

# the PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DECEMBER 2018



During my State of the University Address last spring, I predicted a record-breaking year in grants and contracts awarded to UMB's schools. At that time — about 50 days before the fiscal year ended — I said we were on track to break \$600 million in awards for our research and training activities, and for the care and services we provide.

As it turns out, my forecast was a bit of an understatement. In FY 2018, we won a *record-shattering* \$667.4 million in grants and contracts, not only the largest total ever recorded by UMB, but the largest total ever recorded by a University System of Maryland institution. It's a 20 percent jump over FY 2017, which was, itself, a 12 percent climb over the year before.

In the last several months, I've written about some of these awards:

- A multiyear, \$100 million grant to the School of Medicine's Institute of Human Virology to measure the reach and impact of HIV programs in Nigeria — the largest population-based HIV survey ever conducted in a single country.
- A five-year, \$30 million grant to the School of Social Work to expand its Promise Heights initiative, which provides wraparound services for children and families in West Baltimore's Upton/Druid Heights neighborhood.
- A grant expanding the Carey School of Law's capacity to provide representation for immigrants and asylees in deportation proceedings and to develop a statewide legal defense fund for undocumented residents.

But the fact is that in each of our schools, there are incredible projects — seeded and sustained with generous external funding — that are changing how we approach our biggest challenges of science, law, and social justice, and how we serve the communities and people who need our expertise the most. In this column, I couldn't even begin to describe the full scope of our work supported with extramural dollars. But I hope the following examples of the grants and contracts we won last year — just one per school — illustrate the enormous breadth of what we do, locally and globally, to improve health and well-being.

With a \$6.4 million grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, the School of Dentistry's Robert Ernst, PhD, is working to develop a superior vaccine adjuvant — a substance formulated as part of a vaccine that improves its ability

to protect against infection. This work could alleviate the global health burden of a number of devastating human pathogens.

The Carey School of Law's Center for Dispute Resolution (C-DRUM), under the direction of Deborah Thompson Eisenberg, JD, provides restorative practices training in schools and universities across the state, helping people and groups heal their relationships with one another, and repair the harm that divides and inflames so many communities. A grant from the American Arbitration Association will help C-DRUM develop conflict management and de-escalation training for police and administrators in Baltimore City Public Schools.

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***“In each of our schools, there are incredible projects — seeded and sustained with generous external funding — that are changing how we approach our biggest challenges of science, law, and social justice, and how we serve the communities and people who need our expertise the most.”***

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The School of Medicine had a record-breaking year in grants and contracts, with an incredible \$537 million in total FY 2018 funding. The school's Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, led by Kathleen Neuzil, MD, MPH, FIDSA, won several major awards last year, including a \$2.9 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to accelerate the global availability of typhoid conjugate vaccines. These vaccines provide longer lasting protection against typhoid and can be given to infants and toddlers, meaning they can be incorporated into regular immunization programs. This is vital in countries where the typhoid burden is high, especially among young children.

At the School of Nursing, a team led by Cynthia Renn, PhD, MS, RN, won a \$3.1 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to study chronic pain in trauma patients after lower-leg fractures. The team is developing sociodemographic and genetic profiles of patients who do — and do not — develop chronic pain following injury. This profile database will be used not only to predict which patients are most at risk of developing pain, but to target interventions for better pain management. Plus, it could shed light on factors that play a role in non-trauma pain conditions.

*Continued on p. 2*

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With a \$1.4 million grant from the Laura and John Arnold Foundation, the School of Pharmacy's Peter Doshi, PhD, has established a center aimed at bringing transparency to the clinical trials process. The center provides no-cost assistance to third-party researchers interested in disseminating complete and accurate information on invisible and abandoned trials — trials that were never published or are suspected to have significant errors or bias in their original publication. In analyzing the data, researchers will adhere to the original trial methodology, publish their findings, and correct the scientific record.

The School of Social Work's Child Welfare Academy, under the direction of Jennifer Kelman, PhD, was granted a \$5 million contract renewal to provide comprehensive training for the state's child welfare professionals and the foster parents with whom they work. The goal of the contract, renewed by the Maryland Department of Human Services, is to protect the safety, stability, and well-being of the 4,800 vulnerable children now in foster care throughout the state.

So, clearly, we measure UMB's grants and contracts by much more than their dollar value. We measure them by their power to improve people's lives. And there we have *another* record-breaking metric to report — our success in commercializing the

University's discoveries and technologies, our success in moving our ideas out of the lab and into the marketplace. In FY 2018, UMB had its most successful commercialization year ever. We licensed 43 of our medical devices and therapeutics to various companies, including eight startups, where they'll start their pathway into patient care.

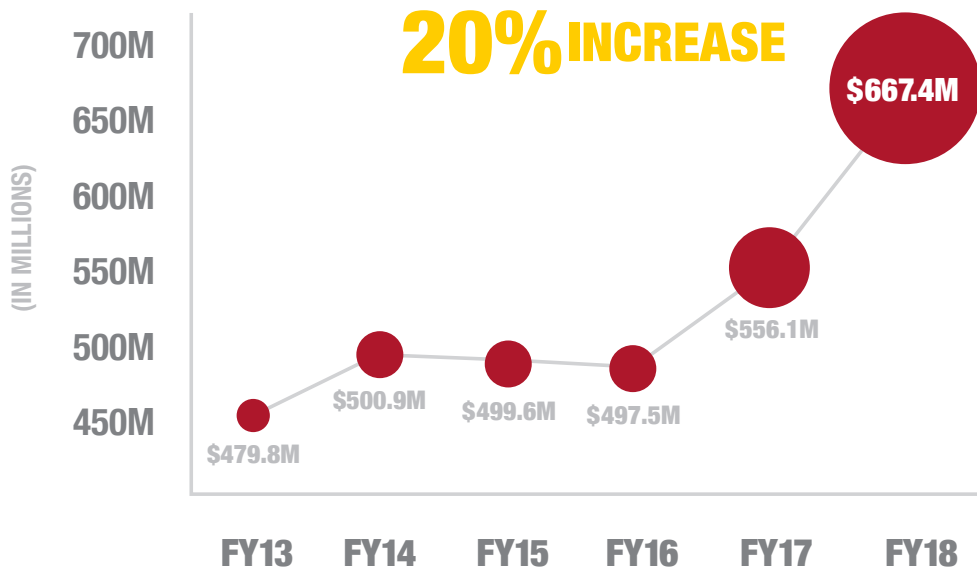
I thank everyone who contributes to our mission to lead discovery and innovation; to provide care, counsel, and service; and to build the capacity of others in the community who will continue our transformative work. Our efforts matter, whether they're record-breaking or not, and I look forward, every year, to what we'll accomplish together.

Sincerely,



Jay A. Perman, MD  
PRESIDENT

## UMB GRANTS AND CONTRACTS



# LAURELS

DECEMBER 2018

## UNIVERSITYWIDE



EVERLY BROWN



SHANELL STEPHENS

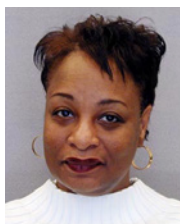
**Everly Brown, MLS**, head of information services, and **Shanell Stephens**, library services specialist, Health Sciences and Human Services Library (HS/HSL), were awarded the People's Choice award for their poster "Strategic Surveying: We Want to Hear from You," at the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Medical Library Association (MAC/MLA) annual meeting. Also at the MAC/MLA annual meeting,



EMILY F. GORMAN



M.J. TOOEY



VICKIE CAMPBELL

**Emily F. Gorman, MLIS, AHIP**, research, education, and outreach librarian to the School of Pharmacy, HS/HSL, was awarded first prize for the

co-authored research poster "Mortal or Moodle? In-Person vs. Online Information Literacy Instruction in the Health Sciences." **Patricia Hinegardner, MLS, AHIP**,

associate director of resources, **Na Lin, MLS**, head, resource sharing and repository services, **M.J. Tooe, MLS, AHIP, FMLA**, associate vice president, Academic Affairs and executive director, HS/HSL, **Vickie Campbell**, library services supervisor, and **Lorraine Woods**, library services specialist, HS/HSL, also presented posters.

