns, JD**, the Maxbury Research Professor of Law, who co-wrote "Individual Mandate Is Constitutional" in *The Baltimore Sun*; **Renée Hutchins, JD**, associate

professor, who wrote "A Step Back for Rights" in *The Baltimore Sun*; and **Sherrilyn Ifill, JD**, professor, who wrote "Stand With Trayvon's Mother for Justice" for the CNN Opinion website.

Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley has commuted the sentence of Mark Farley Grant after extensive work on Grant's behalf by **Renée Hutchins, JD**, associate professor, and the **Appellate and Post-Conviction Advocacy Clinic**. Grant was convicted of felony murder 27 years ago but doubts about his guilt have arisen.



Matt Kent



Josh Lowery

Students **Matt Kent** and **Josh Lowery** have won Peggy Browning Fellowships to work on labor and economic justice issues during the summer.

Robert Percival, JD, MA, the Robert F. Stanton Professor of Law and director of the Environmental Law Program, led a group of students and alumni on a trip to China during spring break. The trip included visits with environmental policymakers and attorneys.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Mordecai Blaustein, MD, professor in the departments of physiology and medicine and director of the Maryland Center for Heart, Hypertension, and Kidney Disease, was interviewed for a podcast on molecular mechanisms linking salt to hypertension. The interview was published by the *American Journal of Physiology*. Blaustein also received a four-year, \$383,750 grant from the National Heart, Lung,

and Blood Institute for “Alpha-2 Na⁺ Pumps, Ca²⁺, Arterial Contraction & Hypertension.”

Jonathan Bromberg, MD, PhD, head of the Division of Transplantation in the Department of Surgery, recently made several presentations including “Anatomy of Tolerance (Or Why Surgeons Are So Important for Research),” which was delivered during a meeting in San Juan of the Puerto Rico chapter of the American College of Surgeons.

Emilie Calvello, MD, MPH, assistant professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine, traveled to Nicaragua recently as a member of a team that trained hospital staff and medical students at La Mascota Hospital for Children in Managua. The weeklong trip was sponsored by the Surgeons of Hope Foundation and a grant from Ronald McDonald House Charities.

“Molecular Imaging of Human ACE-1 Expression in Transgenic Rats,” an article written by **Vasken Dilsizian, MD**, professor in the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine and chief of the Division of Nuclear Medicine at the University of Maryland Medical Center, was published in the April issue of the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology: Cardiovascular Imaging*.

Richard Eckert, PhD, the John F.B. Weaver Professor and chair of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, has been appointed secretary of the Association of American Medical and Graduate Departments of Biochemistry.

Bruce Krueger, PhD, professor in the Department of Physiology, and **Elizabeth Powell, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, received a five-year, \$1,592,565 grant from the National Institutes of Health’s Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development for their work “Mechanisms of Valproic Acid-Induced Neurodevelopmental and Behavioral Defects.”

An invention by professor **Yun Qiu, PhD**, research associate **Zhiyong Guo, PhD, MD**, and postdoctorate fellow **Xi Yang, PhD, MD**, of human androgen receptor alternative splice variants as biomarkers and therapeutic targets for prostate cancer has been issued a U.S. patent. The inventors are from the School’s Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics.



Eliot Siegel

Eliot Siegel, MD, professor in the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, and director of the Maryland Imaging Research Technologies Laboratory, recently delivered several keynote addresses, including a presentation on imaging during the first International Congress on Personalized Medicine in Florence, Italy.

Jade Wong-You-Cheong, MD, professor in the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, was appointed to the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine Board of Governors.

SCHOOL OF NURSING



Susan Bindon

A collection compiled by assistant professor **Susan Bindon, DNP, RN-BC**, of the best articles among 155 that she reviewed on the preparation, role, and importance of preceptors was posted on the *Journal for Nurses in Staff Development* website. The list is also the topic of an editorial in the March 2012 issue of the journal, for which Bindon is the Web editor.



