

# the PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

APRIL 2019



As the 2019 General Assembly session draws to a close, I want to reflect on the opportunity I have every spring to go before the legislature and tell its members why their faith in us, their support of us, is so very well-placed. Each year, I testify on UMB's operating budget and our capital budget, and I ask for support of specific projects that will broaden our reach and amplify our impact across the state.

But for the last several years, I've *also* had the opportunity to join with University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP) President Wallace D. Loh, PhD, JD, and tell lawmakers how their investment in the **University of Maryland Strategic Partnership: MPowering the State** is paying off.

It's been seven years since our two universities first joined together in a formal partnership, more than two years since that partnership was strengthened through legislation that provided additional funding and a clearer vision of how we might team up to achieve some important common goals.



AT MPOWER DAY, SARAH MURTHI SHOWS A GOGGLED CHIKA OKUSOGU HOW VIRTUAL AND AUGMENTED REALITY CAN MAKE SURGERIES SAFER.

This partnership has been the driver of our connections and collaborations. And as it matures, we see more and broader possibilities for our work together — possibilities for students and faculty, for research and commercialization, for strengthening Maryland's reputation and invigorating its economy.

The reason the partnership works so well is that UMB and UMCP don't have many overlapping strengths; we have *complementary* strengths. And so the connections that spark — among people, programs, and research — open up entirely new lines of inquiry.

Let me give an example. When I went down to Annapolis last month to testify on *MPower*, two faculty members came with me: Amitabh Varshney, PhD, MS, dean of UMCP's College of Computer, Mathematical and Natural Sciences; and Sarah Murthi, MD, physician at the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center and associate professor of surgery in our School of Medicine. The two direct the Maryland Blended Reality Center, which applies cutting-edge visual technologies to big challenges in health care.

Using virtual and augmented reality, they say we can help physicians visualize surgical procedures to improve patient safety. We can better manage chronic pain and reduce opioid use and addiction among trauma patients. We can completely revamp how we teach anatomy to medical students. We can even simulate law enforcement interactions with citizens to ease conflict and reduce police-involved shootings.

Students experience this spark of connection, as well. Evelyn Zietowski is a biology major at UMCP. She enrolled in the MLAW program, which gives undergraduates at College Park early exposure to concepts and mentoring and professional opportunities in law. Ms. Zietowski is interested in becoming a physician, and she said it took her only one semester to realize that there were aspects of medicine that couldn't be explained through the lens of a single discipline.

The courses she takes as part of the MLAW minor, taught by UMB and UMCP faculty, allow her to make links between implicit bias and patient care, between medical ethics and the role of a professional, between discrimination and health care accessibility, between mediation and the intimate, sometimes fraught, relationship of provider and patient. She said her law classes have forced her to think about what makes a good doctor more than her bio or chemistry classes ever have.

I heard Ms. Zietowski's story firsthand at *MPower* Day, one day each year when we go down to Annapolis and set up shop in the Senate building. Students and faculty participating in *MPower* projects bring posters and props, along with the devices and technologies they're working on. Legislators and their staffers

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drop by throughout the day to see the impact of the state's *MPower* investment.

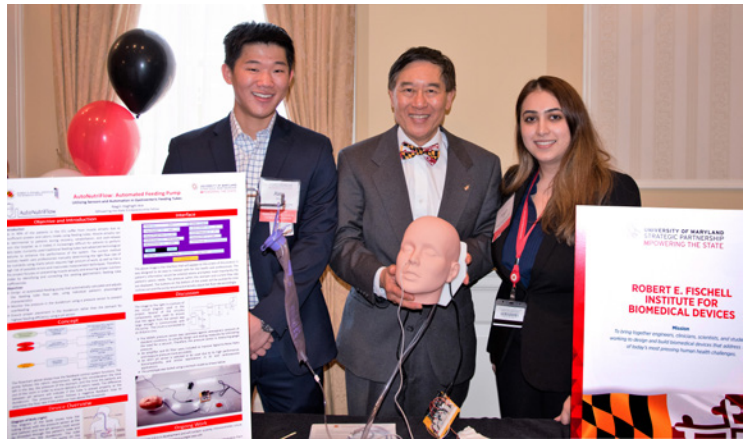
Chika Okusogu made the trip with us. He started out at UMCP, then used the guaranteed admission pathway to transition into our School of Nursing for a BSN degree. The summer after his sophomore year, he enrolled in *MPower's* UM Scholars program, coming to Baltimore to work with Luana Colloca, MD, PhD, MS, associate professor in our nursing school.

He said that while clinical and bedside skills are important in nursing, he thought it would be useful to know the provenance of the policies and guidelines he has to follow as a professional. While in Dr. Colloca's lab, he helped develop a protocol to reduce opioid use in hospitals. This is important, he says, because it's in hospitals — not on the streets — where most people are first exposed to opioids. So he's exploring how virtual reality might be used to modulate pain (see, there's that connection again) and how placebos might be used in place of real drugs. We don't understand pain as well as we should, Mr. Okusogu says, and everyone experiences it differently, so we need to keep working on individualized approaches to this universal condition.

*MPower* has tremendous breadth, more than we initially conceived, and it's impossible to pigeonhole our projects: They're high-tech and high-touch and, sometimes (wonderfully), they're both at once. We operate at the molecular level: Our new Center for Advanced Molecular Analysis at the Institute for Bioscience and Biotechnology Research will be a catalyst for developing new drugs and medical treatments. But we also operate at the very human level: Projects in community policing, toxic stress, and human trafficking are aimed at alleviating the pain and oppression suffered by vulnerable populations.

Through *MPower*, we're now running nearly two dozen programs and centers — projects emphasizing "big idea" research that responds to compelling needs in science and society. Since we began the *MPower* partnership, UMB and UMCP have submitted 140 successful joint research proposals, winning \$164 million in funding. We've launched 88 startups. Last fiscal year *alone*, we disclosed 326 inventions for patenting and licensed 58 of our technologies.

The projects and teams we fund are those that have the best chance to outlive *MPower's* support. Because *MPower* is meant to be *seed* funding only. And, in fact, many of our collaborations that have their roots in *MPower* are blossoming. For instance,



UMCP ENGINEERING STUDENTS ALEX WOO AND NEGIN ARA SHOW UMCP PRESIDENT WALLACE LOEH THE AUTOMATED FEEDING PUMP THEY'RE DEVELOPING AT THE *MPOWER*-SUPPORTED FISCHELL INSTITUTE FOR BIOMEDICAL DEVICES.

the SAFE Center for Human Trafficking Survivors has won considerable philanthropic support, as well as grants from the U.S. Justice Department, from the Governor's Office, and from Prince George's County. The Maryland Blended Reality Center was awarded more than \$1 million in external grants last year. Our Center for Health-Related Informatics and Bioimaging, which links our computer science, engineering, and medical capabilities, has brought in tens of millions of dollars to both universities.