**Michelle Peralta**, MPH candidate and health and wellness educator in the Wellness Hub, Campus Life Services, made an abstract presentation "Impact of an Intensive Integrative Medicine Rotation on Medical Students' Attitude Toward Complementary and Integrative Medicine" at the American Public Health Association Annual Meeting in San Diego.

**Mary Ann Williams, MSLS**, research, education, and outreach librarian to the School of Dentistry, Health Sciences

UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND, BALTIMORE  
*President & Mrs. Jay A. Perman*  
WISH YOU AND YOURS A  
HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON  
AND A  
*Happy New Year*

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# LAURELS

DECEMBER 2018

and Human Services Library, co-authored the systematic review “Immediate Loading vs. Early/Conventional Loading of Immediately Placed Implants



LAUREN WHEELER

in Partially Edentulous Patients from the Patients’ Perspective” in *Clinical Oral Implant Research*. She and **Lauren Wheeler, MSLIS**, information services librarian, were recently highlighted in a National Medical Librarians Month feature discussing health literacy in *Sea Currents*, blog of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Southeastern/Atlantic Region. Wheeler was named Conference Scholar to the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Medical Library Association annual meeting.

## SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

The school’s **Division of Central Materials Services** received a proclamation of appreciation and support from Baltimore Mayor Catherine E. Pugh on Oct. 15 in observance of International Central Service Week.

**Robert K. Ernst, PhD**, professor and vice chair, Department of Microbial Pathogenesis, was awarded a five-year, \$6.4 million grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases to bring forth a new adjuvant for vaccines that will be both antigen- and dose-sparing.



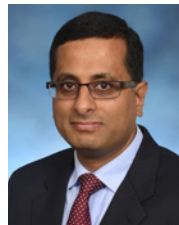
ROBERT K. ERNST



KATHRYN PAWLAK

Student **Kathryn Pawlak** received a scholarship from the Dental Trade Alliance Foundation recognizing her commitment to community service.

**Vivek Thumbigere-Math, BDS, PhD**, assistant professor, Division of Periodontology, was awarded the 2018 American Academy of Periodontology (AAP) Teaching Fellowship at the AAP annual conference in Orlando, Fla.



VIVEK THUMBIGERE-MATH

## CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW

**Danielle Citron, JD**, Morton & Sophia Macht Professor of Law, wrote “A Poor Mother’s Right to Privacy: A Review,” which was published in the *Boston University Law Review*.

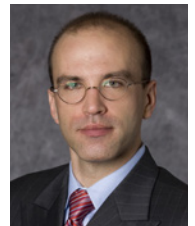


DEBORAH EISENBERG

**Deborah Eisenberg, JD**, professor and director, Center for Dispute Resolution, authored “What Works in Custody Mediation? Effectiveness of Various Mediator Behaviors,” which appeared in *Family Court Review*.



LEIGH GOODMARK



DAVID GRAY

Professors **Leigh Goodmark, JD**, and **David Gray, JD, PhD**, were elected as members of the American Law Institute.



ADMINISTRATORS AND MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY’S MATERIALS SERVICES TEAM GATHER TO ACCEPT THEIR PROCLAMATION.

# LAURELS

DECEMBER 2018

**Michael Greenberger, JD**, professor and founding director, Center for Health and Homeland Security, was recognized as among the top 10 percent of Authors on SSRN by all-time downloads.



SEEMA KAKADE

**Seema Kakade, JD**, assistant professor and director, Environmental Law Clinic, presented “Revisiting Remedies After Volkswagen” at

the University of Richmond School of Law Colloquy Series.

**Michael Pappas, JD**, associate dean for research and faculty development and professor, presented “The Costs of Creating Environmental Markets: A Commodification Primer” at the Celebrating Commons Scholarship Conference at Georgetown Law Center in Washington, D.C.



FRANK PASQUALE

**Frank Pasquale, JD, MPhil**, professor, gave the keynote address at the Amsterdam Privacy Conference and also gave a talk on the “Right to

Explanation of Automated Profiling Pursuant to the EU’s General Data Protection Regulation.”

**Robert Percival, JD**, Robert F. Stanton Professor of Law and director, Environmental Law Program, was quoted in “Va. Company,

Trump Take on Uranium Mining Moratorium” in *Greenwire*.



MICHAEL PINARD

**Michael Pinard, JD**, Francis & Harriet Iglehart Professor of Law and co-director, Clinical Law Program, was a co-organizer and panelist for “Teaching the

Next Generation of Racial Justice Champions” at the Midwest Clinical Legal Education Conference at Notre Dame Law School.



MAX STEARNS



LESLIE HENRY

**Max Stearns, JD**, Venable, Baetjer & Howard Professor of Law, and **Leslie Henry, JD, PhD**, professor, presented “An Informal Conversation Concerning the Recent and Ongoing Developments in the Brett Kavanaugh Hearings” at the law school on Oct. 4.

**Rena Steinzor, JD**, Edward M. Robertson Professor of Law, presented “The Assault on Regulation at Destroying the Myths of Market Fundamentalism” sponsored by the Center for Responsible Law on C-SPAN.

## SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

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

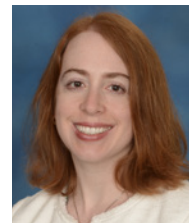


NEHA AMIN

**Neha Amin, MD**, assistant professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was a co-author of “Radiation Oncology, Hyperthermia

for Chest Wall Recurrences,” e-published in *StatPearls*.

**Kathryn Hughes Barry, PhD, MPH**, assistant professor, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, received a five-year, NCI K07 career



KATHRYN HUGHES BARRY

development grant for “Epigenomic and Transcriptomic Markers of Aggressive Prostate Cancer Among African-American Men.”



MARY BOLLINGER

**Mary Bollinger, DO**, professor, Department of Pediatrics, was among the co-authors of “Very Poorly Controlled Asthma in Urban Minority Children: Lessons

Learned,” published in the *Journal of Allergy Clinical Immunology in Practice*.

# LAURELS

DECEMBER 2018



RONG CHEN

**Rong Chen, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, received a three-year, \$796,201 R01 grant from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke to study “CRCNS: Real-Time Neural Decoding for Calcium Imaging.”



JULIE DUNNING HOTOPP

**Julie Dunning Hotopp, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Microbiology, Institute for Genome Sciences, was interviewed with her innovative work

featured in two recent popular science books by best-selling authors: in Ed Yong’s *I Contain Multitudes* and in David Quammen’s *The Tangled Tree*. Dunning Hotopp is known for her ground-breaking work on bacteria-host genomic interactions.



RAO GULLAPALLI



NEERAJ BADJATIA

**Rao Gullapalli, PhD, MBA**, professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, and **Neeraj Badjatia, MD, MS**, professor, Department of Neurology, were among those who received a five-year, \$3,064,343 NIH R01 grant from the National Institute of

Neurological Disorders and Stroke for “Longitudinal Sub-Thalamic Structure and Functional Alterations in Mild Traumatic Brain Injury.”



ANTHONY HARRIS



SURBHI LEEKHA

**Anthony Harris, MD, MPH**, professor; **Surbhi Leekha, MBBS, MPH**, associate professor; and **Daniel Morgan, MD**, associate professor; all from the

Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, received a two-year, \$657,465 cooperative agreement from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for “Epidemiology of CRE and MRSA Transmission: Patient and Organism Factors.”



ACHSAH KEEGAN

**Achsa Keegan, PhD**, professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, Center for Vascular and Inflammatory Diseases, received a

five-year, \$1,931,250 grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for the study, “Role of Semaphorin 4A in Allergic Inflammation,” which will analyze how the cell surface protein Semaphorin 4A suppresses the

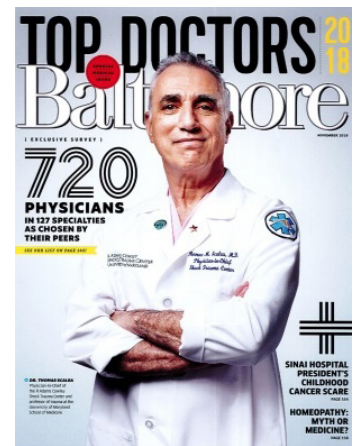
inflammatory response induced by inhaled allergens.