Jana Goodson

Jana Goodson, human resource coordinator, has earned a certification as a professional in human resources from the Human Resources Certification Institute.



Marian Grant

“Conversations With Strangers: The Needs of Those Accessing an Online Palliative Care Nurse Practitioner on a Pancreatic Cancer Website,” by **Marian Grant, DNP, CRNP, ACHPN, RN**, assistant professor, won an Outstanding Poster Award during the annual assembly of the

American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine and the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association, held recently in Denver.



Deborah McGuire

Deborah McGuire, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor, has been named an editorial consultant for *Supportive Care in Cancer*, the journal of the Multinational Association of Supportive Care in Cancer/International Society of Oral Oncology.



Patricia Morton

Patricia Morton, PhD, MS, RN, ACNP, FAAN, professor and associate dean for academic affairs, co-authored the new book *Essentials of Critical Care Nursing: A Holistic Approach*.

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

The School’s student chapter of the **American Pharmacists Association (APhA)** won the following awards during the association’s annual meeting, held in March in New Orleans: Division A First Runner-up Chapter Achievement Award, Operation Heart Region 2 Award, and Operation Immunization Region 2 Award.



Lauren Angelo

Lauren Angelo, PharmD, clinical assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science (PPS), and student **Dawn Lockman** received the 2012 American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Walmart Scholars Program Award.

Angelo has also served on the editorial advisory board for the APhA book *How to Start an MTM Practice: A Guidebook for Pharmacists*.

Larry Augsburger, PhD, professor emeritus in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences (PSC), is among the inventors of a recently patented, novel method of making fast disintegrating dosage forms.



Robert Beardsley

Robert Beardsley, PhD, RPh, MS, vice chair of education in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research (PHSR), has been chosen to receive the Noel B. Flynn Award for Alumni Achievement from the Oregon State University College of Pharmacy.



Jinani Jayasekera

Student **Jinani Jayasekera, MS**, received an award for research in aging during the Graduate Research Conference hosted by the University of Maryland’s Graduate Student Association in April.



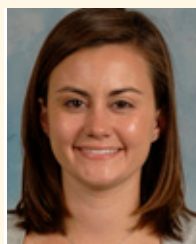
Anna Le



Carmela Groves



Darci Eubank



Brittany Good



Xiaoxue Bo

The following students received awards in the student poster contest during the midyear meeting of the Maryland Pharmacists Association/Maryland chapter of the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists: **Anna Le** (first place), **Carmela Groves** (second place), **Darci Eubank** and **Brittany Good** (third place), and **Xiaoxue Bo** (honorable mention).



Cherokee Layson-Wolf

Cherokee Layson-Wolf, PharmD '00, associate professor in PPS, has been named the School's assistant dean for experiential learning. She has also been appointed a pharmacist specialist member of the Board of Pharmacy Specialties Specialty Council on Ambulatory Care Pharmacy.



Raymond Love

Raymond Love, PharmD '77, FASHP, professor in PPS, has been appointed to the Pharmacy Quality Alliance Mental Health Workgroup.



Mary Lynn McPherson

Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD '86, vice chair for education in PPS, has been awarded fellow status from the American Society of Pain Educators and the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists.



Frank Palumbo

Frank Palumbo, PhD, JD, executive director of the Center on Drugs and Public Policy, has been chosen to receive the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Medical University of South Carolina.



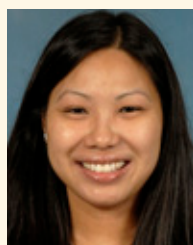
Magaly Rodriguez de Bittner

PPS chair **Magaly Rodriguez de Bittner, PharmD '83, CDE, FAPhA**, participated in the Rosenberg Dialogue Series' panel discussion "Access to Pharmaceutical Products and Services for Underserved Populations: Public and Private Sector Roles in the USA and in India." She also has been selected as the commencement speaker for the University of California, San Francisco's School of Pharmacy.



