

the PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

FEBRUARY 2018



Last month, we announced a major new investment intended to strengthen Southwest Baltimore, an investment intended to entice more employees to live in the neighborhoods we serve and essentially blur the line between University and community, neighbor and employee. The program designed to achieve these outcomes isn't new, but the amount of money we've put into it certainly is.

It was several years ago that we launched UMB's *Live Near Your Work* (LNYW). The program's sponsor was our BioPark, 12 acres in Poppleton constituting UMB's first meaningful steps across Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard — our first attempt to knit ourselves closer to the Southwest Baltimore community.

The BioPark's board of directors began offering \$2,500 to UMB employees who bought a house in one of several West Baltimore neighborhoods. The money qualified for a matching grant from the city, and so prospective homebuyers were offered, in total, \$5,000 toward their down payment and closing costs.

The program was grounded in the fact that it's infinitely easier to build a community of strength, a community of mutual respect, a community shaped by a shared destiny, when we work with one another, and socialize with one another, and *live* among one another.

The program — on paper — was good, but there was a problem. A big one. It turned out that \$5,000 wasn't enough to persuade employees to buy in Southwest Baltimore. In a half-dozen years, we've helped only a handful of UMB employees purchase a home in the community.

And so we started to rethink how we implement Live Near Your Work. The program used to be open only to first-time Baltimore City homebuyers; we ended that restriction. We kept eligibility open to all part-time (50 percent FTE) and full-time employees, and imposed no income requirements; however, applicants do have to be credit-worthy, complete a homeownership counseling program, and contribute at least \$1,000 toward the down payment.

We strengthened a stipulation intended to thwart home-flippers — profit-seekers who buy low, renovate fast, and sell high a short time later. Now homebuyers must make the purchased home their primary residence for a full five years, up from just one year at the program's inception.

We reduced the number of neighborhoods eligible for the LNYW grant, so that we could achieve a critical mass of homebuyers in a relatively small area and have the impact we want on the neighborhoods where we've focused so much of our outreach and



DR. PERMAN AND BALTIMORE MAYOR CATHERINE PUGH AT THE JAN. 9 KICKOFF FOR THE IMPROVED LIVE NEAR YOUR WORK PROGRAM.

engagement. The seven neighborhoods are those comprising the Southwest Partnership: Barre Circle, Franklin Square, Hollins Market, Mount Clare, Pigtown/Washington Village, Poppleton, and Union Square.

And then we had to consider the fact that our investment of \$2,500 simply wasn't incentive enough. So we arrived at a number more than six times that of our original investment. The University now offers employees a home-buying grant of \$16,000, which is matched by the city's \$2,500 grant — for a total incentive of \$18,500.

This is a game-changer. We believe this amount of money will put Southwest Baltimore into the mix when employees are considering a home purchase; that it will be an incentive we can use to attract the best and brightest professionals to UMB; and that it will get some of our entry-level employees into a home of their own, which is so important because homeownership is central to community-building.

In fact, the Baltimore Housing Authority has identified nearly 40 UMB employees in low-income housing who could be eligible for Live Near Your Work. The housing authority has shared those names with staff in Human Resource Services, and we've reached out to these individuals about the program.

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That's another improvement we've made to Live Near Your Work: the number of partners we've teamed up with to facilitate the home-buying process and maximize the home-buying benefit. For instance, GO Northwest is offering employees homeownership workshops on campus, along with one-on-one counseling sessions. Live Baltimore is offering mortgage workshops and conducting trolley tours around LNYW-eligible neighborhoods; last month, the nonprofit hosted a lottery for an additional \$5,000 incentive stackable onto the UMB grant. Guidewell is offering debt-management classes, and MD Cash is leading classes on credit and borrowing.

The Southwest Partnership will host a housing fair at the BioPark on March 24, convening real estate agents, developers, and brokers who will showcase at least 50 area homes currently on the market. The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development is promoting the Maryland Mortgage Program, tax credits, and other grants that can be used in conjunction with LNYW and could total as much as \$30,000 in additional home-buying incentives.

Live Near Your Work is a powerful way to show the residents of Southwest Baltimore that we are all tethered to one another, that our fates are entwined, and that every shared decision we make in these neighborhoods is rooted in strengthening our shared community — one that we call home as much as they do. This is how we'll build what we've been working toward for years: a vibrant community where everyone has an interest in its strength, and everyone has a stake in its future.