**Yannick Poirier, PhD, MPH, MBA**, professor, Department of Otorhinolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery, received a five-year, \$2,945,055 NIH R01 grant from



YANNICK POIRIER

the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke for “Genetics and Functional Studies of Autosomal Recessive Neurological Disorders.” **Thomas Blanpied, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Physiology, and **Alexandros Pouloupoulos, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacology, are co-investigators on this project.



Congratulations to **Thomas Scalea, MD, FACS, FCCM**, the Francis X. Kelly Distinguished Professor in Trauma Surgery at the school and physician-in-chief at the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center, for being on the cover of *Baltimore* magazine’s Top Doctors’ edition. Kudos also to the many UMB physicians listed in the special issue.

# LAURELS

DECEMBER 2018



MINHAJ SIDDIQUI

**Minhaj Siddiqui, MD**, assistant professor, Department of Surgery, was named a 2018 *Baltimore Business Journal* “Top 40 Under 40” awardee.



MICHAEL WHITE

Student **Michael White, PhD**, and **Brian Mathur, PhD**, assistant professor, both from the Department of Pharmacology, were among the co-authors of “Claustrum Circuit Components for Top-Down Input Processing and Cortical Broadcast” and “Frontal Cortical Control of Posterior Sensory and Association Cortices Through the Claustrum,” published in *Brain Structure and Function*.



PAUL WELLING

**Paul Welling, MD**, professor, Department of Physiology, was named the Donald Seldin Lecturer at the American Heart Association (AHA) Annual Meeting on Hypertension in Chicago. This is the highest honor of the AHA Council on Kidney and Cardiovascular Disease. Welling’s lecture described his group’s discoveries of a pathway that explains the profound effects of dietary potassium on blood pressure, and its implications for public health.

## SCHOOL OF NURSING



KRISTEN RAWLETT



VERONICA NJIE-CARR

The school was one of nine nursing schools nationwide selected to receive funding through the American Association of Colleges of Nursing to educate diverse communities about the All of Us Research program. Launched by the National Institutes of Health, the program seeks to build a national research cohort of 1 million or more participants reflecting the diversity of the United States. **Kristen Rawlett, PhD ’14, FNP-BC**, assistant professor, is the principal investigator (PI), and **Veronica Njie-Carr, PhD, RN, ACNS-BC, FWACN**, associate professor, is the co-PI on the grant.

**Veronica Amos, PhD, MS ’07, MS ’00, BSN ’99, CRNA**, assistant professor and assistant director, Doctor of Nursing Practice Nurse Anesthesia specialty, has been elected president of the Maryland Association of Nurse Anesthetists.



VERONICA AMOS

Two Health Services Leadership and Management (HSLM) master’s students, **Nicole Davies, MS ’18, RN, CCRN, CEN**, now a recent graduate, and **Leah Sturgis, BSN, RN, CCRN, PCCN, TCRN**, created a leadership development program and a preceptor development proposal at the CalvertHealth practicum site as part of their final HSLM course. Aided by **Linda Hickman, PhD, MBA, RN, FACHE**, assistant professor, and others, they authored a poster, “Beyond the Bedside: Maximizing Academic & Practice Partnerships to Develop Tomorrow’s Leaders,” which was presented at the Maryland Nurses Association 115th Annual Convention.



FROM LEFT, LINDA HICKMAN, CALVERTHEALTH’S MARY GOLWAY, NICOLE DAVIES, AND LEAH STURGIS WITH THEIR POSTER.

# LAURELS

DECEMBER 2018

**Jana Goodwin, PhD, RN, CNE**, assistant professor and director, Bachelor of Science in Nursing program, served as a panelist for Celebrating Women in STEM, a mini-symposium focusing on education and career pathways for women in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and medicine at the Universities at Shady Grove.



JANA GOODWIN



SHANNON IDZIK

**Shannon Idzik, DNP '10, MS '03, CRNP, FAANP, FAAN**, associate professor and associate dean, Doctor of Nursing Practice program, has been selected to

serve on the National Clinical Care Commission (NCCC). Her term began Oct. 31. The NCCC presents recommendations on the coordination and leveraging of federal programs related to complex metabolic or autoimmune diseases that result from insulin-related issues to the secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and to Congress.

Dean **Jane M. Kirschling, PhD, RN, FAAN**, is the 2018 recipient of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing's (AACN) Sister Bernadette Armiger Award, which recognizes individuals



JANE M. KIRSCHLING

nationwide who have made outstanding contributions to AACN, to nursing education, and to the advancement of the profession.

**Cynthia L. Renn, PhD, MS '97, RN**, associate professor, was inducted into the American Academy of Nursing (AAN) as a fellow during the academy's annual policy conference in Washington, D.C. She joins a community of more than 2,500 AAN fellows around the world.



JESSICA ROWE

**Jessica Rowe, MA, MS, CCRP**, research quality improvement manager, presented "Implementing Quality Assurance in Behavioral Health Research"

at the 27th Annual Conference for the Society of Clinical Research Associates in New Orleans.

## SCHOOL OF PHARMACY



BRUCE ANDERSON

**Bruce Anderson, PharmD**, professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, and director, Maryland Poison Center, received a

one-year, \$187,556 contract from the Maryland Department of Health for "Bystander Naloxone Administration Reporting and Evaluation."



HILLARY EDWARDS ACCEPTS HER PLAQUE FROM DR. PERMAN.

**Hillary Edwards, MPH**, associate director of program management and evaluation, PATIENTS Program, was honored as UMB's Employee of the Month of October for her efforts in coordinating a stakeholders site visit and the PATIENTS Day event on back-to-back days last summer.

**Joga Gobburu, PhD**, professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, and director, Center for Translational Medicine, received a one-year, \$128,781 contract from the University of California, San Francisco for "Large Mammal Neuroprotective Clinical Platform."



MAYA HANNA



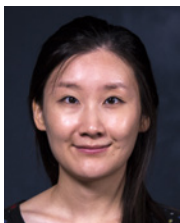
JUAN-DAVID RUEDA

Students **Maya Hanna, MPH**, and **Juan-David Rueda, MD**, received the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research's (PHSR) Student Travel Scholarship to present their



# LAURELS

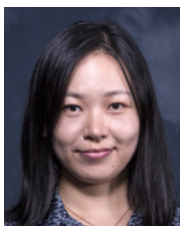
DECEMBER 2018



YOON HONG



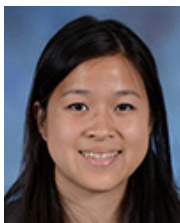
JACQUELYN MCRAE



CHENGCHEN ZHANG

research at the 2018 International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research meeting in Europe. Other PHSR awards to graduate students

included the Harris Zuckerman Scholarship to **Yoon Hong, PharmD**, the Donald O. Fedder Memorial Fellowship to **Jacquelyn McRae, PharmD**, and the Dr. Arthur Schwartz Memorial Scholarship to **Chengchen Zhang, MPH**.



GRACE HSU



YOGITHA PAZHANI

Students **Grace Hsu** and **Yogitha Pazhani** won the 2018 American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Local Clinical Skills Competition. Grace and Yogitha will represent the school at the national competition at the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting in December.

**Maureen Kane, PhD**, associate professor and executive director, Mass Spectrometry Center, has received a

one-year, \$514,592 grant from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development for “Molecular Determinants of Retinoid Metabolism in Embryonic Tissues.”



MAUREEN KANE



JACQUELINE MILANI

**Jacqueline Milani, MS, CPP**, director, Pharmaceutical Research Computing Center, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services

Research, received a nine-month, \$315,517 contract from the Maryland Department of Health’s Behavioral Health Administration for “Database Management & Technical Analytic Support.”

**Jill Morgan, PharmD**, professor and chair, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, received the 2018 Excellence in Innovation Award from the Maryland Pharmacists Association.



C. DANIEL MULLINS

**C. Daniel Mullins, PhD**, professor and chair, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, has received a two-year,

\$49,553 grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality for “Conference Grant Program.”

**Zachary Noel, PharmD**, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, received the Jeffrey Ensor Emerging Leader Award from the Maryland Society of Health-System Pharmacy.



ZACHARY NOEL



JAMES POLLI

**James Polli, PhD**, the Shangraw/Noxell Endowed Chair of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a one-year, \$741,770 grant from the U.S. Food and Drug

Administration for “University of Maryland Center of Excellence in Regulatory Science and Innovation.”

