

the PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

FEBRUARY 2017



Translational research is the process of taking ideas and discoveries from the laboratory and transforming them into therapies that improve human health. When you hear the term “bench to bedside,” that’s translational research — moving science from the laboratory bench to the bedside of patients needing care.

Translational research is critically important; it’s the mechanism by which we produce new drugs, devices, and treatment options that extend and enrich people’s lives. But it’s also difficult. The journey from bench to bedside is long, and the path is strewn with obstacles. Consider this: In the U.S., it takes 12 years, on average, for an experimental drug to make it to market. And that’s a best-case scenario. Just five drugs in 5,000 that enter preclinical testing will proceed to human testing. Of those five drugs tested in humans, only one will be approved. What’s more, in the price of every drug that makes it to the medicine cabinet, consumers are paying for the 4,999 that never do.

There’s a term for these obstacles that inhibit biomedical advances from reaching the people they’re intended to help: the Valley of Death. Scientists encounter two particularly risky points in this valley: translating laboratory discoveries to human subjects and translating the resulting evidence to widespread clinical practice and health policy.

In 2006, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) developed a grant program to bridge this Valley of Death. The Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA) Program supports a national network of medical research institutions that work together to improve the translational research process and get more treatments to more patients more quickly.

The CTSA Program doesn’t focus on individual diseases, like cancer or heart disease. Instead, it focuses on the capabilities a university needs to accomplish scientific translation: structuring the university in a way that enables coordinated activities around clinical research; innovating processes that improve the quality and efficiency of translational research; engaging patients and communities in every phase of the research; giving physicians the scientific and administrative assistance they need to make the translation from bench to bedside; and training the next generation of translational scientists.

The CTSA Program helps institutions study the science of clinical research. It helps them see the research they undertake through an applied process lens and tackle systemwide problems

that choke progress. It makes investigator teams smarter, better predictors of what will work and what will fail.

NIH has awarded CTSA Program funds to 64 medical research institutions across the country. Maryland has one such CTSA hub, the Johns Hopkins Institute for Clinical & Translational Research (ICTR). As Johns Hopkins University (JHU) prepares this year for renewal of its CTSA grant, UMB has signed an agreement to join JHU in the renewal application. The agreement allows our two institutions to leverage complementary strengths in clinical and translational research and develop a regional platform for clinical investigation.

Daniel Ford, MD, MPH, vice dean for clinical research at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and director of ICTR, is the CTSA principal investigator. UMB’s lead investigator is Stephen Davis, MBBS, chair of the Department of Medicine and director of the School of Medicine’s General Clinical Research Center and Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute.

Our aims for this grant are ambitious. We envision a program that functions as the state’s hub for clinical investigation, and we hope that, over time, JHU and UMB will become integrated partners across all aspects of clinical research. The agreement paves the way for UMB’s full participation in the CTSA Program, with involvement in setting the direction of the program and in determining how we allocate resources, who sits on core committees, the composition of activities, and where they take place.

Without question, joining this grant application is a watershed opportunity for UMB. A high-impact program like CTSA multiplies almost every element of our University. Plus, JHU’s history of success in the CTSA Program gives us a head start on the important work we aim to do together. If the grant application is successful, this will be JHU’s third round of CTSA funding, meaning the university has already won a significant amount of money to build the infrastructure that yields breakthroughs in translational process.

I believe this is a meaningful opportunity for Hopkins as well. UMB enriches this project through its people, resources, and capabilities. We have extensive training and degree programs that complement the CTSA and an array of health sciences schools that will be close collaborators in the grant. JHU is especially eager to capitalize on the work of our schools of Pharmacy and

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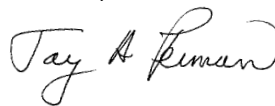
Dentistry, as there are no comparable schools on the Hopkins campus. We're eager, too, for the involvement of our School of Social Work, as the school's deep expertise in community-based research will help us advance non-medical interventions in such areas as violence prevention, mental health, and behavioral health. We'll look to the Carey School of Law, meanwhile, for essential guidance in navigating health care regulations and shaping policy.

Ultimately, this collaboration is vitally important to the people of Maryland. Together, the University of Maryland Medical System and Johns Hopkins Medicine serve three-quarters of the state's citizens. We can aggregate patient data from both hospital systems to ask research questions in a powerful way — questions about the people we serve and how we care for them. We can link our master's degree programs so that clinical research trainees at UMB and JHU gain broader and deeper expertise. We can combine aspects of our clinical research infrastructure to develop not only higher quality programs, but programs with a larger reach across the state.