Jay A. Perman, MD
PRESIDENT

To learn more about the program, visit *Live Near Your Work* or contact *Emily Kordish* in Human Resource Services.



HUMAN RESOURCES

**OPEN THE DOOR TO
HOMEOWNERSHIP**

Applications are now open for up to \$18,500 in grants toward your home purchase through UMB's Live Near Your Work Program.

TO FIND OUT IF YOU ARE ELIGIBLE, VISIT www.umaryland.edu/live-near-your-work.

 UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND
BALTIMORE

LIVE NEAR YOUR WORK PROGRAM
www.umaryland.edu/live-near-your-work

LAURELS

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UNIVERSITYWIDE



COURTNEY JONES CARNEY

Courtney Jones Carney, MBA, director, Office of Interprofessional Student Learning and Service Initiatives (ISLSI), Student Services, presented “Creating Positive Work Spaces: Avoiding Microaggressions in the Workplace” and co-presented with **Ebony Nicholson, MSW**, academic coordinator, Diversity and



EBONY NICHOLSON

Inclusion Initiatives, ISLSI, “From the Ground Up: Step-By-Step Guide to Creating a Cultural Responsiveness Training Program” at the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators Multicultural Institute: Advancing Equity and Inclusive Practice in New Orleans.

Eric Cooper, accounting clerk III for the Office of Operations and Maintenance, was honored as UMB’s December Employee of the Month, earning praise for his work ethic, attentiveness, and friendly nature in fulfilling his responsibilities in purchasing maintenance supplies and following through on those orders.



ERIC COOPER ACCEPTS HIS AWARD FROM DR. PERMAN.



JENNIFER B. LITCHMAN

Jennifer B. Litchman, MA, has been promoted from UMB chief communications officer and vice president to senior vice president for external relations. She will remain special assistant to the president and will continue her duties as Dr. Perman’s chief of staff. **Roger J. Ward, EdD, JD, MPA**, has been promoted from chief accountability



ROGER J. WARD

officer and vice president of operations and planning to senior vice president for operations and institutional effectiveness. He will remain vice dean for the Graduate School.



DAWN M. RHODES

Dawn M. Rhodes, MBA, chief business and finance officer and vice president, was quoted in the article “Balancing Act,” which appeared in *Business Officer*,

published by NACUBO (the National Association of College and University Business Officers). The article discusses how institutions such as UMB are implementing creative approaches to deferred maintenance, effectively aligning funding and maintenance priorities with academic mission.

M.J. Tooley, MLS, AHIP, FMLA, associate vice president, Academic Affairs, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, and director, National Network of Libraries of Medicine Southeastern/Atlantic Region, co-authored the chapter “Creating the Nimble Organization,” for *Transforming Medical Library Staff for the Twenty-first Century*.

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY



GARY HACK

Gary Hack, DDS, professor, Department of Advanced Oral Sciences and Therapeutics, was selected to participate as an advocate for the American

Diabetes Association’s “Call to Congress” to be held in March in Washington, D.C.



ROBERT A. ORD

Robert A. Ord, DDS, MD, FRCS, FACS, MS, professor and chair, Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, was honored in November by

the William F. Harrigan Society. The Harrigan Award is a lifetime achievement award given to an individual who has made “outstanding contributions to the specialty.”

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LAURELS

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ABRAHAM SCHNEIDER

Abraham Schneider, DDS, PhD, associate professor, Department of Oncology and Diagnostic Sciences, and

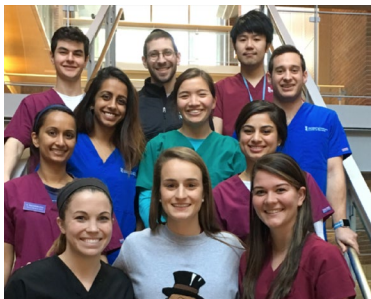
Huakun Xu, PhD, MS, professor and director, Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering Division, were among the co-authors of

“Metformin Enhances the Differentiation of Dental Pulp Stem Cells into Odontoblasts *in vitro* by Activating AMPK Signaling,” which was accepted for publication by the *Journal of Endodontics*. Xu also received the 2018 International Association for Dental Research (IADR) Distinguished Scientist Award, which will be presented at the IADR General Session & Exhibition on July 25 in London.



HUAKUN XU

The school chapter of the Maryland Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (MAPD) was named an official American Association of Pediatric Dentistry student chapter.