**Fadia Shaya, PhD**, professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, received a one-year, \$452,000 contract from the Maryland Department of Health’s Behavioral Health Administration for “SABG Substance Abuse Block Grant.”



JULIA SLEJKO

**Julia Slejko, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, received a one-year, \$65,000 contract from the Institute for Clinical and Economic Review for “Comparative Effectiveness Reports.”

# LAURELS

DECEMBER 2018

## SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Students **Jenny Afkinich** and **Susan Klumpner** authored “Violence Prevention Strategies and School Safety,” which was published in the *Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research*.



MELISSA BELLIN

**Melissa Bellin, PhD**, associate professor, co-authored “The Chronicity of Depressive Symptoms in Mothers of Children With Asthma,” which

was published in the *Journal of Western Nursing*.

**Christine Callahan, PhD**, research assistant professor with SSW’s Financial Social Work Initiative, presented on “Screening and Brief Intervention for Clients in Consumer Credit Counseling” at the National Center for Responsible Gaming’s Annual Conference on Gambling and Addiction in October.



SARAH DABABNAH



WENDY SHAI A

A paper by **Sarah Dababnah, PhD**, assistant professor, and **Wendy Shaia, PhD**, clinical assistant professor, was chosen as the featured October article by the American Association

for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. “We Had to Keep Pushing: Caregivers’ Perspectives on Autism Screening and Referral Practices of Black Children in Primary Care,” which appeared in *Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*, discussed barriers and facilitators to screening children for autism in primary care settings.



CO-AUTHORS MICHAEL WOOLLEY (LEFT) AND GEOFFREY GREIF

Professor **Geoffrey Greif, PhD, MSW**, and associate professor **Michael Woolley, PhD, MSW**, co-authored “Sons-In-Law and Their Fathers-In-Law: Gaining a Preliminary Understanding of an Understudied Family Relationship,” which was published in the *Journal of Family Social Work*.



ERICKA LEWIS

**Ericka Lewis, PhD**, assistant professor, is the lead author of “Engaging Child Welfare-Involved Families in Evidence-Based Interventions to Address Child

Disruptive Behavior Disorders,” which was published in the *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders*.



NALINI NEGI

**Nalini Negi, PhD**, associate professor, co-chaired the 18th National Hispanic Science Network conference funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

**Clark Shah-Nelson**, assistant dean of instructional design and technology, was part of a group honored for their effective practice by the Online Learning Consortium.



COREY SHDAIMAH

**Corey Shdaimah, PhD**, professor, and **Ivana Alexander, MSW**, graduate research assistant, co-authored “Foster Parents’ Experience of Dependency

Court: Laying the Groundwork for Engagement,” which appeared in *Children and Youth Services Review*.

Doctoral student **Jenny Siegel, MSW**, was selected to present on a panel highlighting outstanding new investigators conducting Latina/o drug research at the National Institute of Drug Abuse National Hispanic Science Network Conference in Rockville, Md.

# RESEARCH

DECEMBER 2018

## NEWEST SCHOOL OF MEDICINE FACILITY OPENS WITH VIRTUAL EVENT



DIGNITARIES INCLUDING THE GOVERNOR AND THE MAYOR HELP PRESIDENT PERMAN AND DEAN REECE MARK THE CEREMONIAL OPENING OF HSRF III.

“Today, we honor and celebrate a very significant milestone for the School of Medicine (SOM),” noted Dean E. Albert Reece, MD, PhD, MBA, speaking to a standing-room-only crowd of faculty, staff, students, and top state and local officials in the school’s newly renovated Leadership Hall on Oct. 24.

On the day of the dean’s annual State of the School speech, time was taken out for a special virtual tour and ceremonial ribbon-cutting marking the opening of SOM’s newest research building, Health Sciences Research Facility (HSRF) III.

HSRF III is the largest facility of its kind in the entire University System of Maryland (USM). The 10-story, 439,000-square-foot research building expands the School of Medicine’s footprint to more than 2.5 million square feet, housing more than 400 personnel and generating an additional estimated \$107.4 million in annual research funding.

“Our entire academic community rose to the occasion. They imagined the unimaginable and worked relentlessly to bring this project to fruition,” said Reece, who is also the executive vice president for medical affairs at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) and the John Z. and Akiko K. Bowers Distinguished Professor at SOM.

Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan, Baltimore Mayor Catherine Pugh, Maryland State Treasurer Nancy Kopp, USM Chancellor Robert L. Caret, PhD, UMB President Jay A. Perman, MD, as well as University and Medical System leadership were in attendance to commemorate this historic event.

“This institution is steeped in tradition and is celebrated across the globe as a leader in research innovation and patient-centered care,”

Hogan declared. “With the addition of this incredible world-class facility, the state of Maryland will continue to lead and the University of Maryland School of Medicine will keep pushing boundaries, keep achieving significant breakthroughs, and will continue to shine as a national and global leader in innovation and next-generation medical technology. Thank you all for helping make this a reality.”

After a year of historic milestones in 2017, SOM attained even greater levels of accomplishment during the past year. The school made unprecedented gains in research funding and clinical revenue. Clinical care set records with nearly \$345 million in clinical revenues — an increase of 24 percent over the past five years — while SOM scientists and clinicians received \$537 million in grants and contracts, a 20.1 percent increase over 2017.

This year’s State of the School Address also featured a series of videos that highlighted the accomplishments of faculty, staff, and students over the year. Highlights included SOM’s multifaceted response to the opioid epidemic, discoveries in congenital heart disease, and the learning experiences of first-year medical students.

Another video featured key 2018 highlights across all mission areas — research, patient care, education, and community impact — while a third shared short vignettes of some of the key clinical moments in the practice of medicine.

“I am tremendously pleased with all our initiatives, and the amazing results, that have contributed to improve the health and well-being of the citizens of Maryland, the nation, and beyond,” Reece said.

— Chris Hardwick

See a [video](#) about HSRF III.

## INAUGURAL EVENT AMPLIFIES UMB'S CUTTING-EDGE INNOVATIONS

The audience seated in an intimate ballroom at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) on Nov. 9 turned its attention to a small stage at the front of the room. The stage filled with red light as Nadine M. Finigan-Carr, PhD, MS, a research associate professor at the School of Social Work (SSW), entered from behind a black curtain off to the right.

"I am a P-H-Diva," Finigan-Carr declared. "I study sex, drugs, and rock 'n' roll, and I'm here to tell you about the perfect combination of the three: child sex trafficking." And with that, Finigan-Carr began her TEDx talk titled "Child Prostitutes Don't Exist," which discussed the topic of minors being manipulated and trafficked for sex.

Her riveting talk was part of TEDx UMB, an inaugural, daylong event for the University put on through TED (Technology, Entertainment, Design), a nonprofit organization devoted to "ideas worth spreading." The goal of a TEDx program is to carry out TED's mission in local communities around the world through a series of live speakers and recorded TED Talks.

Ten speakers from the UMB community took the stage to share their innovative ideas across a wide scope of subject areas united under a single theme culled from the University's mission statement: *Improving the Human Condition*. Each speaker approached the theme from a unique perspective informed by life, work, and experience. This brought forth an engaging mix of topics ranging from pioneering augmented reality in the operating room to exploring more effective ways of communicating that forge more human connections with each other.

"All of the speakers are passionate about the work they are doing," says Roger J. Ward, EdD, JD, MSL, MPA, UMB's senior vice president for operations and institutional effectiveness and a member of the committee that organized TEDx UMB. "As an institution for health and human services, UMB conducts a multitude of cutting-edge research and education and we're always looking for platforms to amplify our work."

UMB's cutting-edge research certainly was demonstrated by TEDx UMB speaker Samuel A. Tisherman, MD, FACS, FCCM, a professor of surgery at the School of Medicine (SOM), with his talk, "A Cool Way to Save Dying Trauma Patients."

Tisherman discussed the idea of using EPR (Emergency Preservation and Resuscitation) on patients with severe traumatic injuries like gunshot or stab wounds to help stave off death during surgery. The innovative medical technique involves pumping the human body with cold saline (a saltwater solution used for resuscitation) to lower a dying patient's body temperature to a hypothermic state. This slows the patients' need for oxygen and blood flow, giving surgeons more time to perform life-saving operations.