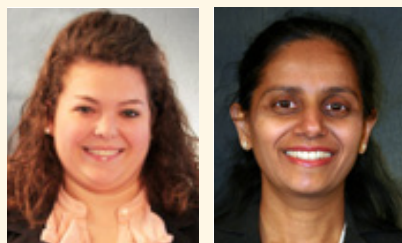
Paul Shapiro

Paul Shapiro, PhD, associate professor in PSC, has been named the department's vice chair for education.



Dianna Staves

Student **Dianna Staves** has been named the Col. Jerry W. Ross Scholar by the American Pharmacists Association Foundation.



Alexandria Sutton Sudha Veeraghavan

Alexandria Sutton, development officer, received this year's James T. Hill Scholarship from the University. The \$2,000 prize, named after the longtime University vice president who retired in 2009, helps further employee development through support of education and training. **Sudha Veeraghavan, PhD**, associate professor in PSC, received a U.S. patent for "Mutant Proline and Arginine Rich Peptides and Methods for Using the Same." She also has been named director of PSC's graduate program.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



Dick Cook Megan Meyer

The following people won awards during this year's annual conference of the Maryland chapter of the National Association of Social Workers, held in Baltimore in late March: **Carole Alexander, MA**, clinical instructor (Social Worker of the Year); **Dick Cook, MSW '72**, director of the Social Work Community Outreach Service (Lifetime Achievement Award); **Megan Meyer, PhD, MSW**, associate professor (Social Work Educator of the Year); **Walter McNeil Jr., MSW '96**, field instructor (Field Instructor of the Year); and student **Ciera Clay Valian** (MSW Student of the Year).



Bethany Lee Frederick Strieder

Co-authors of the article "Evidence-Based Practice at a Crossroads: The Emergence of Common Elements and Common Factors," published recently in the journal *Research on Social Work Practice*, include **Dean Richard P. Barth, PhD, MSW**; associate professors **Kathryn Collins, PhD, MSW**, and **Michael Lindsey, PhD, MSW, MPH**; assistant professor **Bethany Lee, PhD, MSW**; and **Frederick Strieder, PhD, MSSA**, director of the Family Connections program.



Melissa Bellin Philip Osteen

Assistant professors **Melissa Bellin, PhD, MSW**, and **Philip Osteen, PhD, MSW**, received first place in an investigative award competition during the Second World Congress on Spina Bifida Research and Care, held recently in Las Vegas. Co-authors of their paper "Family Functioning, Self-Management, and the Trajectory of Psychological Symptoms in Emerging Adults With Spina Bifida" include doctoral student **Elizabeth Aparicio, MSW**.



Jody Olsen

Visiting professor **Jody Olsen, PhD, MSW '72**, gave the keynote speech "Social Work Matters Around the World: Experiences and Opportunities" during the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Center for International Social Work Studies at the University of Connecticut.

Questions and Answers

The topics below came from questions submitted to Dr. Perman and his leadership team at <http://um.umaryland.edu/president/ask/>.

QUESTION:

The state of Maryland government is a participating employer under the House Keys 4 Employees Program. The program does not cover employees within the University System of Maryland. Institutions would need to sign up separately to become a participating employer. Has the University thought about participating in this program? This would be a huge benefit to employees on this campus, especially given the state of the economy.

ANSWER:

The University is exploring the possibility of participation in the House Keys 4 Employees homeownership initiative as well as the Baltimore City Live Near Your Work program. These programs will be offered to UM and BioPark employees on a first-come, first-served basis. An announcement about the programs will be forthcoming this summer.

QUESTION:

My question is about tuition remission for people who retire from the University. Is there anything that can be done to obtain educational benefits for retirees? Allowing for free access, total tuition remission, for all who have retired would be beneficial for keeping retired people active and informed, and a chance to promote growth and diversity of thought.