SOME MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL'S MAPD CHAPTER.

CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW



TAUNYA BANKS

Taunya Banks, JD, Jacob A. France Professor of Equality Jurisprudence, authored “Obama and the Supremes: A Legacy — The Rise of Women’s Voices on the Court,” which was published in the *Drake Law Review*.



DOUGLAS COLBERT

Douglas Colbert, JD, professor, will receive the Kinoy Award from the Rutgers Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild.

Laura Dunn, JD ’14, adjunct professor, was named a 2018 TED Fellow and will be presenting at the 2018 TED Conference in Vancouver, Canada, in April.



DONALD GIFFORD

Donald Gifford, JD, Jacob A. France Professor of Torts, co-authored “2018-19 Cumulative Supplements” for *Harper, James and Gray on Torts*.



FRANK PASQUALE

Frank Pasquale, MPhil, JD, professor, gave a briefing to the House Judiciary Committee

titled “On the Impact of Dominant Internet Platforms on Competition, Innovation, and Democracy.”



ROBERT PERCIVAL

Robert Percival, MA, JD, Robert F. Stanton Professor of Law and director, Environmental Law Program, wrote “Ma Jun: The Power of Information and Creative Strategies” for *Prince Claus Fund for Culture and Development*.

Rena Steinzor, JD, Edward M. Robertson Professor of Law, wrote “The New TSCA: Balanced Compromise or Business as Usual?” which appeared in the *Bloomberg Environment Daily Environment Report*.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

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



VINCENT CONROY

Vincent Conroy, PT, DScPT, assistant professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, was invited to present “The Upper Extremity: Review of Normal

and Variant Anatomy as It Relates to Clinical Practice” to 12 members of Sinai Hospital’s Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Residency Program. The event was held in the anatomy lab in the Bressler Research Building.

LAURELS

FEBRUARY 2018



KEVIN CULLEN

Kevin Cullen, MD, professor, departments of Medicine and Pharmacology, and director, University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum

Comprehensive Cancer Center, has been elected chair of the 2018 American Cancer Society Board of Directors.



RAO GULLAPALLI

Rao Gullapalli, PhD, MBA, professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, was among the co-authors on “Modulation of

Working Memory Load Distinguishes Individuals With and Without Balance Impairments Following Mild Traumatic Brain Injury,” which was published in *Brain Injury*.



THOMAS MONAHAN

Thomas Monahan, MD, assistant professor, Department of Surgery, Center for Vascular and Inflammatory Diseases, received a five-year, \$1,931,250

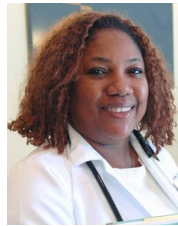
award from the National Institutes of Health/National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute for “The Effect of Myristoylated Alanine-Rich C Kinase Substrate on Kinase Interacting with Stathmin in Differential Proliferation of Vascular Smooth Muscle and Endothelial Cells.”



CHARLENE QUINN

Charlene Quinn, PhD, RN, FAAN, associate professor, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, was a co-author on “Multiple Chronic Condition Profiles and Survival

Among Oldest-old Male Patients with Hip Fracture,” which appeared in the *Archives of Gerontology and Geriatrics*.



VIVIENNE ROSE

Vivienne Rose, MD, assistant professor, Department of Family and Community Medicine, was appointed to the newly formed Health and

Wellness Council of the Maryland Department of Health. The council takes on the duties of three recently disbanded councils: Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention, Physical Fitness, and Arthritis.

Mohan Suntha, MD, president and CEO, University of Maryland Medical Center; **Shahed Badiyan, MD**, assistant professor, **Charles Simone II, MD**, associate professor, and **Pranshu Mohindra, MD**, assistant professor, all from the Department of Radiation Oncology; **Soren Bentzen, PhD, DMSc**, professor, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health; **Whitney Burrows, MD**, associate professor, **Shamus Carr, MD**, assistant professor, and **Joseph Friedberg, MD**, professor, all from the Department of Surgery; and **Medhat Nagib, MBBCh**, gastrointestinal cancer program coordinator, University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center, were

among the authors on “Clinical Outcomes of Black vs. Non-Black Patients with Locally Advanced Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer,” which was published in *Lung Cancer*.