"There's this dogma in surgery that hypothermia is bad, but I would have to disagree," Tisherman told the audience. "There are numerous reports of patients having cold water drowning, but they survived after being underwater for over an hour. Think about that for a second. You're underwater, can't breathe, but your body cools fast enough so that your brain, your heart, and other organs are protected, and you can actually survive for over an hour."



NADINE M. FINIGAN-CARR DISCUSSES MINORS BEING MANIPULATED FOR SEX AT UMB'S TEDx PRESENTATION.

Continued from previous page



RUSSELL MCCLAIN USES THE BACK OF A CEREAL BOX TO MAKE A POINT.

EPR is currently in human trials at the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center. If it continues to be successful, EPR potentially could lead to reduced mortality rates in trauma centers around the world, which fits right into TEDx UMB's theme of *Improving the Human Condition*.

M.J. Tooley, MLS, AHIP, FMLA, associate vice president for Academic Affairs and executive director of UMB's Health Sciences and Human Services Library, served as emcee for the day, and UMB President Jay A. Perman, MD, kicked off the proceedings with his talk, "No Money, No Mission." Perman discussed how he learned to balance empathy with good business practices from his parents while growing up in their family-owned dry cleaning business in Chicago. Perman explained how he has put that lesson to use as a pediatric gastroenterologist and as the president of a university that produces hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of groundbreaking research and innovations every year.

The day continued with more compelling and thought-provoking discussions, including:

- Russell McClain, JD '95, an associate professor and associate dean at the Francis King Carey School of Law, used the back of a cereal box to demonstrate and launch a discussion about implicit bias and stereotype threat.



JULIE GILLIAM DISCUSSES PRONOUNS AND THE TOPIC OF GENDER FLUIDITY.



M.J. TOOLEY SERVES AS EMCEE FOR THE DAYLONG EVENT.

- And Jenny Owens, ScD, MS, faculty executive director of UMB's Graduate Research Innovation District (the Grid), delivered a talk about her passion project, Hosts for Humanity, an organization that connects families and friends of children traveling to receive medical care with volunteer hosts offering accommodations in their homes.

"I think events like TEDx are really encouraging," Owens says. "Seeing all of the amazing work people are doing and how much time and commitment they're putting into making the world a better place is really inspiring, and I hope it inspires people to go out there and get to work on their own ideas."

Although each speaker at TEDx UMB was part of the UMB community, their audience was not limited to the 100 people seated in the ballroom. The event was livestreamed on YouTube to a global audience, allowing its outreach and engagement to go far beyond the local community.

"There are so many talented people doing important work here at UMB," said John Palinski, MPA, a philanthropy officer at UMB and a member of the TEDx planning committee. "TEDx is a bit of education in just reminding people who we are by projecting to the world all the wonderful things that are happening here."

— Jena Frick

See more at [tedxumbaltimore.com](http://tedxumbaltimore.com).

# PROJECTFEAST

DECEMBER 2018

## VOLUNTEERS BRING THANKSGIVING WARMTH TO OTHERS

For the 29th year in a row, the School of Medicine (SOM) led volunteers in providing Thanksgiving dinner for hundreds of West Baltimore residents.

The organizers of Project Feast, held Nov. 22 at Booker T. Washington Middle School for the Arts, said about 850 meals were served. Diners were treated to turkey, stuffing, potatoes and gravy, vegetables, and pie. Volunteers also wrapped plates for take-home purposes.

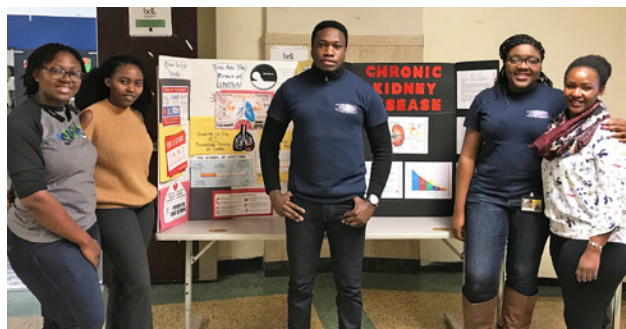
*View a [photo gallery](#)*

At Project Feast, more than half of the 94 UMB volunteers were from SOM, including 47 students and 10 staff and faculty members. Professor Sheri Slezak, MD, the longtime faculty advisor for the event, provided oversight such as conferring with the medical students who conducted health screenings. Dean E. Albert Reece, MD, PhD, MBA, who is also UMB executive vice president for medical affairs and the John Z. and Akiko K. Bowers Distinguished Professor at SOM, provided encouragement to volunteers who were going about a range of duties from the entry hall to the kitchen.

The meals of turkey and the traditional sides were but one aspect of an event that, in the eyes of diners and volunteers alike, seems greater than the sum of its parts.

“It’s the totality of it,” commented Alexander Thomopoulos, one of Project Feast’s four organizers, who by tradition are second-year medical students. The event draws heavily from SOM but also from volunteers at other UMB schools and beyond.

Project Feast offers health information and screenings; a books giveaway; a selection of donated clothing, shoes, and



PHARMACY STUDENTS (FROM LEFT) ELODIE TENDOH, MERCY ROP, SAMUEL ANTI, PRECIOUS OHAGWU, AND WINNIE ASIMWE DISTRIBUTED HEALTH INFORMATION TO DINERS.



A GRATEFUL PATRON THANKS UMB STUDENT VOLUNTEERS (FROM LEFT) LINHAN XU, KALPANA DAVE, AND KAI-LI LIANG FROM THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE FOR HIS WARM THANKSGIVING MEAL.

nonperishable groceries; live music; a kids’ activities table; and a chance to connect with others. Many diners and volunteers return year after year, and some bring entire families.

“This is sort of a celebratory day,” said Thomopoulos, explaining a vibe that resembles a family reunion. It’s multigenerational. “Old people who’ve lived through a lot; young ones enjoying the festivity.

“I encountered a mother with a young daughter,” he said, describing a child wearing a shirt with a butterfly applique. “They were both in such a good mood.”

Organizer Victoria Chen said she had a moment to sit with two men who told her the Project Feast food tasted better than elsewhere. One, a retired history teacher, looks forward to the book bin. “He appreciates being able to pick out a book to take home.”

Organizer Natalia Perez said she volunteered during much of the day in the auditorium, where new and used clothing had been sorted. Donations came from collection sites at the Health Sciences and Human Services Library, the SMC Campus Center, the School of Dentistry, and two SOM sites. “People were very grateful that they could pick anything they needed, especially mothers with young children,” she said.

Elders enjoyed it, too. Patricia Johnson selected a dressy yellow coat as her two friends admired how well it fit her. “It’s a blessing,” she said of Project Feast.

*Continued from previous page*

Stacey B. Stephens, LCSW-C, a clinical instructor at the School of Social Work (SSW), directs the B'more for Healthy Babies program for Promise Heights, a SSW-led initiative through which UMB improves lives of children and their families at five public schools. As a volunteer, she was seeing people who engage regularly with Promise Heights programs in Upton/Druid Heights, where the middle school and its partner high school are located. "This is our neighborhood," she said.

West Baltimore residents also volunteer. One is Kay Merrill, who said she appreciates SOM's leadership not only in Project Feast but in its Mini-Med School, a tuition-free lecture series that she has attended.

In the cafeteria, chef Sheila Travers of Baltimore City Public Schools and co-chef Clinton Bates presided over everyone from dishwashers to turkey carvers. On the line, third-year medical student Kali Stevens, one of the 2017 organizers, served side dishes in a shift she was sharing with her brother, Berkley. He and their parents had traveled from New Hampshire to spend Thanksgiving at Project Feast.

The Stevenses were among several families of four or more who were volunteering.

Phebe and Mario Taylor brought their four children who range from age 7 to infancy. The Taylors were part of a group of more than 20 that represents All Nations Worship Assembly Baltimore each year. "This is his first time serving," Phebe said of her son, Grant, 1.

But the multi-generational prize, if there were one, would go to first-time Project Feast volunteers in the family of Sarah Leupen, PhD, a senior lecturer in biological sciences at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. She was accompanied by her husband, their 13-year-old twin boys, and his parents, who are in their mid-70s.

Leupen volunteers elsewhere on a regular basis and was referred to Project Feast as a place where all ages are welcome. "I brought the kids pretty deliberately," she says. "I was motivated to show them ... there really is a big need out there."