Certainly there are projects that need additional bridge funding before they're fully spun out on their own. And there are, too, new high-potential projects germinating, it seems, from each of our current collaborations — many in areas where we have good capacity already, like cybersecurity and artificial intelligence. So we're working with the General Assembly on securing more money for *MPower*, which would allow those seeds to grow.

*MPower* has always been about strength in collaboration. Its success rises and falls on our ability to connect our people and our ideas, to find those intersections in our work where true innovation lives. This is how we'll answer the questions we couldn't answer until now. This is how we'll move forward.

Sincerely,

Jay A. Perman, MD  
PRESIDENT

# LAURELS

APRIL 2019

## UNIVERSITYWIDE

Kudos to those in **Emergency Management, Facilities and Plant Operations, Parking Services, Public Safety**, and other departments who helped clear our streets and sidewalks during bad weather this winter. We didn't have a lot of snow, but there was plenty of ice and our people met the challenge. Thanks!



SUSAN ESSERMAN

**Susan Esserman, JD**, visiting professor, Carey School of Law and the School of Social Work, and founding director, SAFE Center for Human Trafficking

Survivors, was the keynote speaker at the 16th Annual Women of the World luncheon put on by the Calvert County Commission for Women and the League of Women Voters of Calvert County.



JAMES L. HUGHES

**James L. Hughes, MBA**, has been promoted to senior vice president and chief enterprise and economic development officer for his work overseeing UMB's Office of Research

and Development, managing about 9,000 grant proposals, contracts, and awards each year related to research, clinical trials, service, and education. Read *more*.

**Tony Nguyen, MLIS, AHIP**, executive director, National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Southeast/Atlantic Region, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, and



TONY NGUYEN

co-authors have been honored with the Ida and George Eliot Prize from the Medical Library Association (MLA) for their article

“Advancing the Conversation: Next Steps for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, and Queer Health Sciences Librarianship,” published in the *Journal of the Medical Library Association*. Nguyen and his colleagues will receive the award, for a published work judged most effective in furthering medical librarianship, at the MLA Annual Meeting in Chicago.

Congratulations to the programs in the schools of law and nursing that showed gains in the 2020 *U.S. News & World Report* rankings released March 12.

The Carey School of Law moved up in its evening program (fifth to fourth), health care law remained sixth, environmental law rose from 17th to 13th, and clinical training remained in the top 10 (No. 7 after sixth last year).

The School of Nursing's Doctor of Nursing Practice rose from eighth to sixth. The school also placed in the top 10 in four specialty programs: nursing informatics and clinical nurse leader retained their No. 1 and No. 2 spots, respectively, along with nursing administration (fifth from No. 4) and adult/gerontology/acute care (seventh from No. 3 last year).

The School of Social Work retained its No. 17 ranking. *U.S. News* this year provided no new rankings for pharmacy, physical therapy, and the biological sciences in GPILS (Graduate Program in Life Sciences), and it has never ranked dental schools.



KEVIN SMITH ACCEPTS HIS PLAQUE FROM DR. PERMAN.

**Kevin Smith**, assistant director, mechanical trades, was honored as UMB March Employee of the Month for his tireless efforts to solve plumbing and HVAC issues in University buildings, including the new advanced systems installed in Health Sciences Research Facility III.



M.J. TOOLEY

**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, has been awarded the 2019 Marcia C. Noyes Award by the Medical Library Association (MLA). The Noyes Award is MLA's highest professional distinction and recognizes a career that has resulted in lasting, outstanding contributions to medical librarianship.

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# LAURELS

APRIL 2019

## SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY



LISA BRESS

**Lisa Bress, RDH, MS**, assistant clinical professor, Division of Dental Hygiene, was among the co-authors of “Assessing Dental Hygiene Students’ and Community

Caregivers’ Knowledge of Caries Prevention,” which was published in March by the *Journal of Dental Education*.



SOM CHATTERJEE

**Som Chatterjee, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Microbial Pathogenesis, received a two-year, \$275,000 grant from the National Institute

of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for “Novel Mechanism of MecA Expression in *Staphylococcus aureus*.”



ROBERT ERNST

**Robert Ernst, PhD**, professor and vice chair, Department of Microbial Pathogenesis, received a three-year, \$240,000 grant from the Department of

Defense for “Novel Live Vaccines with Modified Lipid A for the Prevention of Shigella Diarrheal Disease.”



WILLIAM HOFFMAN JR.



TARA SHEEHAN AND MAZDA MANSOURI

**William Hoffman Jr., MAS**, department administrator, Division of Prosthodontics, gave a presentation titled “Change Leadership – the Path to Collaboration” at the Society of Research Administrators International Conference held Feb. 25-26 in Austin, Texas.

DDS student **Tara Sheehan** won first place for her paper “Cannabis and Dentistry” for the essay competition held during the American Dental Society of Anesthesiology meeting in Las Vegas. DDS student **Mazda Mansouri** won third place in the poster competition for “The Increased Need for Sedation in Dental Education.”

## CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW



KAREN CZAPANSKIY

**Karen Czapanskiy, JD**, professor, was interviewed in “Q&A: Karen Czapanskiy” in the *Frederick News-Post*.



PETER DANCHIN

**Peter Danchin, JD, LL.M., JSD**, professor and director, International and Comparative Law Program, and **William Reynolds, JD**,

Jacob A. France Professor Emeritus of Judicial Process, presented “How to Fix the Supreme Court” at the Hamilton Street Club.



DEBORAH EISENBERG

**Deborah Eisenberg, JD**, professor and director, Center for Dispute Resolution, and **Barbara Sugarman Grochal, MAT, MBA**, director of

schools conflict resolution education programs, Center for Dispute Resolution, wrote “Maryland’s School Discipline Crisis Fault of Adults, Not Kids,” which was published in *The Baltimore Sun* on Feb. 28.

# LAURELS

APRIL 2019

**Leigh Goodmark, JD**, professor, wrote “Opinion: Why Survivors of Domestic Violence Should Support Bail and Discovery Reform in NYS,” which appeared in *Citylimits* on Feb. 27.

**Mark Graber, JD, PhD**, University System of Maryland Regents Professor, was an editor on *Constitutional Democracy in Crisis*, published by Oxford University Press.