OWEN WHITE

Owen White, PhD, professor, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, and associate director, Institute for Genome Sciences, received a five-year, \$2,361,423

subcontract from the Broad Institute for “A Comprehensive Platform for Novel Therapy Development from the Microbiome.” This work was originally funded through the National Institutes of Health.

SCHOOL OF NURSING

The school ranks eighth among public nursing schools receiving grant funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and 15th overall. Rankings are based on the amount of research dollars awarded by the NIH to each school. Each grant submission is reviewed by NIH experts for its scientific merit and program relevance.

Susan L. Bindon, DNP '11, RN-BC, CNE, assistant professor, has been appointed specialty director of the Post-Master's Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program. In her new role, Bindon is responsible for providing curricular leadership for DNP core coursework and overseeing the academic trajectory of approximately 100 post-master's DNP students. She also will provide leadership in program coordination, curriculum planning, and student recruitment, retention, and advisement.

LAURELS

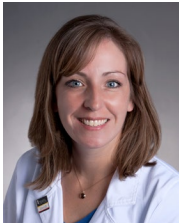
FEBRUARY 2018



SUSAN G. DORSEY

Susan G. Dorsey, PhD '01, MS '98, RN, FAAN, professor and chair, Department of Pain and Translational Symptom Science, has been elected to the American

Pain Society's Nominating Committee for a one-year term. The committee will develop candidates for the 2019 election, correspond with candidates and other committee members, and complete other assignments.



MICHELLE MOULTON

Michelle Moulton, MS '09, RN, PCCN-K, CHSE, clinical instructor, has been awarded a \$20,000 Nurse Educator Doctoral Grant for Practice and Dissertation Research. This

competitive grant program, designed to financially assist PhD and Doctor of Nursing Practice candidates, is seen as an avenue to increase the number of doctorally prepared nursing faculty in Maryland, to strengthen faculty development for optimal capacity at schools of nursing, and to recruit and retain a diverse nursing faculty.

Chris Ward, PhD, associate professor, has been awarded a five-year, \$2,589,060 grant from the National Institutes of Health for "Microtubule Regulated Mechanotransduction in Skeletal Muscle." This research project builds upon Ward and his team's previous work investigating Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy.



REBECCA WISEMAN

Rebecca Wiseman, PhD '93, RN, associate professor and chair, University of Maryland School of Nursing at the Universities at Shady Grove, served as project

coordinator for the recently revised Maryland Nursing Articulation Plan. The original plan, which dates back to 1985, set the stage for several other articulation plans in the state of Maryland.

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY



FROM LEFT, ERIN MERINO, GREER GRIFFITH, AND MALISSA CARROLL SHOW OFF THE PRSA AWARD.

The offices of **Communications and Marketing and Development and Alumni Affairs** received an Award of Excellence from the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA)-Maryland Chapter for their 2017 Online Giving Day project.

Kimberly Claeys, PharmD, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, has been appointed to the Research Committee of the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America.



ALECIA DENT

Student **Alecia Dent** received a two-year, \$29,173 grant from the National Institutes of Health for "The Non-Redundant Role of the *Has* and *Phu Heme* Acquisition

Systems of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* in Iron Homeostasis."

Joga Goburru, PhD, professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, and director, Center for Translational Medicine, received a five-year, \$40,000 contract from Collegium Pharmaceutical for "PK Analysis Plan" and received an 11-month, \$25,000 contract from Sunovion Pharmaceuticals for "Use of Pharmacokinetic Data for Modeling and Simulation of Pediatric Drug Trial Design."

Emily Heil, PharmD, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, has been named secretary/treasurer of the Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists and received a one-year, \$4,564 grant from the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy for "Oral Vancomycin Plus Intravenous Metronidazole for Severe Clostridium difficile NAP1/BI/027 Infection."



JESSICA KRUMMEL

Student **Jessica Krummel** has received a 2017 EPIC Pharmacies, Inc., student grant award.

LAURELS

FEBRUARY 2018



JOEY MATTINGLY

Joey Mattingly, PharmD, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, received a one-year, \$49,500 contract from the

Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute for “Engaging an Underserved Patient Community to Inform and Improve Comparative Effectiveness Research for Hepatitis C Treatments.”



MONA TSOUKLERIS

Mona Tsoukleris, PharmD, associate professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, has been named president-elect of the Association of Asthma Educators.



HONGBING WANG

Hongbing Wang, PhD, professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a three-year, \$1,189,652 grant from the National Institute of

General Medical Sciences for “Function and Regulation of SLC13A5 in the Liver.”