It's time that Baltimore's two most powerful research institutions — its two most powerful *anchor* institutions — forge an alliance around science. It's time we did this for our city, for our state, for our prominence as a world-class clinical research institution and our desire to attain even greater distinction in this regard.

We're deeply grateful to JHU for the opportunity to join this critical grant and to closely align our institutions' clinical and translational research activities. The CTSA grant application will be submitted in the fall, and I look forward to sharing the outcome with you.

Sincerely,



Jay A. Perman, MD
PRESIDENT

ACCOUNTABILITY | CIVILITY | COLLABORATION | DIVERSITY | EXCELLENCE | KNOWLEDGE | LEADERSHIP



speaker

WES MOORE, MLitt

Best-selling author, Rhodes Scholar, decorated Army combat veteran, youth advocate, and CEO of BridgeEdU

“Responsible Citizenship & the Real-Life Ramifications”

TUESDAY, FEB. 14

8:30 A.M. | WESTMINSTER HALL | BREAKFAST WILL BE SERVED

COREVALUES *Speaker Series*

Visit umaryland.edu/corevaluesspeaker for more information about the Core Values Speaker Series and to view a list of upcoming speakers.

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LAURELS

FEBRUARY 2017

UNIVERSITYWIDE



JACKIE BALL ACCEPTS HER PLAQUE FROM DR. PERMAN.

Jackie Ball, Human Resource Services Center supervisor, was named UMB's December Employee of the Month for her wide-ranging duties including assisting new international employees and overseeing the recent Fair Labor Standards Act reclassification.



FLAVIUS R. W. LILLY

Flavius R. W. Lilly, PhD, MA, MPH, senior associate dean, Graduate School, and assistant vice president, Academic and Student Affairs, presented

“Are Stroke Survivors with Severe Mental Illness at Risk for Increased Non-Psychiatric Hospitalizations?” at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America in New Orleans. He also presented “Ethnocultural Empathy Among Graduate and Professional Students in Seven Disciplines” at the ninth annual conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation in Washington, D.C.

Alexa Mayo, MLS, AHIP, associate director for services, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, received a \$30,000 award from the Center for Public Service Communications for “Improving Project SHARE Curriculum Based on AHEC’s Implementation Experiences.” The web-based curriculum aims to empower high school students with health literacy skills to advocate for improved health for themselves and their communities.

Cha-Min Tang, MD, PhD, professor, Department of Neurology, School of Medicine, and **Ashraf Fouad, BDS, DDS, MS**, professor and chair, Department of Endodontics, Prosthodontics and Operative Dentistry, School of Dentistry, are among the inventors of “Coherence Gated Doppler Motion Sensor and Medical Applications,” which received a U.S. patent.

M.J. Tooney, MLS, AHIP, FMLA, associate vice president, Academic Affairs, and executive director, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, co-authored the chapter “Health Sciences Library Leadership, Management, and Administration” in the recently published book *Developing Librarian Competencies in the Digital Age*.

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

Nasir Bashirelahi, PhD, professor, Department of Oncology and Diagnostic Sciences, student **Lara Seidman**, and **Patricia A. Tordik, DMD**, clinical professor and director

of postgraduate endodontics, were among the co-authors of the article “What Every Dentist Should Know About Opioids,” which was published in *General Dentistry*.



NASIR BASHIRELAHI

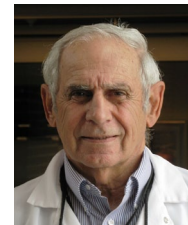


LARA SEIDMAN



PATRICIA A. TORDIK

Leslie Costello, PhD, professor, Department of Oncology and Diagnostic Sciences, and **Renty Franklin, PhD**, professor and director, Department of Oncology and Diagnostic Sciences, are among the co-authors of two papers: “Decreased Zin in the Development and Progression of Malignancy: An Important Common Relationship and Potential for Prevention and Treatment of Carcinomas,” which was published in *Expert Opinions on Therapeutic Targets*, and “Plasma Citrate Homeostasis: How It is Regulated; and its Physiological and Clinical Implications. An Important, But Neglected, Relationship in Medicine,” which was published in the *Journal of Human Endocrinology*.