SHERRI KEENE

**Sherri Keene, JD**, professor and director, Legal Writing Program, presented “More to the Story: Rethinking the Impact of Legal Frameworks” and “Stereotypes and Stories: How Embedded Knowledge Structures Challenge Effective Legal Advocacy” at the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law on March 4.



PAULA MONOPOLI

**Paula Monopoli, JD**, Sol & Carlyn Hubert Professor of Law and founding director, Women Leadership & Equality Program, presented “Demonstrating Your Value” at the University of Texas School of Law’s Women in Law Institute.



ROBERT PERCIVAL

**Robert Percival, JD**, Robert F. Stanton Professor of Law and director, Environmental Law Program, wrote “Environmental Law in the

Supreme Court as the Kennedy Court Becomes the Roberts Court,” which was published in *Practical Estate Lawyer*.



MICHAEL PINARD

**Michael Pinard, JD**, Francis & Harriet Iglehart Professor of Law and co-director, Clinical Law Program, wrote “UM Law Professor: Gun Trace Task Force

Preyed on African-Americans Because They’re ‘Disposable’ to Baltimore Police,” which was published in *The Baltimore Sun* on Feb. 21.



MARKUS RAUSCHCKER



BEN YELIN

**Markus Rauschecker, JD**, cybersecurity program director, Center for Health and Homeland Security (CHHS), and **Ben Yelin, JD**, senior law and policy analyst, CHHS, designed law- and policy-related cybersecurity courses that have been published as part of the National Security Agency’s cyber curriculum program.

**Rena Steinzor, JD**, Edward M. Robertson Professor of Law, was a panelist for “Congress and the Administrative State: Delegation, Nondelegation, and Un-Delegation” hosted by the George Mason University Scalia Law School’s C. Boyden Gray Center for the Study of the Administrative State in Arlington, Va., on Feb. 22.

## SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

The following is a select list. For all the SOM laurels, visit [www.somnews.umaryland.edu](http://www.somnews.umaryland.edu).



JOANA CARNEIRO DA SILVA

**Joana Carneiro da Silva, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, Institute of Genome Sciences, received a

four-year, \$3,577,550 R01 award from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for “Genome-Wide Sieve Analysis and Immunological Validation to Identify Targets of Protective Efficacy in Field Trials of a Whole-Organism Malaria Vaccine.”



ACHSAH KEEGAN

**Achsah Keegan, PhD**, professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, Center for Vascular and Inflammatory Diseases, **Rose Viscardi, MD**,

professor, Department of Pediatrics, and **Stefanie Vogel, PhD**, professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, received a five-year, \$3,053,150 grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for “IL-4-Activated Macrophages: Contribution To Allergic Lung Inflammation Linked To Viral Infection.”

# LAURELS

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MARY KAY LOBO

**Mary Kay Lobo, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, received a five-year, \$2,171,420 grant from the National Institute of Drug Abuse for “Ventral Pallidum Molecular Mediators in Cocaine Addiction.”



MAUREEN MCCUNN

**Maureen McCunn, MD, MIPP, FCCM, FASA**, professor, Department of Anesthesiology, Program in Trauma, has been named chair of the American Society of Anesthesiologists Committee on Trauma and Emergency Preparedness.



DANIEL MORGAN

**Daniel Morgan, MD**, associate professor, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, was chosen by the American College of Physicians to receive the Mary Betty Stevens Award, for important contributions through clinical research.



PRASHANT RAGHAVAN

**Prashant Raghavan, MD**, associate professor, and **Lorena Vidal, MD**, assistant professor, both from the Department of

Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, were co-authors of “Beyond the Spinal Canal,” which was published in the January 2019 issue of *Radiologic Clinics of North America*.



DAVID RASKO



RICHARD ZHAO

**David Rasko, PhD**, professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, Institute for Genome Sciences, and **Richard Zhao, PhD**, division head, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, have been elected to fellowship in the American Academy of Microbiology. The academy is the honorific leadership group within the American Society for Microbiology.



CHARLES WHITE

**Charles White, MD**, professor, and **Rong Chen, PhD**, assistant professor, both from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear

Medicine, were co-authors of “Vancouver Risk Calculator Compared with ACR Lung-RADS in Predicting Malignancy: Analysis of the National Lung Screening Trial,” which was published in the journal *Radiology*.

## SCHOOL OF NURSING



LINDA L. COSTA

**Linda L. Costa, PhD, BSN '76, RN, NEA-BC**, assistant professor, was a co-principal investigator for a multisite magnet hospital study titled “Effect of

Implementing Discharge Readiness Assessment in Adult Medical-Surgical Units on 30-Day Return to Hospital: The READI Randomized Clinical Trial,” which was published in *JAMA Network Open*.



LINDA HICKMAN

**Linda Hickman, PhD, MBA, RN, FACHE**, assistant professor, presented a poster at the American Association of Colleges of Nursing – Master’s

Education conference in Tampa, Fla., in February. The poster, “Future Oriented Academic-Service Partnerships for Nurse Educational Advancement,” discussed how UMSON’s partnerships with Maryland hospitals prepare more master’s-educated nurses, which in turn increases enrollment in Maryland schools of nursing and addresses both nursing faculty and nursing workforce shortages.

**Sheena Jackson, MS**, assistant director of admissions in the Office of Student and Academic Services, was honored as UMB’s February Employee of the Month for her efforts

# LAURELS

APRIL 2019



EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH SHEENA JACKSON ACCEPTS HER PLAQUE FROM DR. PERMAN.

in improving the school's admissions process and customer service.



KATIE MCELROY



MEGAN DOEDE



REGINA PHILLIPS



CHRISTINE KING



TONYA SCHNEIDEREITH

**Katie McElroy, PhD '16, MS '10, BSN '98, RN, and Megan Doede, MS '13, RN; Regina Phillips, PhD, MS '06, RN, CNE, and**

**Christine King, EdD, MSED; and Tonya Schneidereith, PhD, CRNP,**

**PPCNP-BC, CPNP-AC, CNE, CHSE-A,** have been named 2019 UMSON Dean's Teaching Scholars based on their three project proposals. The Dean's Teaching Scholars program facilitates the development of research and programs that support nursing education. Recipients are provided with up to \$5,000 in support of their projects.

**Marik Moen, PhD, MPH, RN,** assistant professor, was quoted in *Elite Healthcare* on how climate change and social determinants could factor into the next pandemic.

## SCHOOL OF PHARMACY



RYAN CONSTANTINO

**Ryan Constantino, PharmD,** postgraduate year 2 palliative care resident, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, won third place in the International Palliative Care Network's 2018 Poster Exhibition.