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Dean **Richard P. Barth, PhD, MSW**, and **Haksoon Ahn, PhD**, associate professor, co-authored “Estimating Minimum Adequate Foster Care Costs for Children in the United States,”



RICHARD P. BARTH

which was published in the *Children and Youth Services Review*. Ahn also co-wrote “Cost-Effectiveness of Health Systems Strengthening Interventions in Improving Maternal and Child Health in Low- and Middle-Income Countries: A Systematic Review,” which appeared in *Health Policy and Planning*. Barth

co-edited the book, *Grand Challenges for Social Work and Society*, which has been published by Oxford. It presents the authoritative account of the start of the Grand Challenges in Social Work national initiative. SSW contributors include **Sarah Christa Butts, MSW**, executive director, Grand Challenges for Social Work Initiative, and **Christine Callahan, PhD**, research assistant professor.



JOHN BELCHER

John Belcher, PhD, professor, co-authored “The Great Recession of 2007: An Agenda for Social Justice,” which appeared in the *Journal of Progressive Human Services*.



MELISSA BELLIN

Associate professors **Melissa Bellin, PhD**, and **Kathryn Collins, PhD**, and alumna **Angelica Newsome, MSW '16**, were among



KATHRYN COLLINS

the co-authors of “Characterization of Stress in Low-Income, Inner-City Mothers of Children with Poorly Controlled Asthma,” which appeared in the *Journal of Urban Health*. It presented findings from a randomized controlled trial testing home and community-based intervention for families of youths with high-risk asthma.



KIMBERLY ESTEP

Clinical instructor **Kimberly Estep, MS**, has been promoted from manager to director of the National Wraparound Implementation Center at the school’s Institute for Innovation and Implementation.

Students **Lisa Fedina, Boyoung Nam, Roma Shah**, and **Tara Von Mach, alumna Hyun-Jin Jun, PhD '17**, and associate professor **Charlotte Bright, PhD**, co-authored “Moderating Effects of Resilience on Depression, Psychological Distress, and Suicidal Ideation Associated with Interpersonal Violence,” which was published in the *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*.

Associate professor **Bethany Lee, PhD**, postdoctoral fellow **Julia Kobulsky, PhD**, and Dean **Richard P. Barth, PhD, MSW**, co-authored “Parent Perspectives on Adoption Preparation: Findings from the Modern Adoptive Families Project,” which was published in *Children and Youth Services Review*.

LAURELS

FEBRUARY 2018



JOHN CAGLE

Student **Joonyup Lee** and **John Cagle, PhD**, associate professor, co-authored “Social Exclusion Factors Influencing Life Satisfaction

Among Older Adults,” which was published in the *Journal of Poverty and Social Justice*.

Michael Reisch, PhD, Daniel Thursz Distinguished Professor of Social Justice, co-edited a special issue of the *Journal of Community Practice*, “Community Practice in an Increasingly Diverse Society: Essays in Memory of Dr. Felix Rivera.” The volume includes essays from researchers and practitioners across the U.S., including one by SSW faculty members **Joan Davitt, PhD**, and **Amanda Lehning, PhD**.

Clark Shah-Nelson, MA, assistant dean, Instructional Design and Technology, co-authored “Technology-Enhanced Exploratory Installations to Support Constructivist Professional Development: The Technology Test Kitchen” for the *Handbook of Research on Human Development in the Digital Age*.

The book, *Administrative Data and Child Welfare Research*, edited by **Terry Shaw, PhD**, associate professor and director, Ruth H. Young Center for Families and Children; **Bethany Lee, PhD**, associate professor; and **Jill Farrell, PhD**, research assistant professor, has been published by Routledge.



BETHANY LEE



TERRY SHAW

Corey Shdaimah, PhD, associate professor, participated in an invitation-only Day of Discussion on “Diversion” Programs: Centering Sex Workers’ Health and Rights at Yale University. The event brought together community organizers, academics, researchers, and funders to discuss the latest research on prostitution diversion programs and how best to enhance inclusion of sex worker voices in program planning, policy, and research.

Jennifer Swanberg, PhD, professor, and students **Helen Nichols** and **Elizabeth Hoffer** co-wrote “Cancer and Employment Issues: Perspectives from Cancer Patient Navigators,” which was published in the *Journal of Cancer Education*.