To spread the word, organizer Netsanet Woldegerima went door-to-door at shelters, churches, and soup kitchens with notices and also distributed them electronically. Furthermore SOM posted Project



DEAN REECE (CENTER FRONT) AND THE MANY VOLUNTEERS TAKE A MOMENT OUT FROM THEIR DUTIES TO POSE FOR A PICTURE AT BOOKER T. WASHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS.

Feast online. Supporters included the SOM Medical Alumni Association, the SOM Student Council, and Hungry Harvest.

"The great volunteer turnout is really a testament to the kindness, compassion, and charity of everyone in the UMB and local Baltimore community," said Chen. "After being at the event as a volunteer last year and then volunteer chair this year, I am in awe at the sense of community and positivity that radiates from the volunteers and guests who participate in Project Feast."

Many past volunteers sign up without urging. School of Pharmacy (SOP) student Samuel Anti worked the health information displays in 2017 and 2018, joined this year by four other students representing two different organizations at SOP.

Maryland Carey Law student Mihir Baxi was a three-timer as was Meghan Levis, BSN '17, who first volunteered while a student at the School of Nursing. Levis, a pediatric nurse, was pleased to spend her shift engaging with a dozen children up to about age 6. They chose pictures to color, picked out stickers to make patterns or decorate with, and used paper strands to make bracelets.

"When people initially think about giving back to the community they think about donating food or feeding the homeless population," said Levis, noting that children are often brought up in these difficult life circumstances as well.

"When people reflect on their own Thanksgiving holiday, a few things that come to mind include family, lots of food, everyone in one room, a warm house, and happy conversation," she said. "Without events like Project Feast, many of the kids who showed up on Thanksgiving Day would not have these memories."

— Patricia Fanning

# INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

DECEMBER 2018

## UMB TRIUMPHS IN PUBLIC HEALTH CHALLENGE

Students from the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) showcased the importance of interdisciplinary education (IPE) in October as they received the grand prize at the sixth annual D.C. Public Health Case Challenge at the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) in Washington.

The challenge, aimed at promoting interdisciplinary, problem-based learning, asks student teams, with representation from at least three disciplines, to find a solution to a current public health issue present in the Washington community. This year's real-world issue was "Reducing Disparities in Cancer and Chronic Disease: Preventing Tobacco Use in African-American Adolescents." The teams of scholars were given two weeks to formulate and propose a multifaceted solution to the issue.

UMB's IPE team had an arsenal of interdisciplinary talent and experience, including six students from four professional schools: Jenny Breau, a student at the School of Social Work (SSW) and a Behavioral Health Workforce Integration Service and Education (BHWISE) fellow; Adrienne Thomas, a student at the Carey School of Law; Erin Teigen, a student at the SSW and a BHWISE fellow; McMillan Ching, a UMB Science Training for Advancing Biomedical Research Post-baccalaureate Research Education Program (STAR-PREP) fellow at the School of Medicine (SOM); Dominique Earland, also a STAR PREP fellow; and Chigo Oguh, a student at the School of Pharmacy and a Master of Public Health student.

"Public health problems span across disciplines by nature," Breau explains. "Looking at the issue through all of these lenses gave us the opportunity to tackle it from every imaginable angle."

Through research and development, the scholars formulated a single proposed solution titled D.C. Health Passport Program. The team describes the program as a multilevel advocacy and empowerment initiative targeting middle school students and their families in Wards 7 and 8.

"We knew early on that we wanted the program to include three main components: athletics, health education, and advocacy," explains Thomas, who has a medical background in oncology. "We spent a lot of time refining our ideas as a group because bouncing them off of one another helped create much stronger interventions."

Drawing upon each other's strengths, the scholars created a strong and feasible strategy for interventions that encompasses the whole community. Their D.C. Health Passport Program equips students with tools to be advocates for their communities and encourages healthy choices by engaging them through athletics and the arts.

The passport itself is an incremental goal-setting tool based in behavioral economics that is used to encourage participation in all aspects of the program. The program also connects families with critical resources, engages the larger Washington region, and empowers students and their families to create their own healthy communities.



FROM LEFT, ERIN TEIGEN, ADRIENNE THOMAS, MCMILLAN CHING, DOMINIQUE EARLAND, AND JENNY BREAU TOAST THEIR VICTORY IN THE D.C. PUBLIC HEALTH CASE CHALLENGE.

"The students were passionate and excited about tackling the real-world problem," says Gregory Carey, PhD, associate professor in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology and director of student research and community outreach in the SOM and the team's lead mentor, recruiter, and advisor. "Their solution to the case certainly has potential real-world applications and implications. We are so very proud of our young scholars."

The scholars worked under the guidance of Carey along with several UMB faculty advisors, including: Lauren Levy, JD, MPH, managing director of the Law and



*Continued from previous page*

Health Care Program for the SOM; Laundette Jones, PhD, assistant professor and associate director of STAR-PREP in the SOM; and Michelle Beaulieu, LCSW-C, program director of BHWISE in the SSW.

The UMB team's proposal was declared the winner Oct. 15 at the NAM Annual Meeting. The victory included a \$2,500 grand prize and an opportunity to present their proposal to other professionals at the "Building Leadership Across Generations for Health and Health Policy" luncheon.

"After the initial shock wore off, we were all really excited," Breau says. "It's always a great feeling when your hard work pays off!"

While thrilled to receive the grand prize, team members saw the victory as an extra boon to the invaluable experience and skills they gained from competing in the D.C. Public Health Case Challenge.

"Participating in the challenge helped me to gain a better understanding of health disparities and the multi-disciplinary approach needed to eliminate them," Teigen says. "The experience encouraged me to combine my background in medical research with my clinical practice skills to create change within an important public health issue, which I hope I may carry forward toward future doctoral studies."

The scholars also will benefit from the new relationships and connections they developed with students and professionals across the public health spectrum.

"This was one of the most enjoyable things I have done in law school," Thomas says. "Even if we hadn't won, it was a great opportunity to work with people from different perspectives and meet other students on campus who I never would have met otherwise."

— Jena Frick



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## NEW PATHWAYS TO PRECISION HEALTH

When Patricia Brennan, PhD, RN, FAAN, FACMI, a pioneer in the development of information systems for patients who became director of the National Library of Medicine (NLM) in 2016, spoke at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB), she was saluted like a hero returning from the final frontier.

“As a health sciences library, and a health sciences librarian, we think of the National Library of Medicine as the ‘mothership,’ and so I guess that means that Dr. Brennan is our leader, Capt. Patty T. Kirk,” quipped M.J. Tooley, MLS, AHIP, FMLA, associate vice president for Academic Affairs, executive director of the Health Sciences and Human Services Library (HS/HSL) at UMB, and director of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Southeastern/Atlantic Region.

“I can’t underscore the importance and great fortune of having the National Library of Medicine as the leader and partner of the important work of collecting, organizing, and making biomedical information available in whatever the format, print, digital, and certainly, data,” Tooley continued. “The NLM articulates and sets strategic directions for our profession.”

Brennan came to UMB to deliver a keynote lecture Oct. 11 at the School of Nursing titled “Precision Health and the National Library of Medicine: From Accelerating Discovery to Improving Health and Well-Being.”

After welcoming remarks by School of Nursing Dean Jane M. Kirschling, PhD, RN, FAAN, Brennan lectured about the



NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE DIRECTOR PATRICIA BRENNAN (CENTER, SECOND ROW) POSES WITH SOME OF THE UMB EVENT ORGANIZERS.



PATRICIA BRENNAN: “PRECISION MEDICINE IS A NEW ERA OF HEALTH CARE THAT WILL ENABLE TREATMENT TO BE TAILORED AND PREVENTION TO BE ALIGNED WITH PEOPLE’S UNIQUE STRUCTURE, THEIR CHARACTERISTICS, THEIR GENE SEQUENCE, HOW THEY LIVE, WHERE THEY GREW UP.”

concept of precision medicine, calling it an approach to patient care that allows doctors to select treatments that are most likely to help patients based on the genetic understanding of their disease.

“I would submit to you that this definition of precision medicine is not complete. It is accurate but not complete,” she said. “To make precision medicine work, we have to know the person in context. Precision medicine is a new era of health care that will enable treatment to be tailored and prevention to be aligned with people’s unique structure, their characteristics, their gene sequence, how they live, where they grew up.”