ANSWER:

The University does provide tuition remission benefits for retirees who are receiving a state of Maryland retirement check and/or Optional Retirement Program (ORP) periodic distribution, and having earned at least five years of total

service credit at one or more USM institutions. This is a very popular benefit for both active and retired employees of the University System of Maryland. For additional information, visit <http://br.umaryland.edu/benefits/index.html>.



QUESTION:

The intersection at the southeast corner of Paca and Pratt streets is deadly! I walk to work every day, and it is impossible to cross while two lanes of traffic are making right turns. At one time, there was a delay to allow pedestrians to cross. Could this be reinstated? I know that at one time the campus was attempting to do this.

ANSWER:

You are correct. That is an incredibly busy intersection, especially in the morning. We will ask the city to re-evaluate the timing of the lights, but since it is the main corridor for Russell Street and 295 northbound traffic, they will be reluctant to slow down traffic. I would recommend crossing at Eutaw Street a block to the east or at the pedestrian crossing near the stadium to avoid the risk of turning traffic. Since that intersection is not within our boundaries, we will not be able to use some of the traffic-slowing methodologies we are implementing on-site.



The following excerpts come from Dr. Perman's group Q&A on April 16 at the School of Social Work auditorium. The Q&A was devoted to a single topic: campus safety. University Police Chief Tony Williams was the guest speaker.

Dr. Perman: In view of understandable concerns relating to safety and security on campus, I thought we would change the format today and keep it topic specific and talk frankly about campus security. What we're talking about here is not simply the matter of a campus; it's a matter of community.

We are an open campus that sits in an open urban environment with all the challenges of an urban environment. That's the case here and, believe me, we're not moving the

University. So we have to deal with what we can do as a campus. I want you to buy into the concept that everything we do in this University in order to make this place better is our response to crime. It's making a better society, as trite as that might sound. I've heard from parents, 'Is it safe for my kid to be at the University of Maryland, Baltimore?' It's a legitimate question.

Some of you know that I raised a daughter and a son-in-law in this medical school on this campus so I understand what it means to be a parent of students at this campus and I'm sensitive to that. So what do we need to do? What can we do as individuals and as a group to learn how to be safer in a big-city urban environment? I'm going to ask Chief Williams to begin the discussion.

Chief Williams: Thank you for this opportunity. Dr. Perman said something that I really subscribe to and I hope you do, too, when he talks about transforming the community and being a pillar and an anchor in the community. To some of you that sounds like fluff, but that's why I do what I do. I don't get any joy out of running around and arresting people. But what we hope to accomplish are some life-changing and community-changing events—and this University is in a great place to do that.

One of the things that Sir Robert Peel said—who was legendary in the world of policing as chief of the London metropolitan police in the 1800s—was the police are the community and the community is the police. He said the police really are no more than people who get paid to do a job that is really everyone's responsibility. So I would behoove us all to get involved. Our motto in this police department is that Safety Begins with You. The police don't work alone in public safety. We need your participation as well.

I'd like to talk for a few minutes about crime statistics. If you look at our past three years of crime statistics, which are posted at www.umaryland.edu/police, you might say, 'Oh my, what happened in 2010?' and think there was a big spike in crime. Actually there was a big spike in crime *information*, because that year, which is when I arrived on campus, is when we were able to get reports and statistics from the Baltimore

City Police Department to augment our own University data. Even with the numbers you see, it's still a lot of zeros, quite frankly.

Most of the crime that occurs on this campus is what we refer to as property crime. There is more chance that someone will have belongings taken from their office or car as opposed to being robbed. That's not to say we're not concerned, but that is our reality.

Thanks to your help we have seen major gains from the 189 theft crimes we had at the University in 2010. You listened when we told you to take your belongings with you, to lock your offices, close your doors when you go out, lock your cars. Crimes against property in the first quarter of 2011 were 45; this year—15. You look at thefts—21 in the first three months of 2011; this year we've had nine. Thank you for pitching in and helping us out.