LESLIE COSTELLO



RENTY FRANKLIN

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LAURELS

FEBRUARY 2017



GARY HACK

Gary Hack, DDS, clinical associate professor, Division of Operative Dentistry, is an invited keynote speaker at the Oral Health Systemic Connection Linking Pre-

Diabetes & Oral Health, scheduled in Fruitland, Md., this month.



MARION C. MANSKI

Marion C. Manski, RDH '88, MS, clinical associate professor and director, Department of Dental Hygiene, has been named one of the “Six Dental Hygienists

You Want to Know” by *Dimensions of Dental Hygiene*.

Mary Anne Melo, DDS, MSc, PhD, clinical assistant professor, Department of General Dentistry, **Michael D. Weir, MS, PhD**, research assistant professor, Department of Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering, and **Huakun Xu, MS, PhD**, professor and director, Department of Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering, are co-authors of “Effects of Long-Term Water-Aging on Novel Anti-Biofilm and Protein-Repellent Dental Composite,” which was published in the *International Journal of Molecular Sciences*.

CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW

Developed by the school and its Access to Justice Clinic, which is directed by **Douglas Colbert, JD**, professor, the Failure-to-Appear Second Chance Program, which allows those who missed court dates for nonviolent misdemeanors the chance to obtain legal advice from a lawyer and receive a

new court date, was launched. Partners include the Office of the Public Defender for Baltimore City, the Baltimore City State’s Attorney’s Office, and the Baltimore Police Department.



DOUGLAS COLBERT

Greg Glod, JD '13, manager of state initiatives and senior policy analyst for the Texas Public Policy Foundation, was named to *Forbes* list of “30 Under 30: Law & Policy.”

The Women, Leadership, & Equality Program and its director, **Paula Monopoli, JD**, Sol & Carlyn Hubert Professor of Law, were featured in “A Playbook for Combating Implicit Bias,” which appeared on *Above the Law*.

“Scott Pruitt’s Anti-EPA Legal Activism: Can Trump’s EPA Pick Undo Clean Air and Water Protections?” an op-ed by **Robert Percival, JD**, Robert F. Stanton Professor of Law and director, Environmental Law Program, was published by *The Conversation* and reprinted in several news outlets, including *Salon*, *DeSmog*, and *AltnerNet*.



GARRETT POWER

“Eugenics, Jim Crow, & Baltimore’s Best,” by **Garrett Power, LL.M, LL.B**, professor emeritus, was published in *The Maryland Bar Journal*.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

The following is a select list. For all the SOM laurels, visit www.somnews.umaryland.edu.

Cynthia Bearer, MD, PhD, the Mary Gray Cobey Endowed Professor of Neonatology, Department of Pediatrics, has been awarded \$7,718,381 over five years from the



CYNTHIA BEARER

National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Child Health and Human Development for “Effects of Perinatal Hypoxia-Ischemia on the Developing Cerebellum With and Without Prior Inflammation.”

Wendy Bernstein, MD, MBA, associate professor, Department of Anesthesiology, participated in the Doctors Back to School Program at the University of Chicago’s Carter G. Woodson Charter School on behalf of the American Medical Association (AMA) and Diversity Committee for the American Society of Anesthesiologists during the annual AMA conference in Chicago. A group of 12 doctors met with 200 sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-grade students to speak about careers in medicine, health and, specifically, anesthesiology.

Wilbur Chen, MD, MS, associate professor, Department of Medicine and the Center for Vaccine Development, Institute for Global Health, has been appointed a



WILBUR CHEN

member of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation-sponsored Controlled Human Infection Models Scientific Leadership Group. The first meeting was held in London in October. Chen also received a \$208,465 grant from the National Institutes of Health for “Influenza Microarray, DMID 16-0107.”

LAURELS

FEBRUARY 2017

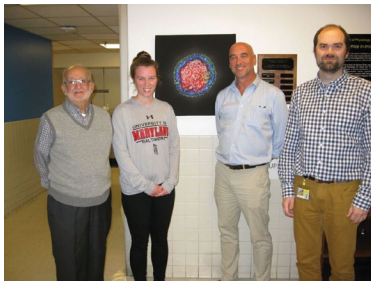
Arpit Chhabra, MD, resident, Department of Radiation Oncology, was among the co-authors on “Total Skin Electron Beam Therapy in the Treatment of Mycosis Fungoides: A Review Of Conventional and Low-Dose Regimens,” which was published in *Clinical Lymphoma, Myeloma, and Leukemia*.