Nurses play a unique role in broadening the conversation from precision medicine to precision health, said Brennan, a nurse herself.

“What is it that nurses know that others might not know? Nurses know about the human response,” she said. “We understand pathology. We understand cellular structure. We understand social engagement, but we know about the human response. Nurses also know about the care between the care, what happens between visits. Because people live health every day, and if the NLM is only available at the point of encounter with our health care system, we are failing our patients.

“To transform precision medicine to precision health, we have to have patients as partners. We’re not going to make them partners by giving them research papers to read,” she said.

The NLM is the world’s largest biomedical library and the producer of digital information services used by scientists, health professionals, and members of the public worldwide.

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For more than 35 years, the HS/HSL has been designated as the regional headquarters for the National Network of Libraries of Medicine Southeastern/Atlantic region, one of eight regional headquarters in the United States, Tooley said. As a regional headquarters, the HS/HSL serves 1,600 network members throughout the region, working as a field office for the NLM.

“Patti Brennan came to the NLM a little more than two years ago, developed a new strategic plan with a cast of thousands, and has health sciences librarians and libraries casting themselves forward into new and exciting places — to boldly go where many had never considered going before. So, you can see why our library community is excited to have her here,” Tooley said.

Also excited was Eun-Shin Nahm, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor at the School of Nursing, program director of Nursing Informatics (ranked No. 1 by *U.S. News & World Report*), and co-director of the Center of Excellence in Biology and Behavior Across the Life Span. She introduced Brennan, calling her “a visionary leader in health care informatics and my esteemed mentor.”

Since assuming her directorship, Brennan has positioned the NLM to be the hub of data science at the National Institutes of Health and a national and international leader in the field, Nahm said. “She spearheaded the development of a new strategic plan that envisions NLM as a platform for biomedical discovery and data-powered health.”

The NLM is a strong and robust library, Brennan said, committed to a national network of libraries of medicine made up of 7,000 institutions around the country. It began as a small bookshelf in a hospital in the 1830s, she noted.

“It has grown to touch every corner of the world and has shaped every biomedical discovery that has happened in the last 50 years,” Brennan said. “You can’t innovate, discover, or peer [review] without us.”

— Mary T. Phelan

*Read more about Dr. Brennan’s visit.*



## TAKE PART IN THE MARYLAND CHARITY CAMPAIGN

Every year, UMB joins in the **Maryland Charity Campaign (MCC)**, a workplace giving program that encourages state employees to make charitable donations in support of the causes they care about. Help UMB exceed its \$146,000 goal by Dec. 18. Pledge online at [mcc.maryland.gov](http://mcc.maryland.gov) or email **Bill Crockett** for a pledge card. Your contributions make a difference! See Dr. Perman’s MCC letter [here](#).

# DIVERSITY

DECEMBER 2018

## NURSING, SOCIAL WORK CAPTURE COVETED HEED AWARDS

Because of their outstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion, the School of Nursing and the School of Social Work at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) have won the 2018 Health Professions Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award from *INSIGHT Into Diversity* magazine.

Both schools submitted “comprehensive and rigorous applications that included questions relating to the recruitment and retention of students and employees — and best practices for both; continued leadership support for diversity; and other aspects of campus diversity and inclusion,” said Lenore Pearlstein, co-publisher of *INSIGHT Into Diversity* magazine, which received a record 170-plus applications from across the country this year.

The School of Social Work (SSW) broke new ground with the award, becoming the first such school to be honored by the oldest and largest diversity publication in higher education.

Under community outreach, SSW mentioned its Social Worker in the Library program, where a social worker and several student interns assist library patrons with such activities as job searching, finding housing, and after-school group work for adolescents.

SSW’s “social justice and activism” component covered “prenatal care to careers,” including Promise Heights in Upton and Druid Heights, “B’more for Healthy Babies,” which is reducing infant mortality rates, and its advocacy that kept open and revitalized a West Baltimore high school (Renaissance Academy).

Asked for examples of innovative diversity education, SSW pointed out, “We operate the Positive School Center (PSC), which works with principals and teachers to learn and implement restorative practices and positive language elements for reducing the suspension and expulsion of Baltimore City Public School students. PSC involves workshops, small group training, lots of on-site coaching and follow-up, peer group support, and more.”

Sheila Blackshear, MSL, MS, diversity, ADA, and affirmative action administrator in Human Resource Services, helped the

School of Social Work with its application and was thrilled with the HEED Award that resulted.

“The school is so rich in resources related to community engagement,” she said. “You go to their website and it’s all there. Programs under Social Work Community Outreach Service [SWCOS], Promise Heights, and others include parenting guidance, financial advice, child welfare, training and education. They have a long history of helping others in so many ways.”

The School of Nursing (SON), which has 46 percent of students who identify as racially and ethnically diverse, and 12 percent who are male — both figures that are above average for nursing schools nationwide — likewise has much to be proud of.

“Dean Kirschling was the first dean on our campus to appoint a dean-level position in diversity and inclusion [associate dean Jeffrey Ash, EdD]. He also serves on the school leadership team and the campus diversity committee, chairs the new faculty recruitment committee, and consults with other schools who do not have a chief diversity officer,” said the HEED Award application, which was developed by Laurelyn Irving, PhD, MSW, the

school’s Diversity and Inclusion program director.

The school’s efforts to increase the number of bachelor’s-prepared nurses and to provide students with significant financial assistance also contribute to expanding its diverse student body. For example, SON has developed dual-admission partnerships with 12 community colleges statewide to facilitate academic progression from Associate Degree in Nursing programs to its Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. Also, thanks to a \$10 million gift from Bill and Joanne Conway’s Bedford Falls Foundation, the SON has expanded its signature Conway Scholars program to provide scholarships to nearly 350 additional students pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees, thereby aiding in addressing the state’s nursing workforce needs.

SON also is employing various strategies to retain diverse faculty and staff. Its Office of Diversity and Inclusion offers individual



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and departmental support with a focus on relationship and community building and advocacy, efforts aimed at ensuring fairness in policies and practices at all levels. It has developed activities, events, and affinity groups to engage faculty, staff, and students in thinking more broadly about diversity and in working toward a more inclusive community. For example, it offers biannual professional development opportunities for all faculty and staff that focus specifically on enhancing understanding of the multiple aspects of diversity and inclusion.

UMB is no stranger to *INSIGHT Into Diversity* magazine, which recognized the national winners in its December issue, or the HEED Awards. In 2015, when *INSIGHT* was still recognizing entire institutions, UMB received the prestigious award for its community engagement efforts after the unrest that followed the death of Freddie Gray. In 2013, UMB earned a HEED Award for what its schools were doing related to diversity — both individually and together through interprofessional initiatives.

Dean Jane M. Kirschling, PhD, RN, FAAN, of the School of Nursing and Dean Richard P. Barth, PhD, MSW, of the School

of Social Work are proud their schools are carrying on the fine tradition as HEED Award winners.

“We are honored to be recognized with the prestigious award,” Kirschling said. “The application process touched upon every aspect of our institutional life and provided an important opportunity for us to assess our progress. Although our work is far from done, I sincerely thank our faculty, staff, and students for their deep commitment to ensuring that we live the values of diversity and inclusion every day in everything we do.”

“I am thrilled to have been nominated for this award and to receive this award on behalf of the University of Maryland School of Social Work,” Barth said. “Our work in West Baltimore involves deep and diverse partnerships and has been a source of much pride, learning, and benefit. We continue to endeavor to find ways in our hiring, admissions, supervision, teaching, and community activities to be a diverse, inclusive, and highly effective contributor to UMB’s success and to achieve our goal — to strengthen society — in ever more significant ways.”

— Chris Zang

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## Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. & Black History Month 2019



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

### ANGELA ALSOBROOKS, JD

- ▶ First woman elected as Prince George’s County (Md.) Executive
- ▶ 1996 graduate of University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law
- ▶ Served two terms as state’s attorney for Prince George’s County, the first woman and youngest ever elected to the post

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**MSTF Leadership Hall**

Light refreshments served in atrium



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# FIGHT AGAINST OPIOIDS

DECEMBER 2018

## UMB EXPERTS TAKE 'SOLUTIONS' ACROSS STATE

During a series of panel discussions on how best to address the opioid crisis, one factor has arisen repeatedly. It is stigma.