Statistics are one of the things we use when making comparisons but they are not the only thing. For instance, I'm often asked to compare our campus and that of Johns Hopkins Homewood. Our University sits entirely on public property with many public streets running through it. If you look at Hopkins on a map, you will see many green spaces—athletic fields and the like—and there is not one public street that goes through it. So when we look at other places and want to compare, let's make sure we look at things that are comparable to our environment.

If something happens on a public street outside any of our buildings or on the sidewalk, we have to report it in our crime statistics. This campus is still much better off than the areas outside of our jurisdiction. We'll continue to try to do a good job and concentrate on keeping you safe within our borders.

Now I want to talk about alerts and notifications. Let me say this very candidly. Doing alerts and notifications is a no-win scenario. Every single time you do it, even if you send something out five seconds after an incident has occurred, someone is going to ask, why did you send this, it's not enough information, it's too much information.

Here are the requirements. First, we have to follow the Jeanne Clery Act, a law that tells us when we have to send messages out, and what our requirements and responsibilities are. That handbook is 220 pages of material we have to abide by. Simply stated there are two criteria we have to look at. One, is it a Clery reportable crime? In other words, is it on the list of incidents that we have to report?

No. 2, is there a continuing threat of danger to the University of Maryland, Baltimore? That right there is open to some interpretation. We have to make judgments based on the facts and circumstances available to us. Take the shooting at the Plaza Garage last October. Some people wanted to know why didn't you send out a text alert? There's an armed gunman on the loose. Well, we look at the circumstances. We knew within two or three minutes after that shooting that the suspect was gone from this campus. Now, is there a continuing threat of danger? People shoot people and they rob people in the city. Then they run. I know this from spending 20-some years in the city police working homicide. The last place they want to be is standing waiting for the police to get there.

So we evaluate that and determine if there is a continuing threat to the University. So those are the two things we look at when we send messages out. And the crime incidents have to occur within our area of responsibility.

Recently when a medical student was assaulted in front of Pickles Pub, we were asked, 'Why didn't you send out a text alert?' Well, not that we're not concerned. In fact, our officers contacted the student to see if we could offer assistance. But in terms of putting out an alert, here's the thing: Pickles Pub is not a part of our campus, we don't have jurisdiction there so we don't report it. That might sound a little harsh but that's our reality. Someone said, 'Chief, you send out messages about random events that don't even involve people at our campus. Why would you do that?' It's simple. It's a Clery reportable crime and it happened in my area of responsibility.

We've also been doing a better job of getting information out. Some people see that and think we have more crime

than we used to. The reality is you're getting better quality information than you had before. And some of you have asked for that, quite frankly. Overall, we're striving to get it right. There's a whole communications committee working to improve that process. We're looking at social media and other avenues to issue better quality information in a more timely fashion. We also have a public safety survey coming out soon that I hope you will complete. We're also going to re-establish the Safety Begins with You brochure.

In terms of patrols, we're walking foot patrols more, getting officers out of their cars. Responding to your requests, we're working intersections more with officers wearing traffic vests. We've realigned our patrols to offer better service at night. And we're beginning to utilize Segways, which are brilliant transportation vehicles for police.

They can go places where a car can't go—where even a bicycle can't go. Highly visible, they're environmentally friendly. They don't use gasoline, they run on house current batteries. We charge them up and they last pretty much all day.

We're also using our campus cameras to be more pro-active in responding to problems, directing our patrol force to incidents and conditions that may need attention.

Another thing we're working on is a better shuttle program. Public Safety doesn't operate the University shuttle program, but I thought it was something we could work on to improve. We have a great committee working on that. If the information we're looking at now pans out, the shuttle program's going to be fantastic. It'll be leaps and bounds above what we have now.

Also I'd like to talk very quickly about services. One of the things we ask you is to call us for escorts. We provide essentially three types of escorts. Walking, ride in the police van, and sometimes we'll pick people up in the police car and ride them. We've seen some slight increases in use yet I would still encourage you and those you work with to call us for an escort (410-706-6882 or ext. 6-6882 from a campus phone). We're working to make some changes to provide even better customer service.