BETHANY DIPALA

**Bethany DiPaula, PharmD,** professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, has received an eight-month, \$149,103 grant from the Maryland Department of Health for "Pharmacy Naloxone Education Project."

**Joga Gobburu, PhD,** professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, and director, Center for Translational Medicine, has received

a two-year, \$119,980 grant from the Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology Foundation for "PKPD Analyses of Alliance Protocol A021602: A Randomized, Double-Blind Phase 3 Study of Cabozantinib Versus Placebo in Patients with Advanced Neuroendo."



JOGA GOBBURU



STEPHEN HOAG

**Stephen Hoag, PhD,** professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, has received a two-year, \$56,335 contract from Battelle Memorial Institute for "The Effects of E-Liquid Nicotine Concentration on the Abuse Liability of ENDS in Current Users."



AMY HOWARD

**Amy Howard, PharmD,** pediatric fellow, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, has received the Ton Hoek Scholarship from the American Pharmacists Association Foundation.



MAGALY RODRIGUEZ DE BITTNER

**Magaly Rodriguez de Bittner, PharmD,** professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, and associate dean, clinical services and practice

# LAURELS

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transformation, has received the National Academies of Practice's Creativity in Practice and Education Award.



CHARLES SUMMERLIN

Student **Charles Summerlin** has received the Juan and Esperanza Luna Scholarship from the American Pharmacists Association Foundation.



DEANNA TRAN

**Deanna Tran, PharmD**, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, has been selected to receive the American Pharmacists

Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists' Outstanding Chapter Advisor Award.

## SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



RICHARD BARTH



LISA BERLIN

Dean **Richard Barth, PhD**, was ranked ninth and associate professor

**Lisa Berlin, PhD**, was ranked 18th in a recent analysis in the *Journal of Social Service Research* on faculty citation rates at schools of social work nationwide. These rankings are based on the H-Index, a measure of research productivity and impact.

**Jodi Frey, PhD**, associate professor, **Christine Callahan, PhD**, research assistant professor, **Paul Sacco, PhD**, associate dean for research, and PhD students **Martin Hochheimer** and **Rachel Imboden**

co-authored a study assessing the feasibility of screening for at-risk gambling for individuals who contact credit counseling organizations seeking help with financial distress. This paper is a foundation for a larger, recently funded project that will test a brief intervention to be deployed in this setting.

**Michael Reisch, PhD**, Daniel Thursz Distinguished Professor of Social Justice, contributed a chapter, "Critical Social Work in the U.S.: Challenges and Conflicts," to a recently published international anthology, the *Routledge Handbook*

*of Critical Social Work*. The book includes 48 essays by leading scholars from around the world.

**Wendy Shaia, PhD**, executive director, Social Work Community Outreach Service, co-wrote an article with assistant professor **Sarah Dababnah, PhD**, PhD graduate **Helen Nichols, MSW/MPH** student **Nicole Garbarino**, and MSW graduate **Karen Campion**

on ways to increase the participation of African-American families in autism research.

PhD student **Yanfeng Xu** was selected to receive the Chinese Government Award for Outstanding Chinese Students Abroad. She is one of 164 winners in the United States. This award was founded by the China Scholarship Council, Ministry of Education, with the purpose of rewarding the academic excellence of self-financed Chinese students studying overseas.



WENDY SHAIYA



SARAH DABABNAH



YANFENG XU



# UMB BUSINESS *and*

## ENTREPRENEURSHIP FORUM

### The Future of Business: Where Will We Be in 2020 and Beyond?

*Join us* for a presentation and conversation with top-tier Baltimore entrepreneurs and business experts. This first-ever forum is designed to connect professionals with significant business and/or entrepreneurial expertise with students who have similar interests.

Wednesday

**APRIL 10**

6 to 8 p.m.

**The Grid**

875 Hollins St.  
Baltimore, MD

#### Moderator:

- ✓ **JOHN C. WEISS III, MBA**  
Director and President, BioTechnical Institute of Maryland, Inc.  
Senior Lecturer, Executive-in-Residence  
Merrick School of Business  
University of Baltimore

#### Presenters will include:

- ✓ **STEVE CONLY**  
VP/GM, Microbiology, BD Life Sciences
- ✓ **LUKE COOPER, JD, MBA**  
CEO of startup Fixt
- ✓ **NNEKA RIMMER, JD, MBA**  
Senior VP, McCormick & Co.

A question-and-answer session will follow.  
Refreshments will be included.

#### REGISTER TODAY

Please RSVP at [umaryland.edu/umbf/forum](http://umaryland.edu/umbf/forum)

*Space is limited*

# COMMENCEMENT 2019

APRIL 2019

## UNIVERSITYWIDE CEREMONY JUMPS TO HEAD OF LINE



THE CLASS OF 2019 WON'T HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL THE END OF THE TWO-DAY COMMENCEMENT SCHEDULE TO CELEBRATE AT ROYAL FARMS ARENA.

As the calendar turns to April, it means the University of Maryland, Baltimore's (UMB) biggest day of the year is just around the corner: Commencement 2019. And this year features the dawn of a new era, with the ceremony at Royal Farms Arena moving from its traditional Friday afternoon time to Thursday morning. The event will run from 9 to 11 a.m. on May 16.

The Universitywide commencement has been held on Friday afternoons for many years — after all the individual convocations of UMB's six professional schools and the hooding ceremony held by the interdisciplinary Graduate School — and was preceded by the festive Party in the Park in the plaza across from the University of Maryland Medical Center.

But in an effort to boost attendance at the Universitywide event from among the 2,000-plus graduates, President Jay A. Perman, MD, and UMB leaders decided to flip the script.

"Since I came back to UMB in 2010, I've thought about what we can do to attract more graduates to the Universitywide ceremony," Perman says. "And I do think this change to Thursday morning will help. This way, it can kick off two days of celebration. I'm looking forward to all of our graduates coming together on May 16 and commemorating their part in this great University — as well as their individual schools."

This year's commencement speaker is Barbara Pierce Bush, who has earned accolades in recent years for her work as a social entrepreneur. Bush, daughter of former President George W. Bush and first lady Laura Bush, is the co-founder and board chair of Global Health Corps (GHC), a nonprofit committed to mobilizing young people in an effort to boost health equity around the world. Coming from a variety of professions, GHC fellows work a one-year paid internship with nonprofits or governmental health organizations to help solve health care-related issues in Africa and the United States.