Panelist Michelle Tuten, PhD, MSW, associate professor at the University of Maryland School of Social Work (UMSSW), devoted her remarks to the topic of stigma during the most recent presentation held by the Office of Philanthropy at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB).

She called stigma “a factor that arguably has had the most profound impact on the creation of the opioid epidemic and one that will continue to impact what solutions are available for addressing the opioid crisis.”

Finding solutions is uppermost on the mind of those who have organized and attended the gatherings throughout the region in 2018. UMB President Jay A. Perman, MD, launched the series at an April event in *Anne Arundel County*. In September, a panel discussion was held in *Howard County*, and an event took place in *Montgomery County* in October. (Click county for details.)

The series, “UMB: Targeting Solutions to the Opioid Crisis,” concluded Nov. 8 at the Grand Lodge of Maryland in Baltimore County with a presentation by Tuten and three other UMB faculty members who have expertise in substance abuse treatment and research.

Representing the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy (UMSOP) was Bethany DiPaula, PharmD, a professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science. Representing the University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM) were associate professors in the Department of Psychiatry Christopher Welsh, MD, and Eric Weintraub, MD.

Weintraub, who served as moderator, reminded the invited audience of the toll: In Maryland last year, more than five people a day lost their lives to opioid-related overdoses.

Contributing to stigma are significant misconceptions about opioid use disorders, said Tuten, who is co-director of the Center for Addiction Research, Education, and Service (CARES). The center is UMB's interdisciplinary effort to address the adverse impact of addiction whose co-director is Raymond C. Love, PharmD, BCPP, FASHP, professor at UMSOP. The center is led at the decanal level by School of Social Work Dean Richard P. Barth, PhD, MSW, and School of Pharmacy Dean Natalie D. Eddington, PhD, FAAPS, FCP.

Misconceptions that fuel the stigma “run counter both to science and what we know about the nature of substance use disorders,” Tuten said. “Truth is a powerful weapon.”



MICHELLE TUTEN (LEFT) OF THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK WAS AMONG THE UMB EXPERTS WHO SHARED THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND THEN TOOK QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE (ABOVE).

*Continued from previous page*

These misconceptions include a perception that individuals are lacking in moral character and willpower, that usage is a choice that can be stopped at any time, that continuation is a refusal to change, and that the only real measure of success is complete abstinence during and following treatment. Indeed, voluntary control is affected by genetic vulnerability, environmental factors, and, most significantly, the effects of addictive substances in the brain, she said.

Beyond the general public, inaccuracies persist even among providers, she said. These include mistaken perceptions that individuals with substance use disorders are harder to treat, are less compliant, and relapse at exceptionally high rates.

Panelists called for greater understanding among health care professionals of the effectiveness of medication-assisted therapies, such as buprenorphine and methadone, and the methods involved in administering them. DiPaula and Welsh spoke of ways that they are broadening clinicians' knowledge in their respective disciplines.

DiPaula is a board-certified psychiatric pharmacist who directs the Psychiatric Pharmacy Residency Program at UMSOP and pharmacy services at the Springfield Hospital Center in Sykesville, Md., which is operated by the Maryland Department of Health (MDH). Working under the state's collaborative drug therapy management protocols, she has worked at several clinical sites as part of the health care team treating patients with psychiatric and substance use disorders such as opioid use disorder.

"I serve as a physician extender," DiPaula said. "This type of practice will work in multiple outpatient settings. We've also been able to demonstrate that it can optimize care and save costs," she said, referring to data collected at three different health care settings. And each site has a training rotation "so we can train future pharmacists to continue to work in this practice area."



ERIC WEINTRAUB MODERATED THE DISCUSSION WITH BETHANY DIPAULA, MICHELLE TUTEN, AND CHRISTOPHER WELSH (RIGHT), WHO SAID "WE TRY TO TREAT PEOPLE WHEN THEY'RE READY."



This helps meet a great need to expand access to treatment and strengthen the workforce dealing with opioid use disorders. "It's one of those all-hands-on-deck situations," DiPaula said, noting that pharmacy can be seen as "under-utilized as a profession" in regard to the opioid crisis. "We hope to spur some discussion of what we can be doing in the future," she said.

Welsh is medical director of outpatient addiction treatment services at the University of Maryland Medical Center (UMMC). As medical director of the Substance Abuse Consultation Service at the hospital, he oversees

substance abuse assessment and intervention with patients throughout the medical center. Welsh also works statewide and locally with the MDH and the Baltimore City Health Department on expansion of treatment for opioid use disorders, needle exchange, opioid overdose prevention, and other harm-reduction initiatives.

"We try to treat people when they're willing and ready," he said, referring to a multidisciplinary team that provides consultations and sees dozens of people per day who are admitted to UMMC for a variety of reasons. Welsh told the group he is working with Baltimore City to help other hospitals replicate the model.

Beyond that, he said, "We're trying to help throughout the rest of the state." For example, he and other experts are now on call when primary care physicians need to consult with them about addiction treatment. Calls that were initially focused on methadone and buprenorphine now extend to complicated pain management, he said.

During a question-and-answer session, several in the audience identified themselves as health care providers who were eager to share insights with the panelists representing UMB.

— Patricia Fanning

# PUBLIC SAFETY



DECEMBER 2018

## BE MERRY, AND WARY, AROUND HOLIDAYS

The holiday season is one of the busiest traveling and shopping times of the year. In the midst of all the activities — and distractions — it is easy to let your guard down and overlook signs of danger.

Crime prevention involves more than sticking to well-lit, well-traveled streets. It means taking those extra steps in your work, travel, and home routine. Consider the following:

### AT WORK

- Be conscious of strangers who may try to tailgate or piggyback to get into your building. Any suspicious person observed in or around your work area should be reported to the UMB Police Force at ext. 6-3333 or 711.
- Keep your personal belongings and valuables locked away and out of sight.
- Never allow non-IT department colleagues access to your work computer. Log off or shut down your work technology when you are away from your desk.
- Sign up for UMB Alerts to receive instant notification about emergencies and weather-related closings.

### WHEN TRAVELING, SHOPPING, OR IN A CROWDED SETTING

- Be aware of your environment and remain alert. Do not distract yourself by being on the phone or having your earbuds in.
- Avoid alleys and other shortcuts; stay on well-lit and heavily traveled streets.
- Carry your bag close to your body with your wallet in an inside pocket.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash; carry only the credit cards you intend to use. If you must use an ATM, use one located inside in a safe, high-traffic area.
- Have your car or house keys in hand, ready to use, when you reach the door.
- Bring as few valuables as possible.
- Do not overload yourself with large bags, packages, or luggage. This can easily make you vulnerable to criminals, as you are unable to defend yourself.
- To avoid being a target, consider what attracts criminals: large amounts of cash, electronics, cellphones, flashy jewelry, shopping bags, and large purses.

- Park in well-lit areas and do not leave valuables in open view in your car. Criminals do their own form of “window shopping” this time of year, so leave your valuables in the trunk, out of sight.

### AT HOME

- Use caution when answering your door for a stranger. Criminals sometimes pose as couriers delivering gifts.
- Teach your children to only answer the door for family or friends who know the “password” that is unique to you and your family.
- Leave lights turned on inside and outside of your residence or set them on an automatic timer.
- If you will be away for several days or more, plan for someone to pick up your mail, packages, and newspapers. An overstuffed mailbox is a sure sign that no one is home.
- Lock your doors and windows, even if leaving for only a few minutes.
- Avoid displaying gifts in front of windows or in plain view from the outside.

### BEFORE GIVING TO CHARITY

- If a charity or fundraiser refuses to provide detailed information about its mission, identity, costs, and how the donation will be used it is most likely a scam.
- Also if it asks for donations in cash or asks you to wire money.
- If it guarantees sweepstakes eligibility in return for a donation. By law, a donation isn't required.

Visit the *Federal Trade Commission website* for more tips on how to spot a charity scam. Also, check the *Better Business Bureau* for a list of accredited charitable organizations.

Being aware of your surroundings and looking out for potential areas of danger is key to ensuring a happy — and safe — holiday season. Members of the UMB community can benefit from these safety practices year-round. However, in light of the holiday season, it does not hurt to be a little more cautious. Happy holidays!

— Jennie Rivera