Also as far as services, we're going to continue to give you good information and statistics. If I could ask one favor of all of you it's this: If you need crime statistics for any reason come to us and ask and we'll give you what you need. We can explain it and clarify it. We don't hide anything. Matter of fact we maintain a crime log every day in the police station. You can walk in there Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. and see all the crime you want.

How many of you know we have a Crime Prevention and Awareness Committee at this University? Some of you know because you have participated. Cpl. J.R. Jones is our crime and safety awareness officer. He works with the committee. So we're asking people, particularly students, to get involved.

I appreciate the opportunity to share our information with you. That being said, now we'd like to take some questions.



QUESTION:

Dr. Perman: I'll take the prerogative of asking the first question. What do you think of my using my cellphone text messaging and emailing while I'm walking across campus. Am I being smart?

ANSWER:

Chief Williams: You are smart. My mother didn't raise no dummy. [Crowd laughs] But to get serious, here's the thing. The robberies that have occurred to our people on this campus have all involved cellphones. So we have asked and please pass this on: Don't be distracted by texting or talking on your phone while you are walking. It seems there's a big problem with this. There are some dynamics at play here. Some of it, quite frankly, has gang implications to it. Very simply stated if you are walking the streets, whether you're on this campus or not, it would be a wise thing not to be texting or talking on your phone.

One of the things we're pushing is to have the University emergency number [410-706-3333] programmed into your cellphone so you can just speed-dial us. That's an excellent suggestion and we have a campaign coming out with a host

of things to emphasize. That's something all of us can do to prevent something from happening



QUESTION:

I've seen in another situation people had whistles. I don't know if you recommend that or maybe pepper spray?

ANSWER:

We actually give out whistles to students. A whistle is a very simple crime prevention tool. It's very easy. We recognize it draws attention. If someone suspicious is approaching believe me you start blowing that whistle loud the approaching person says 'I don't know what's going on or if this person's crazy.' It might sound funny or foolish, but it's actually a good prevention and deterrent technique that we encourage.

As far as pepper spray, legally we can't carry pepper spray on this campus. We have a policy against carrying weapons and pepper spray is considered a weapon. So I can't endorse that.



QUESTION:

Do you want to know about panhandlers and vagrants lying on benches, hanging out around cars, and things like that?

ANSWER:

If you see it absolutely call us because we'll deal with it. Now there is no law against panhandling in our state. So we have to treat it astutely. Yes, we want to know because we can talk to people. Sometimes just talking to people is enough to persuade them that we're paying attention.

For example, I can tell you when I'm driving into work west on Martin Luther King Boulevard, panhandlers don't cross Franklin or Mulberry Street. They know the next street is Saratoga and that's ours so they stay away because they know better. We want to reach the point where they feel that way about the whole campus. So legally if we can harass them we will, so yes, please call us.



QUESTION:

Chief Williams, you gave the example of the student at Pickles Pub who was off campus and outside your jurisdiction. Could you tell the group more about what is on campus as far as the patrolling and your report?

ANSWER:

It's a little complicated, but the simplest way is to look at the campus map (<http://www.umaryland.edu/map/>). The corner with Russell Street and Camden Yards, that's not ours. By the BioPark, it's only the 800 block of W. Baltimore St. We have a legal agreement where we patrol in a certain area that is a couple blocks off our campus. We have to report some of that territory. But if you want to know what are we responsible for, what's on campus, it's this area on the map, bordered by West Saratoga Street on the north to West Pratt Street on the south and then Paca Street on the east to Martin Luther King Boulevard on the west. Then we pick up the BioPark across Martin Luther King Boulevard.

Now what makes it a little more complicated is that as the campus stands, if we own, lease, operate, or control a building in this city that's part of our jurisdiction and we have to report on it. As we expand more we'll be responsible for reporting those areas. I know a lot of people view that if it is within walking distance it's on campus, but it's not on campus. It's important for us because as much as we care and are concerned we don't have jurisdiction. We don't police down by Camden Yards, we can't police Pickles Pub, we don't police west of the 800 block of Baltimore St. or Fayette St.