The University also will bestow honorary Doctor of Science degrees upon two distinguished UMB alumni:

- Victoria Hale, PhD, BSP '83, is a University of Maryland School of Pharmacy (UMSOP) alumna and the founder of OneWorld Health, the first nonprofit pharmaceutical company in the United States, and Medicines 360, a pharmaceutical nonprofit dedicated to women's health. She has been recognized internationally as a social entrepreneur by the Skoll Foundation, the Schwab Foundation, and Ashoka. In 2017, Hale was honored by UMSOP as one of its founding pharmapreneurs.
- Philip Needleman, PhD '64, MS, is a renowned scientist and pharmacologist whose work in the 1990s contributed to the discovery of the anti-inflammatory medicine celecoxib (brand name Celebrex). Needleman earned his PhD in pharmacology from the University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM) and is a member of its Scientific Advisory Council, which provides critical advice on UMSOM's research portfolio and programs as well as guidance and support to faculty presenters. He has provided leadership to some of the world's most recognized and respected pharmaceutical companies, including Monsanto/Searle and Pharmacia, where he was senior executive vice president and chief scientific officer.

After the Universitywide ceremony at Royal Farms Arena, graduates and their family and friends will be invited to Plaza Park for Party in the Park, which features music, fun activities, and complimentary food and drink, before moving on to their individual school ceremonies Thursday afternoon and Friday. In the event of rain, the party will move indoors to the SMC Campus Center, where it was held last year.

— Lou Cortina

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

APRIL 2019

## SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY, PARTNERS CARE FOR HUNDREDS IN NEED

The setting was a building being converted from industrial use to startups in a neighborhood near the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB). On its seventh floor, a dental clinic took shape, beckoning adults whose circumstances in life had led them to forgo dental care for months, or in some cases, for years or even decades.

There the action centered on 200 students of the School of Dentistry (SOD) who treated more than 600 people during 715 patient visits at the 2019 Baltimore Mission of Mercy. Organized by SOD and the United Way of Central Maryland (UWCM), the event took place on Feb. 28 and March 1. The students were joined by supervising faculty members, dozens of SOD staff members, and volunteers from UMB and supporting organizations.

“I am extremely proud of what the University of Maryland School of Dentistry’s faculty, staff, and student volunteers accomplished in two days. At the Mission of Mercy, we were able to offer needed dental care to more than 600 of our fellow community residents,” said Mark A. Reynolds, DDS, PhD, MA, dean and professor at SOD. “Many of these individuals have limited resources, and our overall aim was to provide to them quality oral health care, which is an integral part of overall health and the quality of life.”

Patients were required to be 18 and older and in need of obtaining extractions, restorations (fillings), and cleanings. Those with more complex needs were given referrals.

“The need for oral health care is just so great, we need to have these types of activities,” said Louis G. DePaola, DDS, MS, associate dean of clinical affairs and professor at SOD, adding that many of the patients “would have no access to dental care” otherwise.

About 60 percent of the 100 chairs at the Mission of Mercy were dedicated to oral surgery and the extraction of teeth because that is the greatest need, DePaola said. For those patients, extraction of diseased teeth improves the level of their oral health and removes potential sources of infection. For many, the procedure also eliminates the pain associated with dental decay.

James Gee, a retired employee of the Baltimore City school system, said one tooth in particular had been hurting. Afterward, he expressed gratitude to the students who cared for him and calmed his nerves. “They made me feel like I was

getting a haircut or something like that,” he said, instead of the four extractions he had required.

In what has proved to be a successful method of streamlining intake, those who sought dental care were invited to arrive at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 27, for pre-screening. The first 200 people were given wristbands, brought in to undergo digital imaging of their jaws, and guaranteed treatment on Thursday or Friday without having to wait in line.



FOURTH-YEAR STUDENT DAVID ANGUIANO, LEFT, SHOWN COMPLETING TREATMENT OF A PATIENT AT MISSION OF MERCY, SAYS: “ONE OF THE REASONS I PURSUED DENTISTRY WAS TO HELP OTHERS.” NEXT YEAR HE WILL TAKE HIS DENTAL SKILLS TO THE U.S. MILITARY.

Baltimore resident Ronald Diggs, who retired after a career in environmental services, saw a flyer about the event at church and was determined to obtain the dental care he so desperately desired. “I was the first one to get here,” he said. After arriving at 6:30 a.m., Diggs went back to his home in northwest Baltimore, then returned to the clinic’s location, the 1100 Wicomico Building, at 1 p.m. After an hour’s wait, a screening confirmed what his discomfort had already told him: Seven badly decayed teeth would have to go.

*Continued from previous page*

The next day, a fourth-year dental student and a third-year assistant performed his extractions. Afterward, unable to speak with rolls of gauze still in his mouth, Diggs gave them a heartfelt thumbs-up.

“Some of these patients are getting all their teeth extracted,” observed Ramsay Koury, DMD, clinical assistant professor and the Mission of Mercy organizer at SOD. Others are elated when their badly deteriorated front teeth are restored by the students, he said. “A lot of these patients will shed tears and hug them and tell them how grateful they are. That sense of fulfillment and accomplishment is unparalleled.”

Once the students have experienced how rewarding volunteering can be, they’re committed to giving back for life, Koury said. “We’re combining teaching with service, and we’re helping underprivileged people.”

Student David Anguiano, a member of the DDS Class of 2019, said: “One of the reasons I pursued dentistry was to help others. In the present time, this Mission of Mercy is one of the things I can do to start helping people.”

The clinic’s largest room was lined by row upon row of temporary oral surgeries staffed by student clinicians garbed in masks, gowns, gloves, and protective eyewear. When appropriate,

patients received applications of silver diamide fluoride to arrest the development of cavities in remaining teeth.

In an adjacent room, patients received restorations during both full days and, on Friday only, dental hygiene services.

Overall, patients received dental care valued at \$612,340 in a total of 1,743 procedures, according to UWCM.

“Most of these patients can’t afford their copays or don’t have insurance of any kind,” Scott Gottbreht, associate vice president of homeless services, impact strategies at UWCM, said in a WBAL-TV interview. “And that’s systemic throughout Baltimore. These folks have nowhere to turn for cost-affordable dentistry.”

No matter the procedure, everyone who registered was given a medical screening and offered testing for HIV and the hepatitis C virus. The latter was offered by the JACQUES Initiative of the University of Maryland School of Medicine. The former was conducted by physicians and nurse practitioners from Saint Agnes Healthcare who were assisted by rotating groups of Bachelor of Science in Nursing students from the University of Maryland School of Nursing.