STEPHEN DAVIS

Stephen Davis, MBBS, FACE, FRCP, MACP, the Theodore E. Woodward Professor of Medicine and Chair, Department of Medicine, has

been elected to Mastership in the American College of Physicians. Election to Mastership recognizes outstanding and extraordinary career accomplishments.



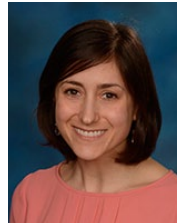
FROM LEFT, DR. GLASER, ERYN DIXON WITH HER PHOTO BEHIND HER, DEPARTMENT OF PHYSIOLOGY CHAIR SCOTT THOMPSON, PHD, AND DR. WOODWARD.

SOM and Graduate School PhD student **Eryn Dixon**, who studies in the laboratory of **Owen Woodward, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Physiology, was awarded The Glaser Prize in Imaging for 2016 for her image showing a mini-kidney grown in a dish that has been induced to form a cyst resembling those characterizing polycystic kidney disease. The Glaser Prize was established to honor Dr. **Edmund Glaser** when he retired from the Department of Physiology.

More than 30 members of the **Department of Radiation Oncology** contributed to 49 podium, poster, educational, and symposium sessions at the 2016 meeting of the American Society for Radiation Oncology.

Myron Levine, MD, DTPH, the Simon and Bessie Grollman Distinguished Professor of Medicine, Center for Vaccine Development and the Institute of Global Health, and associate dean for global health, vaccinology, and infectious diseases, received a \$299,929 supplement from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for “A Point-of-Care Rapid Assessment Tool to Detect Protective Levels of Vaccine-Related Antibodies in Oral (Crevicular) Fluid of Infants, Toddlers & Older Subjects.” He also received a \$3,499,799 grant from the Gates Foundation for “Current Prevalence of Chronic Typhoid Carriers and Residual Transmission of Typhoid Fever in Santiago, Chile.”

Kristin Maloney, MS, MGC, instructor, and associate professors **Toni Pollin, MS, PhD, CGC**, and **Linda Jeng, MD, PhD**, all from the Department of Medicine, co-authored “An Openly Available Online Tool for Implementing the ACMG/AMP Standards and Guidelines for the Interpretation of Sequence Variants,” which was published in *Genetics in Medicine*. Pollin also was among the



KRISTIN MALONEY



TONI POLLIN



LINDA JENG

co-authors on “Comprehensive Analysis of Established Dyslipidemia-Associated Loci in the Diabetes Prevention Program” in *Circulation Cardiovascular Genetics*, and “The Genetic Architecture of Diabetes in Pregnancy: Implications for Clinical Practice” in *American Journal of Perinatology*.

Amal Mattu, MD, professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, contributed to back-to-back electrocardiographic case reports published in the December issue of *Annals of Emergency Medicine*. The first article described the assessment of a woman with Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome, who came to the emergency department when she experienced palpitations and weakness. The second described a woman with hypertension and diabetes mellitus who sought emergency treatment for chest pain, nausea, dyspnea, and diaphoresis.

Professors **Vincent Njar, PhD**, and **Angela Brodie, PhD**, both in the Department of Pharmacology, invented “Novel C-17-Heteroaryl Steroidal CYP17 Inhibitors/ Antiandrogens: Synthesis, In Vitro Biological Activities, Pharmacokinetics and Antitumor Activity,” which received an Indonesian patent.

Jeremy Polf, PhD, associate professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was presented with the 2016 Abell Foundation Award for Excellence in Innovation. The award, which came with a \$50,000 research grant, recognized Polf’s development of a prompt gamma imaging system for use with proton therapy.



JEREMY POLF

LAURELS

FEBRUARY 2017



LYNN SCHRIML

Lynn Schriml, PhD, associate professor, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, received a 13-month, \$249,288 award from the Sloan

Foundation for the “MoBE 2017 Conference.”

Robert Schwarcz, PhD, professor, Department of Psychiatry, is among the co-inventors on “Derivatives of Nicotinic Acid N-Oxide, Their Preparation and Their Use as Inhibitors of Enzyme 3-Hydroxyanthranilate-3, 4-Dioxygenase,” which received a U.S. patent.

J. Marc Simard, MD, PhD, professor, Department of Neurosurgery, invented “Targeting NC Ca-ATP Channel for Organ Protection Following Ischemic Episode,” which received a U.S. patent. The invention concerns protection of an organ or tissue following an ischemic episode.