Michelle Tuten, PhD, assistant professor, co-authored “Prenatal Buprenorphine Exposure and Neonatal Neurobehavioral Functioning,” which was published in *Early Human Development*.

QUARTERLY Q&A with Dr. Perman

WEDNESDAY
March 7, 2018

12:30 p.m. | School of Pharmacy, Room 103

Please join me as I answer questions from students, staff, and faculty. Everyone is welcome to attend.



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

CURECORNER

FEBRUARY 2018

WONDERLAND OF ACTIVITY FOR SCHOLARS

CURE Corner provides 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.

Following the launch of the third year of the program in October 2017, UMB CURE Scholars have been actively engaged in field trips, guest speaker presentations, high school tours, animal dissections, and more. The nearly 200 mentors from all seven UMB schools who support each scholar in anatomy, robotics, MESA (mathematics engineering science achievement), and researching cancer health disparities continue to serve the students every step of the way as strong leaders and role models.

On Nov. 13, six UMB CURE Scholars were invited to participate in the Maryland Business Roundtable Annual Meeting held at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab in Laurel. While alongside some of the state's most prominent business leaders, the scholars, eighth-graders from Green Street Academy, enjoyed formal dining, networking opportunities, and shared information about the UMB CURE Scholars Program with potential partners.

Baltimore City Public Schools CEO Sonja Santelises, EdD, MA, spoke during the event and offered strong words of encouragement to the UMB scholars. Later that week, anatomy scholars began dissecting a preserved cow's eye, MESA scholars designed Popsicle stick bridges, and robotics scholars programmed mechanical robot cars.

On Nov. 30, scholars from all three UMB cohorts (sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-graders) participated in a lecture by Craig Bennett, MD, orthopaedic surgeon in the School of Medicine, who spoke about positive decision making and goal setting, while also explaining how he chose his career as a surgeon.



AWARD-WINNING SCHOLARS DISPLAY THEIR CERTIFICATES AT UMB CURE'S WINTER WONDERLAND CELEBRATION.

Continued from previous page



CURE SCHOLARS INTERACT WITH ASCEND SCHOLARS AT THEIR LAB AT MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY.

The School of Pharmacy also began an infectious diseases workshop for all scholars. They also learned about sexuality and health education during their Saturday component.

December was full of activities as well. On Dec. 2, the UMB Cure Scholars joined the ASCEND Scholars at Morgan State University for a day of fun-filled STEM activities. This group of Morgan students who specialize in scientific research invited UMB CURE's seventh-graders to their lab to make lava lamps, colorful slime, and design buildings using spaghetti noodles and marshmallows.

UMB CURE hosted its Winter Wonderland Celebration on Saturday, Dec. 9, at the School of Pharmacy. Families, mentors, and guests celebrated achievements such as Perfect Attendance, Mentors of the Month, Math Award, Science Award, and Language Arts Award. UMB President Jay A. Perman, MD, was there to introduce the keynote speaker, Jason McCarthy, vice president of operations at Kaiser Permanente. The day also included a holiday gift exchange, parent workshops, and eighth-grade CURE scholars attended the Baltimore City High School Choice Fair during the afternoon.

The following week, the eighth-grade scholars also visited UMB's partner high schools — Green Street Academy, Dunbar P-Tech, and Western High School — to tour the buildings and shadow current students as the scholars finalize their high school choices.

Leadership of the UMB CURE Scholars Program is grateful to its partners at Bon Secours Hospital and the Greater Baltimore Church of Christ who purchased 80 turkeys and side items for families of the CURE scholars to enjoy during the Thanksgiving holiday.

In January, the eighth-grade scholars submit their high school applications and continue their work with Kaplan in preparation for the PSAT. In February, the UMB CURE Scholars will research African-American contributions to science and participate in an oral health event with the School of Dentistry at UMB.

For more information about the UMB CURE Scholars Program or to find ways to become involved, visit www.umaryland.edu/cure-scholars.

— Borndavid McCraw

GLOBAL INITIATIVES

FEBRUARY 2018

UMB'S OLSEN NOMINATED TO LEAD PEACE CORPS

Jody Olsen, PhD, MSW, who has made her presence felt in numerous ways since joining the UMB faculty in 2010, has been nominated by President Donald Trump to be director of the Peace Corps.

Olsen has served four previous stints — the most recent in 2001 to 2009 as deputy director and then, for eight months, acting director — with the Peace Corps, the country's flagship international service organization with more than 230,000 American volunteers assisting in 140 host countries since President John F. Kennedy established it in 1961.