— Patricia Fanning

*See a [video](#) and [photo gallery](#).*

## SAVE THE DATE

### PRESIDENT PERMAN’S SIXTH ANNUAL

# STATE *of the* UNIVERSITY ADDRESS

**THURSDAY,  
MAY 9  
3 P.M.**

**Medical School Teaching  
Facility Leadership Hall**

*Following the address, join us for an after-party on the lawn of HSRF III, as we celebrate State Employee Recognition Week. Details to come. Register online at [umaryland.edu/sotu](http://umaryland.edu/sotu).*



# WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

APRIL 2019

## UMBRELLA SYMPOSIUM URGES BEING A 'CATALYST FOR CHANGE'

One woman grew up in Brazil eyeing the stars and a career in astronomy. Another grew up in China and studied to be a diplomat before finding that she could use her skills in global markets as an entrepreneur. Both shared their words of advice with attentive listeners at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) during the celebration of Women's History Month 2019.

Their insightful chat was followed by breakout sessions, lunch, and the symposium's keynote speech, "Is the Sky the Limit?" Astronomer Duilia de Mello, PhD, MS, vice provost and dean of assessment at Catholic University of America, spoke of her area of research — extragalactic astrophysics — and described the night she made history by discovering the supernova 1997D in a galaxy 58 million light years from Earth.

At the 2019 symposium, participants were privileged to hear from two groundbreaking speakers as well as to engage in workshops to inform their own lives and careers because UMB's typical 90-minute Women's History Month program had been expanded into a daylong event.

"These annual celebrations are really a reminder of all that we have done and a reminder there's still so much more to do as we fight to keep workplaces free from sexual harassment and discrimination," said UMBrella founder and chair Jennifer B. Litchman, MA, "and as we level our attention on eliminating entrenched systems and structures that even today inhibit true wage equality for women and gender parity in the workplace."

Litchman, who is UMB senior vice president for external relations and special assistant to the president, presided over the symposium. It was capped by an experiential workshop designed to integrate the day's lessons into simple mind-body practices. Participants who had broken into separate workshops after Xu's presentation came back together as Kathy Flaminio, LGSW, MSW, founder of 1000 Petals LLC, led them in "Taking Care of YOU: Self-Care Strategies for Mind-Body & Heart."

The day's lessons were numerous as attendees could choose among five breakout sessions led by experts in their fields: "How to Recognize Implicit Bias," Kristin Reavis, MD, assistant professor at the University of Maryland School of Medicine; "How to Recognize and Respond to Gender-Based Violence," Leigh Goodmark, JD, professor at the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law; "How to Negotiate," Stacy Smith, JD, director, special projects, Center for Dispute Resolution at Maryland Carey Law; "How to be Authentic," F. Emelia Sam, DDS, associate professor at Howard University College of Dentistry; and "How to Craft Your Narrative," Laura Wexler, co-founder, *The Stoop Storytelling Series*.



UMBRELLA FOUNDER JENNIFER LITCHMAN WITH GUEST PRESENTERS WHO OPENED AND CLOSED THE DAYLONG SYMPOSIUM: MEI XU (LEFT) AND KATHY FLAMINIO (RIGHT).

The UMB Roundtable on Empowerment in Leadership and Leveraging Aspirations (UMBrella) Group presented the "UMBrella Symposium and Workshops: Be a Catalyst for Change in Your Life and Your Career." To open the event, held on March 13, an audience of nearly 200 was treated to a conversation between UMB President Jay A. Perman, MD, and Mei Xu, MA, an entrepreneur who founded Chesapeake Bay Candle and recently launched Mei Xu & Co. LLC. She is a board member of the University of Maryland Baltimore Foundation, Inc.

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At the outset, Perman expressed confidence that those in the audience, made up mostly of women, would take away “good advice, strategies, and connections.” There was an opportunity for questions and answers. During Perman’s conversation with Xu, the pair covered numerous topics pertinent to the day’s theme of being a catalyst for change.

Xu repeatedly embraced change, starting in 1989 when China’s unrest led authorities to dispatch recent university graduates to the hinterlands. She found herself far from Beijing with a boring assignment related to minerals destined for export. “I did something unthinkable at that time. I quit,” she said.

That decision derailed her decade-long plan to become a diplomat. But it put her on a path to emigrating, earning a master’s degree in mass communications at the University of Maryland, College Park, and gaining experience in global trade.

A hiring freeze due to the Iraq War upended her aim for an international banking career. “Once again, something happened to my dream, to work for the World Bank,” she said, going on to advise listeners about the best ways to handle a setback. In her case, in 1994 she and a partner founded Pacific Trade International. She went on to become chief executive officer of its subsidiary, Chesapeake Bay Candle, and in 2010, was invited



ASTRONOMER DUILIA DE MELLO PAID TRIBUTE TO OTHER SCIENTISTS DURING HER KEYNOTE PRESENTATION “IS THE SKY THE LIMIT?”



STACY SMITH’S “HOW TO NEGOTIATE” WORKSHOP BROUGHT SOME ANIMATED RESPONSES FROM SEVERAL OF THE PARTICIPANTS.

by First Lady Michelle Obama to design a signature candle to be given to foreign dignitaries.

Like the Obamas, Perman referred to Xu as “the candle lady.” The two chatted about what became her specialty, discussing how she had grown a business built on that product into a company that sold for \$75 million in 2017. Xu outlined reasons for expanding into wellness and marketing including why consumers prefer pumpkin spice, an aroma considered to be an aphrodisiac. She said she expects to use both a knowledge and a love of home décor in her latest venture.

Similarly, de Mello shared with the audience many of her own motivations, such as an early love of science fiction, her dismay that people confuse being an astrophysicist with being a fortune teller, and her determination to pass along her passion for science to the young people of Brazil and beyond.

“Our planet is hurting. We need people to care. And that’s why I do the work I do,” she said.

— Patricia Fanning

*See a [video](#) and [photo gallery](#) from the event.*

## CAREY LAW STUDENT WILL BE NEWEST USM REGENT

For the first time in 22 years, the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) will have a student on the University System of Maryland Board of Regents thanks to Drew Needham.

Needham, a first-year student at the Carey School of Law and a member of the University Student Government Association, was nominated by UMB, interviewed with the University System of Maryland (USM) Student Council, met one-on-one with USM Chancellor Robert L. Caret, PhD, was appointed by Gov. Larry Hogan, and was confirmed by the Maryland State Senate.

“It was quite a process,” said Needham, 28, who was matched against students from 11 other USM institutions. “I am overjoyed and incredibly proud to have this opportunity to represent UMB as well as all students and institutions of the University System of Maryland.”

Since the student regent program began in 1988, UMB has had three representatives: Rajiv Goel (1997), Mark Israel (1994), and Margaret Woodhull (1992). The fact that Goel and Israel also were Carey Law students didn’t surprise Needham, who is slated to earn his JD in 2021.