Michael Terrin, MDCM, MPH, professor, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, and **Rose Viscardi, MD**, professor, Department of Pediatrics, received a seven-year, \$6,904,762 award from the National Institutes of Health for a Progenitor Cell Translational Consortium Administrative Coordinating Center.



MICHAEL TERRIN



ROSE VISCARDI

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Dean **Jane M. Kirschling, PhD, RN, FAAN**, wrote an op-ed, “Well-Educated RNs Are Critical to Country’s Future,” which ran in *The Baltimore Sun*.



JANE M. KIRSCHLING



EUN-SHIM NAHM

Eun-Shim Nahm, PhD '03, RN, FAAN, professor and specialty director, Nursing Informatics, was named a fellow of the Gerontological Society of America. The

status of fellow, the highest class of membership within the society, is an acknowledgment of Nahm’s continued outstanding work in gerontology.

Barbara Resnick, PhD '96, RN, CRNP, FAAN, FAANP, professor and Sonia Ziporkin Gershowitz Chair in Gerontology, recently began her one-year term as president of the Gerontological Society of America.

Associate professor of orthopaedics **Christopher Ward, PhD**, who also holds an appointment with the School of Medicine, was a co-inventor on “Treatment of Muscular Conditions and Muscular Dystrophies,” which received a U.S. patent.

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

Nicole Brandt, PharmD, professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science and executive director, Peter Lamy Center on Drug Therapy and Aging, has been appointed to the

National Committee for Quality Assurance’s Geriatric Measurement Advisory Panel. She is the first pharmacist appointed to this group.



NICOLE BRANDT

Andrew Coop, PhD, professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, and associate dean for academic affairs, has been appointed to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s Anesthetic and Analgesic Drug Products Advisory Committee.

Susan dosReis, PhD, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, has been appointed to the American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education’s Board of Grants.



SUSAN DOSREIS

Alexander MacKerell, PhD, Grollman/Glick Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a two-year, \$307,220 contract from SilcsBio for “Pre-Computed Free Energy Maps for Rapid Structure-Based Ligand Design.”



EBERE ONUKWUGHU

Ebere Onukwughu, PhD, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, and executive director, Pharmaceutical

Research Computing center, has been named an associate editor of the journal *Ethnicity & Disease*.

LAURELS

FEBRUARY 2017



BRENT REED

Brent Reed, PharmD, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, has been appointed to the editorial board of the journal *Pharmacotherapy*.



CHARMAINE ROCHESTER

Charmaine Rochester, PharmD, associate professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, has been elected chair and treasurer of the Maryland Board of Pharmacy's Practice Committee.



FADIA SHAYA

Fadia Shaya, PhD, professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, received an eight-month, \$315,681 contract from the Maryland

Department of Health and Mental Hygiene for "SPF Rx."



MONA TSOUKLERIS

Mona Tsoukleris, PharmD, associate professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, has been elected to the Association of Asthma Educators' Board of Directors.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Student **Megan Belich** was selected as one of the interprofessional global health grantees to Nigeria last summer. Her subsequent related poster abstract submitted to the Consortium of Universities in Global Health (CUGH) "Mentor Mothers' Willingness to Engage Male Partners and Screen for Domestic Violence among HIV-Positive Women in Rural Nigeria" was ranked one of the highest scored abstracts. Because of this ranking, she has been asked by CUGH to develop it into a manuscript, which will be entered into a competition.

Melissa "Mel" Bellin, PhD, associate professor, was named to the 2017 class of fellows of the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR). SSWR fellows are members who have served with distinction to advance the mission of the society.

Julie Gilliam, ScD, lead instructional technology specialist, has been named a board member of husITa, an acronym for human services information technology (IT) applications. The organization is an international virtual association dedicated to promoting the ethical and effective use of IT to better serve humanity.

Leslie Rozeff, MSSW, LCSW-C, director, National Center for Evidence-Based Practice in Child Welfare, has been appointed to the National Advisory Committee for the Center for Child Welfare Trauma-Informed Policies, Programs, and Practices (TIPS).



PAUL SACCO



JODI FREY

Associate professors **Paul Sacco, PhD,** and **Jodi Frey, PhD,** and assistant professor **Christine Callahan, PhD,** received \$34,000



CHRISTINE CALLAHAN

in funding from the National Council on Responsible Gaming to pilot screening for problem gambling in a sample of adults who seek services from a national consumer credit counseling organization.