Dr. Perman: Let me just expand on that to provoke a little discussion. For me, this is a very tough issue. Some of you may recall, and I hope I don't agitate anybody, there was an incident at McDonald's over here. Two guys got into a fight. People who have nothing to do with our University in a McDonalds. And there was a subset of students who felt very strongly that that should be reported and it was. Now, I don't know about that! I mean where is the end of it? In terms of doing the right thing, but using common sense. I'm just asking this rhetorically.

Audience Member: I agree it should have been reported. I was the one assaulted on the train in February. Not one person did anything, they were all scared to death, except for a nursing student and he came to my rescue and he got punched and bloodied. That was not reported and I understand why from what you said. But I think it should have been reported. There are some people here who take the train and take the light rail and you just have to tell them. There were two people from this University who were hurt; there were two others who work at this University who were witnesses. That's four University of Maryland people who were involved. I think the whole campus should know about it.

Dr. Perman: You know I'm very concerned and disappointed in terms of what happened to you and I'm sure I speak for the campus. But the problem for me is where is the end of that? If that had happened on the light rail that you took from here in Timonium would you have said the same?

Chief Williams: It's a tough situation it really is. But the question of where it ends ... what the law says is even if something happens to you near our campus or involves people who work or study at your campus, that's not enough to make us put out an alert about it and report it to the entire campus community. I understand your feelings.

Dr. Perman: We have time for one more question.

**QUESTION:**

College Park has rolled out to the campus community to film crime as they see it and bring it to the police department. Would that empower people here to do that? Though I know you said to keep our cellphones out of sight.

ANSWER:

Chief Williams: Yes, College Park is experimenting with that and we're looking at that and want to see some data to evaluate how it works before we consider it here.

Westside Update

Dr. Perman and Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake are co-chairing the Westside Task Force. We are offering periodic updates in The President's Message. The following comes from the task force's March/April e-update.

The mayor's working group is finalizing incentives to encourage the renovation of unoccupied upper floors of Westside buildings into residential units. A presentation of the incentives will be made to Westside stakeholders at a June 22 meeting. Other draft incentives focus on the marketing of smaller, vacant city-owned properties and the creation of a social media-friendly process for bidding on certain unoccupied city properties.

The University of Maryland School of Social Work (SSW) is conducting a pilot survey of Lexington Market's patrons. SSW students have interviewed more than 120 market customers waiting in line at food stalls. Many thanks to Lane Victorson, MSW, adjunct faculty member and a coordinator of the School's SWCOS (Social Work Community Outreach Service) program, for overseeing the market usage survey. The University's Student Government Association, SWCOS, and the Downtown Partnership are collaborating to bring the survey to a broader audience, including Westside residents, University faculty, and students from the University's seven schools.

Starting in the 2012 fall semester, four SSW students will provide clinical case management and troubleshooting expertise at Lexington Market. Thanks to Dean Richard P. Barth, PhD, MSW, for his support.

The city's properties in the 500 block of N. Howard St. (the Mayfair Theater), the 400 block of N. Howard St. (east and west sides), and the 200 block of W. Fayette St. are under a \$96,000 contract with the Downtown Partnership for exterior cleaning and re-boarding of the storefronts. This project should be completed by June 1.

All four shows sold out for the Westside roller ballet extravaganza, *Howard and Lex: The Way We Roll!* in March.

The Baltimore Love Project, which expresses love by connecting people and communities across the city through love-themed murals, celebrated its newest Westside installation, a mural at 330 N. Howard St. A segment on the mural will be featured on NPR's *State of the Union* in May.

The Baltimore Police Department and the Downtown Partnership recently organized a crime prevention survey of Lexington Market. Recommendations will be made to the market's management on design improvements to mitigate quality of life crimes inside the facility.