“There’s a certain type of person who will pursue a legal education, and that is a person who by nature will want to be an advocate for others,” Needham said. “At the Francis King Carey School of Law, we want individuals who are active in their community. We have a very strong initiative to have our students not just be locked away in the library. To really get out there and utilize our legal education to be the surrogate voice for individuals in need of representation. I think that’s why we have one of the top 10 clinical law programs in the country.”

Needham, whose term begins July 1, will “get out there” as USM student regent. Duties will include monthly board meetings, serving on subcommittees like Education and Student Affairs, contributing to work groups, and advocating for issues he feels strongly about — things like student safety on and off campus, adequate protections of student-athletes, and access to mental health resources.

“I also want to make sure we’re preparing students for not just securing their first job but that they are set up with a strong educational foundation so they can enjoy the next 30 or 40 years in their career.”

To prepare for his Board of Regents duties, Needham is adjusting his future classes, leaving Fridays free for board meetings. Born in Annapolis and raised in a small town outside of Philadelphia, Needham has another big event coming up before he starts his term: He’s getting married to School of Pharmacy alumna Arielle Pietron, PharmD ’18, on Memorial Day Weekend just outside Detroit.



DREW NEEDHAM IS FLANKED BY (FROM LEFT) HIS SISTER BRIDGET GUMMERE, HIS FIANCÉE ARIELLE PIETRON, DR. PERMAN, AND HIS MOM AND DAD, KATIE AND JOHN NEEDHAM, AFTER HIS HEARING BEFORE THE STATE SENATE.

Jokingly asked which was more important, Needham smiled and said, “The wedding, because it’s hopefully longer than a one-year term.”

A biology buff who worked five years as a University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP) researcher and lab manager in the laboratory of professor Kennedy Paynter, PhD, studying oyster restoration in the Chesapeake Bay after earning his undergraduate degree, Needham isn’t one to shy away from the big stage. While a student at College Park, he ran around at Terps sports events as Testudo, UMCP’s official mascot.

“That was my first real foray into representing the student body,” Needham recalled. “You couldn’t really say I was a voice for the students then because I wasn’t allowed to talk. But I was still able to represent my fellow students.”

He hopes to follow in the footsteps of his State Senator Sarah Elfreth, from Annapolis. “She was the student regent when she

*Continued from previous page*

was a senior at Towson University 10 years ago,” Needham said, “and now I believe she’s the youngest female state senator in Maryland history.”

Being the system’s student regent, representing 176,000 students, obviously will look great on his résumé.

“I definitely have an interest after law school in getting into the public service/public policy sphere, whether that be advocating for policy changes or working with a governmental body or an elected official’s office,” Needham said. “So I think this will be a great way to get experience representing a large constituency of my peers.”

— Chris Zang



DREW NEEDHAM SMILES BROADLY WHILE ANSWERING A QUESTION ON HIS TERPS' MASCOT DAYS FROM A STATE SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ON MARCH 11.

# QUARTERLY Q&A

*with Dr. Perman*

WEDNESDAY

**April 10, 2019**

1 to 2 p.m. | School of Medicine  
Bressler Research Building, Taylor Lecture Hall

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

***This session will include updates on matters of importance to UMB and an open forum.***



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



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

APRIL 2019

## WEST BALTIMORE KIDS SHOWCASE LIFE-SAVING SKILLS



THREE JAMES MCHENRY STUDENTS DISCUSS THE BENEFITS OF THEIR MEDICATION-DISPENSING SERVICE-BOT AT THE SCHOOL OF PHARMACY.

Students from James McHenry Elementary/Middle School paid a visit to the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) on Feb. 22 for a unique learning experience. The group of 30 sixth- and seventh-graders got the chance to earn a life-saving certification with Stop the Bleed training and then present their own life-saving invention to a room of people from the School of Pharmacy (SOP)

“Do not hold back on questions,” Harry Preston, a James McHenry science teacher, told the auditorium full of pharmacy students and professionals. “These guys may look young, but they know what they are talking about.”

The middle school students are part of James McHenry’s robotics team, which recently won the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow robotics competition, beating out four high schools in Baltimore and Cecil counties and Washington, D.C., for a \$20,000 award. Their winning invention was a service-bot to help geriatric patients keep track of their medications by dispensing the correct dosage of pills on a weekly basis.

The SOP presentation was part of their preparation for a national robotics competition later this year and was arranged by JuliAna Garcia Brammer, MBA, SOP director of admissions, and Brian Sturdivant, MSW ’00, UMB’s director of community partnerships and strategic initiatives.

“The students came and presented at the UMB Community Engagement Center in January, and a lot of our visitors there are

elderly,” explained Sturdivant. “The students got some really good feedback from them, so I thought it would be a great opportunity to have them speak to pharmacy students and professionals.”

The audience had plenty of questions about the robotic invention, including: How does the machine keep track of different medications? Is there an alarm or a reminder to take each medication? Is there a child-proof lock?

The students were poised in answering every question with their PowerPoint presentation and a video that included a demonstration of the robot in action. They also showed off a miniature prototype of the service-bot.

Although its main function is to dispense pills, the robot has other useful functions, including: live video chats to stay in touch with family members and health care professionals, equipment to check their vital signs, a GPS tracking device, a button to call 911 during an emergency, a water dispenser, and a portable fire extinguisher.

“I’m very impressed that they’re taking this initiative to create something members of their community could actually use,” said SOP Dean Natalie Eddington, PhD, FAAPS, FCP. “I hope they continue to be inspired to keep doing what they’re doing.”

The James McHenry students spent the morning at the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center, where they each got certified in Stop the Bleed training. The unique training program teaches the proper ways to control bleeding in emergency situations while waiting for an ambulance to arrive.

“We’ve been doing Stop the Bleed training here since January 2017,” explained Pamela Smith-McNeal, RRT-ECMO specialist and special projects coordinator at Shock Trauma. “There is no age limit on knowledge, so we want everyone, young and old, to know how to save someone’s life immediately until first responders can get to the scene.”

During the training, the sixth- and seventh-graders learned how to wrap a tourniquet and properly pack a wound.

Smith-McNeal tied the whole training back to the students’ service-bot. She told them that in both cases they are taking steps toward becoming future health care professionals today, which could potentially save lives tomorrow.

— Jena Frick

See a photo gallery of **Stop the Bleed** and the **service-bot**.