Interested in giving back, Olsen came to UMB and became immersed in activities as a visiting professor at the School of Social Work, lecturer at the Graduate School, founding member of UMBrella (UMB Roundtable on Empowerment in Leadership and Leveraging Aspirations), even moderating UMB's 2017 Women's History Month panel discussion with community leaders and Baltimore Mayor Catherine Pugh.

Olsen also kept international affairs close to her heart as director of UMB's Center for Global Education Initiatives and co-chair of the Global Health Interprofessional Council. She used her deep knowledge of international development (she has traveled to more than 100 countries) and her commitment to interdisciplinary learning to redefine high-quality out-of-country experiences and give UMB students a transformative global education.

She took part in four student summer research projects in Malawi and led student trips to Central America and South Asia.

"We're trying to cultivate a mutually respectful situation to solve problems," Olsen said in 2014 after 33 students from all seven UMB schools traveled in teams to Rwanda, Kenya, Gambia, Malawi, Zambia, Hong Kong, and the Philippines to work on solutions to community-specific health problems. "The

opportunity to do that is a gift. It gives students a head start in a world where we're increasingly dependent on each other."

Olsen knew she wanted to work globally during her first few days as the Peace Corps' country director in Togo. With the ink barely dry on her dissertation — a study of end-of-life satisfaction in elderly populations — Olsen landed in the West African nation with her family. There, she oversaw the work of 135 volunteers.

"I walked into that office and I knew immediately I would stay international," she said. "I liked the action. I liked leading international teams and creating an environment for people to be successful."

If confirmed, as expected, by the U.S. Senate, Olsen will have the opportunity to do just that for the 7,400 current Peace Corps volunteers. She could face some hardships, with the organization perhaps facing 15 percent budget cuts, according to some reports.

But Richard P. Barth, PhD, MSW, dean of the School of Social Work, has no doubts that Olsen will excel.

"Jody Olsen is a tireless champion," he said. "She is a terrific communicator, relentlessly optimistic and affirming, and exceptionally knowledgeable about all things international."

Glenn Blumhorst, president and CEO of the National Peace Corps Association, echoed Barth's praise after the nomination was announced. "America and the world need the Peace Corps now more than ever," Blumhorst said in a statement. "We're excited Jody has the opportunity to lead it."

— Chris Zang and Alex Likowski



PUBLIC SAFETY

FEBRUARY 2018



BE CAUTIOUS ON WINTER ROADS



Mention the hazards of driving in poor weather conditions and immediately visions of snow, sleet, and icy roads come to mind. But did you know that rain — not snow or ice — is the cause of most motor vehicle accidents in the United States?

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) says that 46 percent of weather-related crashes happen during rainfall, but just 17 percent during snow or sleet. Part of this data could be attributed to there being fewer drivers on the road during snowy conditions — and fewer snowy days as compared to rainy days.

However, remember the next time it rains that this is a driving impediment and, therefore, worthy of caution. Since this is early February, we likely haven't seen the last of the white stuff either.

THE NHTSA OFFERS THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS TO HELP HANDLE THE HASSLE OF WINTER DRIVING:

- Allow yourself extra time.
- Use extra caution in areas that ice up quickly, especially bridges and overpasses. Other areas of primary concern include intersections and shaded areas.
- Leave about five seconds between you and the closest car in front of you.
- Get in the habit of regularly checking weather reports on TV or online so you can prepare for bad weather.
- Check your windshield wipers, car lights, and tire pressure. A car without lights on a day of poor visibility is an accident waiting to happen.
- Keep an emergency kit in the trunk of your car. At a minimum include the following: blankets, first aid kit, water, portable phone charger, jumper cables.

“We want you to have as safe a commute as possible,” says Cpl. J.R. Jones, safety awareness officer in the UMB Department of Public Safety. “So we urge faculty, staff, and students to slow down on the roads, especially in the winter. If you're departing from an outdoor location, take a minute to scrape off your windows and knock the snow off the hood of your car. Realizing you can't see after entering traffic is too late. Practice safety before heading out.”

Parking and Transportation Services allows employees and students to borrow its winter supplies to make sure your vehicle is ready for the road. Supplies include ice scrapers, brake fluid, windshield wiper fluid, snow brushes, and more, which are in bins located in each UMB garage.

— Chris Zang