TANYA L. SHARPE

Based upon her research on African-American survivors of homicide victims, **Tanya L. Sharpe, PhD,** associate professor, was selected as one of six scholars featured in the Society for Social Work and Research's first Brief and Brilliant session at its 2017 conference. The Brief and Brilliant session was a TedX-style event.

SPIRITDAY

FEBRUARY 2017

EVENT UNITES UNIVERSITY, MEDICAL CENTER, SYSTEM

Togetherness has been a hallmark of University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) President Jay A. Perman, MD, dating to his 2010 inauguration when he invoked Robert Fulghum's admonition "it is still true, no matter how old you are, when you go out into the world it is best to hold hands and stick together."

So on Jan. 18, Perman was happy for UMB to host a Spirit Day luncheon as part of the University of Maryland Medical System and University of Maryland Medical Center's Spirit Week festivities. Around 500 employees from all three institutions gathered in Westminster Hall to hear their leaders praise their collective efforts.

"We are a better university because of our relationship with the medical system and the hospital," Perman said. "We are enriched by all that we share: our people of such enormous talent and dedication; the commitment to our one community; and of course our work to improve human health and well-being — here in Maryland, and around the world."

He cited examples from UMB's six professional schools, starting with the School of Medicine. "All of you certainly know how closely our School of Medicine works with the hospital. It's a critical relationship. A wonderful relationship. But our partnership is broader than that. It extends to our School of Pharmacy, where a joint residency program prepares pharmacy graduates who want to work with patients in a hospital setting.



It extends to the School of Dentistry, where pediatric dental residents are on call 24/7 for children who need emergency care at the medical center. It extends to the School of Nursing, where a nurse-



FROM LEFT, ROBERT CHRENCIK, JAY PERMAN, AND MOHAN SUNTHA.

managed urgent care center was recently opened to alleviate long wait times in the hospital's emergency department. It extends to the School of Social Work, which provides staff to the system's provider networks, so that patients can access the services they need to get — and stay — well.

"And this partnership also extends, I'm proud to say, to our critical work in the local community. We've joined forces with the medical center to improve health, education, and economic development in West Baltimore — knowing that, if we work together, we can be an even stronger ally for the neighbors who need us."

Robert A. Chrencik, MBA, CPA, chief executive officer of the medical system, also lauded the partnership.

"My close friend and partner Dr. Reece [E. Albert Reece, MD, PhD, MBA, UMB vice president for medical affairs and dean of the School of Medicine] and I coined the phrase several years ago 'the power of partnership' and nothing demonstrates that more than what we're seeing here today."

Chrencik took the opportunity to brag a bit about the medical system, mentioning its 25,000 employees, 150 service locations across the state, its focus on Maryland residents, and, in partnership with UMB, its responsibility to train the next generation of health care professionals for the state.

"As you know we have a new UMMS brand message — Be a Part of Something Greater," Chrencik said. "I think in many ways it showcases what the medical system is all about. When you add the parts together the system is much stronger than its individual parts alone."

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A key part is the School of Medicine (SOM), one of what he called “a fantastic set of professional schools” at UMB.

“When you look at the University of Maryland Medical System, it is our relationship with UMB and the School of Medicine that defines who we are,” Chrencik said. “I think it provides us with a huge competitive advantage in the Maryland health care marketplace. Our medical system is very narrowly focused. I think that differentiates us from Johns Hopkins and MedStar, for example. When the day is done we’re all about the state of Maryland.”

The final speaker at the Spirit Day celebration was Mohan Suntha, MD, MBA, president and CEO of the medical center (UMMC). With 25 years “in the UMB community” starting as a SOM resident, faculty member, and now UMMC administrator, Suntha said he was “blessed” to have a part in the dramatic impact the partners have made in health care.

“Collectively we are a team delivering on a commitment we have to our community, to our state, and to our country,” he said. “I’m looking forward to this partnership for a long time.”

Having finished their boxed lunches and drinks, those in attendance filed out of Westminster Hall with full stomachs and a renewed sense of togetherness.



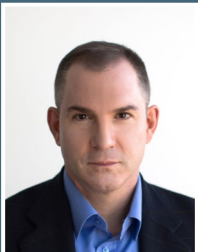
“I loved it,” said Karyl Fleck, division manager for pediatric surgery and urology at the medical center, who sat with colleagues from UMB and Faculty Physicians, Inc. at the luncheon. “It was great to have all the administrators join together to speak with us and tell us how much they appreciate our efforts.”