# PRESIDENT'S PANEL on POLITICS AND POLICY

APRIL 2019

## HABERMAN TALKS TRUMP, TWEETS, FAKE NEWS, AND MORE

In covering Donald Trump, *New York Times* White House correspondent Maggie Haberman has learned that not all of the 45th president's tweets are created equal. In fact, Haberman says that Trump's Twitter feed "is not quite the window into his brain that people want to think it is" and that every post shouldn't be considered breaking news.

"We should cover his tweets when they are newsworthy, which is different from what happened when he first came into office," Haberman told a crowd of 200-plus on March 5 as the featured guest at the University of Maryland, Baltimore's (UMB) President's Panel on Politics and Policy. "At the outset, his tweets were covered every single time, regardless of their actual impact, because this was a new way of seeing a president do things. But I have this saying that I feel every tweet from Trump gets treated like it's a four-alarm fire. But if everything is a four-alarm fire, then nothing is a four-alarm fire."

"Some of these tweets are just him riffing," she added. "So I think you have to assess what the actual news value is, not what you think he's trying to do with the tweet."

Haberman, who began covering Trump when he was a New York real estate developer, offered her unique insights on his presidency, discussed the state of journalism, and talked about her 23-year reporting career during the 90-minute event at the SMC Campus Center. It was the eighth such panel since UMB President Jay A. Perman, MD, launched the initiative in January 2017 to examine issues important to the University community that are likely to be affected by the Trump administration and Congress.

Perman kicked off the proceedings by praising Haberman, who's also a CNN political analyst, for winning a

2018 Pulitzer Prize along with her *New York Times* colleagues for their coverage of the Trump administration and alleged Russian interference in the 2016 presidential campaign, as well as for receiving the Aldo Beckman Award for presidential news coverage from the White House Correspondents' Association.

"She is one of the country's most respected journalists and one of the most reliable sources for expert commentary on current events and national issues," said Perman, who noted that Haberman has been called "a scoop machine" by *The Week* and a "Trump whisperer" by *Vanity Fair*. The latter moniker alludes to the relationship she's built with Trump since the 1990s while working for the *New York Post*, *New York Daily News*, *Politico*, and now *The Times*.

"Quite frankly, she has access to President Trump that other journalists envy — or perhaps dread," added Perman. After his introduction, Perman sat down with Haberman and asked her questions, such as is the president's combative nature with reporters something of a show, and does he turn down the temperature during private interactions.



MAGGIE HABERMAN OF *THE NEW YORK TIMES* GAVE DR. PERMAN AND THE UMB AUDIENCE INSIGHTS INTO DONALD TRUMP THAT DATE BACK TO HIS DAYS AS A NEW YORK REAL ESTATE MAGNATE.

*Continued from previous page*

“He does turn it down,” Haberman said. “And the most fundamental thing to understand about Donald Trump is that he actually hates one-on-one personal conflict. So the kinds of things he says about us on Twitter, in interviews, or when he’s speaking to a crowd, he rarely will say that one-on-one. He enjoys being around reporters. He likes those types of private engagements. He likes having a captive audience.”

The conversation steered into the topic of Trump’s penchant to shade the truth when speaking to the news media and how Haberman deals with that as a reporter. She said reporters will always have a difficult time figuring out what’s true or not with Trump, and that it’s exacerbated by the fact that he usually has two or more warring factions around him.

“He likes having people vying for the attention of the leader. So that creates its own problem because each side is shading information in a particular way that makes it harder to know what’s true,” said Haberman, who added that she and her colleagues have to take a source’s motives into account to a greater extent than normal. “We have to do this rigorous establishing of the basic facts, and that’s not typical in the reporting process. And we still do, frankly, because there still is this swirl of uncertainty.”

Of course, no discussion about Trump and the news media would be complete without delving into the issue of “fake news” and its impact on journalism and the political climate. Haberman said *New York Times* publisher A.G. Sulzberger has twice told the president that his constant criticism of the news media is enabling dictators around the world to use it as justification for crackdowns on the press.

“The president has sort of nodded and appeared to hear it and then moved on and resumed [bashing the media],” Haberman said. “He’s not going to change. It’s not that he doesn’t understand what he’s doing at this point, it’s that he doesn’t care. But the consequences are dramatic, because it creates permission structures for people who don’t wish to have a free press.

“Look, there are legitimate reasons why people don’t trust the news media, and we have done that to ourselves at times. But I

don’t like the phrase ‘fake news’ because I think it’s meaningless at this point. I think the president’s appropriation of the term has rendered it non-functional.”

Asked by audience members about the seemingly growing disunity in the country, Haberman reminded them that the path to polarization didn’t begin with Trump, saying the roots of dissension can be tracked back to the Republican Congress and Bill Clinton in the mid-1990s, the contested presidential election of 2000, and the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

“We tend to treat Trump completely in isolation, as if everything he does is somehow unique and on its own, and that’s just not true,” Haberman said. “There are actually parts of him that are somewhat reminiscent of Bill Clinton — not in terms of policies, but in terms of style. So Donald Trump is not unique, but he is extreme. Donald Trump is not necessarily the origin, but he’s the accelerant.”

When Haberman was hired by *The Times* in 2015, she asked to cover Trump’s campaign for the Republican nomination. She said that she needed a beat and that other reporters weren’t exactly lining up for the assignment.

“My plan for 2016 was that there would be a campaign, and of course Hillary Clinton was going to win based on all of the polls,” Haberman said. “Then I was going to take a month off after the election and be with my kids. I never got that month off.”

So the Trump beat continues, and Haberman expects more of the same from the president.

“Somebody once asked me, ‘How is he different from what you thought he’d be as president?’ He’s exactly who I thought he’d be as president,” she said. “If you paid attention to the campaign, there should be very little that surprises you. ... There’s a constant focus on the idea that there’s some kind of degeneration going on, but I just don’t see that. I think he’s who he is and who he’s always been.”

— Lou Cortina

*View a video of the event.*



HABERMAN: TRUMP “ACTUALLY HATES ONE-ON-ONE PERSONAL CONFLICT. SO THE KINDS OF THINGS HE SAYS ABOUT [MEDIA] ON TWITTER ... HE RARELY WILL SAY THAT ONE-ON-ONE.”

# SMOKING SURVEY

The University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) is conducting a survey of students, faculty, and staff in an effort to learn about the attitudes, behaviors, and expectations of those who smoke, or do not smoke, on campus.

Please watch your inbox and respond to the survey **before April 12** so your voice can be heard on this important matter.

Your feedback is valuable as UMB evaluates several issues, including: how our policies align with city, state, and University System of Maryland codes; the number and location of designated smoking areas; and how to better promote and improve tobacco cessation efforts on campus.