— Chris Zang

More **photos** and a **video** of the event are available online.

PRESIDENT’S PANEL *on* POLITICS AND POLICY

SPEAKER SERIES
The President’s Panel on Politics and Policy is a speaker series examining issues important to the UMB community that are likely to be affected by the new presidential administration and Congress, including health and higher education policy, federal budget priorities, and civil rights and social justice.



Speaker
FRANK BRUNI
New York Times op-ed columnist and best-selling author

Topic
Social Justice

TUESDAY, FEB. 28
8 to 8:30 a.m. — Breakfast will be served
8:30 to 10 a.m. — Lecture

SMC CAMPUS CENTER

REGISTER TODAY!
umaryland.edu/politics-panel

UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND, BALTIMORE

CURECORNER

FEBRUARY 2017

SCHOOLS OPEN THEIR DOORS

CURE Corner is an occasional feature with noteworthy updates from UMB's CURE Scholars Program, a pipeline initiative that prepares West Baltimore children for health and research careers through hands-on workshops, lab experiences, and mentorship. UMB's CURE scholars are the youngest ever to participate in the National Cancer Institute's Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (CURE) national program.

Early 2017 has brought many new and exciting opportunities to those in the UMB CURE Scholars Program. In January, the CURE scholars began holding their after-school sessions on the UMB campus. This opportunity will provide the scholars with more exposure to the University, and increase mentor availability. The program thanks the schools of Pharmacy, Nursing, Medicine, Social Work, Law, and Dentistry for opening up their buildings to the CURE scholars.

During January, the scholars also continued to work on their Science Olympiad projects. They are devoting every Tuesday and Thursday until the competition on Saturday, May 6, to perfect their projects. They also will be attending a workshop hosted by Johns Hopkins University and the Charm City Science League to fine-tune their engineering skills.

In addition to Science Olympiad preparations, the scholars were treated to a health education course courtesy of Kaiser Permanente. Hygiene, maintaining healthy relationships, and sexuality education were among the topics. Access to quality health education is essential in the development of the scholars, and the UMB Cure Scholars Program is grateful to have a partner in Kaiser Permanente in delivering this curriculum.



CURE SCHOLARS ENJOY THEIR VISIT TO THE SCHOOL OF PHARMACY.

Following up on a successful infectious disease workshop facilitated by the School of Pharmacy (SOP) last fall, sixth-grade scholars enjoyed a second round of teaching on Jan. 28. Pharmacy students guided scholars as they explored bacteria, how disease spreads, and the implications for health. Thanks to those at the SOP for developing and facilitating these activities for the CURE scholars.

Looking forward, the scholars' schedule includes a tour of Johns Hopkins mechanical engineering labs, Sealant Saturday, sponsored by the UM School of Dentistry, a medical paint party where students paint pictures of healthy and diseased organs with the company Colour Strokes, and lessons on healthy cooking with Kinetic Kitchen. Stay up to date with the UMB CURE Scholars Program by visiting its [website](#), or following it on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).

— Lauren Kareem

PHILANTHROPY

FEBRUARY 2017

\$2M NURSING GIFT PROVIDES SCHOLARSHIPS

A gift of \$2 million from Bill and Joanne Conway, through their Bedford Falls Foundation, to the University of Maryland School of Nursing (UMSON) will be used to provide scholarships to students in advanced degree programs.

This is the second seven-figure gift the Conways have given to UMSON. Their first commitment of \$5.24 million, announced in April 2015, was the largest in UMSON history. It is being used to fund more than 150 full scholarships for Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) students and to increase opportunities for registered nurses to obtain their BSN degrees through the school's RN-to-BSN program.

The Conways' most recent donation, the third largest philanthropic gift the school has received, will be used to fund scholarships for UMSON students demonstrating financial need who are pursuing master's, Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP), and PhD degrees and the school's post-master's Certificate in Teaching in Nursing and Health Professions. Recipients of these scholarships, as with those beneficiaries of the Conways' initial gift, will be known as Conway Scholars.

In addition to funding scholarships, the \$2 million gift also will be used to assist in the expansion of UMSON's Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) program at the Universities at Shady Grove (USG). Currently offered only on the Baltimore campus, the FNP program is in high demand, but the school cannot accommodate all qualified students. Expanding enrollment to the USG location in Rockville will enable UMSON's FNP program to provide the region with additional well-qualified primary care providers. UMSON anticipates admitting the first cohort of students to the FNP program at USG this fall. Once the program is at full capacity, it will enroll an estimated 80 students annually.



STANDING WITH CONWAY SCHOLARS ARE UMSON DEAN JANE M. KIRSCHLING (BACK ROW, FAR LEFT); BILL CONWAY, (BACK ROW, FOURTH FROM LEFT); ZACHARY CROWE, VICE PRESIDENT, THE CARLYLE GROUP (BACK ROW, FOURTH FROM RIGHT); AND LAURETTE HANKINS, UMSON ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR DEVELOPMENT AND ALUMNI RELATIONS (BACK ROW, FAR RIGHT.)

“We are deeply grateful to the Conways for their unwavering commitment to nurses and nursing education,” said Dean Jane M. Kirschling, PhD, RN, FAAN. “Their extraordinary gift will allow second-degree students and nurses throughout Maryland to pursue master’s and doctoral degrees, thereby helping us respond to the increasingly complex nature of our health care system and meet the changing needs of our diverse communities.”

The Conways' gift provides an opportunity to expand the pool of master's and doctorally prepared nurses who in turn can serve as clinical instructors and full-time faculty in Maryland's nursing programs.

“Maryland has an acute need for more — and more highly trained — nurses,” said UMB President Jay A. Perman, MD. “This gift from Bill and Joanne Conway will be used to alleviate the state’s nursing shortage in two ways: enlarging the pool of nurses who can provide primary care to Maryland residents and enlarging the pool of faculty and instructors who can train nursing students. I’m so grateful to the Conways — not only for their incredible generosity, but for their longstanding vision to create a robust and skilled nursing workforce that will ably improve population health in Maryland.”

Consistent with national trends, Maryland's nursing programs are faced with faculty shortages due to retirements and differences between clinical compensation and faculty salaries.

Students selected as Conway Scholars will receive a scholarship that covers in-state tuition and fees. The scholars must remain in good academic standing and have expressed a commitment to serve as a clinical preceptor, teach as a clinical instructor, or secure a full-time faculty position within three years of graduation.

“Our initial gift has proven so successful in the development of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing at UMSON that we wanted to expand our scholarships to the master’s-and-above level,” Bill Conway said.

He is co-chief executive officer and co-founder of The Carlyle Group, Washington, D.C. The Conways are trustees of the couple's Bedford Falls Foundation, which has bestowed significant nursing scholarships previously in the mid-Atlantic region.

— Mary Phelan

PUBLIC SAFETY

FEBRUARY 2017



DON'T WALK AND TALK OR TEXT

When things are going well, it's human nature to relax a bit and let down your guard. The UMB Police Force reminds us that a little carelessness is all it takes to make you a potential target of crime.

Which is why those in Public Safety are renewing their request that we not talk or text on our phones while walking outside. Those who have been at UMB for a number of years remember the Don't Walk and Talk or Text marketing campaign that began in 2013. Cell phones were the target in eight of the nine robberies on the UMB campus in 2012, a trend that continued in 2013.

To emphasize the point, UMB President Jay A. Perman, MD, pulled out his wallet at a safety matters town hall in 2014, saying criminals were more interested in his phone than his wallet.

The message got through. Fewer and fewer people were walking around UMB talking or texting on their phones. And, as was predicted, the robbery rate fell. In the year-end **2016 UMB crime statistics** released in *The President's Message* last month, there were just two robberies, both involving cell phones.

Even before the crime statistics were released however, Perman and Antonio Williams, MS, police chief and associate vice president

of public safety at UMB, had noticed a disturbing trend. Many members of the UMB community on the street were back to their old habits, talking and texting between classes and meetings.

Fearing a spike in robberies, as cell phones still attract criminals like bees to honey, Williams and his police and security team are again spreading the word to not talk and text outdoors on campus.

"Cell phones are still involved in the majority of robberies, on and off campus," Williams says. "Even with fewer crimes, now isn't the time to be complacent. We must remain vigilant. We don't want people to lose sight of the need to be cautious."

So if you have to make a call or punch a text, try to do it before you leave your office or class. Or, if you're headed to a meeting, send your message while in the safety of a building before stepping out onto the sidewalk.

Be aware of your surroundings, and travel in pairs or groups whenever possible. Use the police escort service (call 6-6882) if you feel at risk. Don't let complacency put you in danger.

— Chris Zang

