

the PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

JUNE 2019



BELIEVE STUDENTS

Last month, during my sixth annual State of the University Address, I kept coming back to one phrase: “Believe students.” Believe students when they tell us how they feel. Believe students when they tell us what’s important. Believe students when they tell us what to do. Because our students know what they’re talking about. The biggest initiatives we’ve undertaken the last several years are the ones students said we needed. From community engagement, to entrepreneurship, to global learning, students have told us what matters.

And so when students wanted to talk about diversity, we listened. We conducted a climate survey last year, asking students whether they feel included, and valued, and heard. Eighty percent of students said they believe diversity is embraced at UMB. Nearly two-thirds said that it’s easy to find people on campus who understand them, that they can connect with their own cultural community, that they feel close to people at UMB. But that means one-third of students maybe *don’t* feel these things — maybe they feel alone and isolated — and that’s not OK.

Diversity isn’t a new issue for students. In 2015, when the President’s Fellows explored cultural competency at UMB, they said we need to provide more faculty and staff training in handling sensitive situations involving race and culture; we need to develop better curricula and experiential learning in working with diverse populations; we need to hire more faculty of color.

We’re now having more intentional conversations about these issues. We’re listening to students when they tell us what will make them feel fully part of our community and fully celebrated for who they are. We’re using discretionary funds to help schools recruit diverse faculty. We’ve begun action planning across all schools to build a more open, more inclusive UMB.

Students asked that our plan include a multicultural center, so they can find the connections and support they’re telling us are vital. The center will provide intercultural and interprofessional leadership development so that, when students graduate, they’ll feel equipped as culturally competent professionals. And it will be a resource to *all* of us committed to strengthening our diverse, equitable, and inclusive community.

Listening to students also means significantly expanding our Student Counseling Center. Across the U.S., a record number of college students are seeking treatment for depression and anxiety. At UMB, anywhere from 400 to 700 of our students use the

counseling center every semester. Expanding and relocating our mental health services allows us to provide these students the space, privacy, and comfort they need, and to move toward an integrated solution for student wellness and well-being. We expect the new counseling center to be fully operational in the SMC Campus Center by January.

Another issue impinging on student wellness is food insecurity. More than one-quarter of UMB students say that in the past month, they didn’t have enough food for themselves or their households — that they’d sacrificed food in order to make ends meet. We’re now brainstorming solutions: a permanent or pop-up food pantry on campus, better transportation to grocery stores off campus, a fund to support struggling students, strategic relationships with local markets. We don’t yet have a portfolio of solutions, but part of our work of believing students, of listening to them, is to see the full picture of the challenges they face.

BUILD A STRONGER COMMUNITY

The year before the President’s Fellows tackled cultural competency at UMB, they took on community engagement, and they asked some tough questions: How do we forge meaningful relationships with neighbors when, for centuries, systems have been erected to disinvest from communities of color, to disenfranchise their citizens, to preserve segregation and prevent social mobility? How do we restore trust and work with neighbors on mutual goals and projects?

Among the fellows’ recommendations was to establish an urban extension center, which would become our Community Engagement Center (CEC) in Poppleton. The fellows knew that a center like this would be important not only to the neighbors we serve, but also to our students themselves. Because there’s nothing like being among our neighbors — in their own neighborhood — to learn about the history of our city, about the social determinants of health, about cultural competence, about working with diverse and vulnerable populations.

Last year, I said we were hopeful we’d be able to buy the building at 16 S. Poppleton St. to house our new CEC. This year, we’re grateful not only that we got the building; we’re grateful for the several million dollars we’ve raised toward its renovation. We’re thrilled that the United Way of Central Maryland will partner with us in the CEC, bringing its acclaimed Ben Center model, which provides early childhood education, support for teen parents, mental and behavioral health services, homelessness prevention services, and workforce development.

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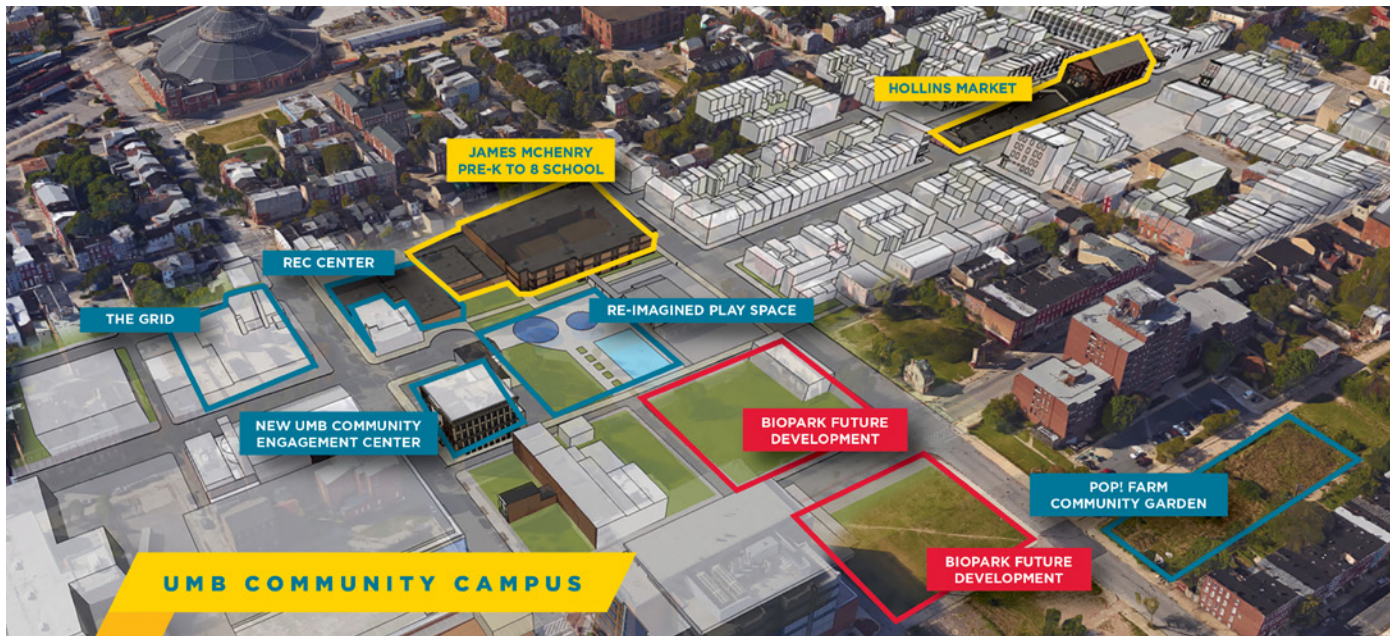


FIGURE 1: THE COMMUNITY CAMPUS IS WHERE UMB, ITS PARTNERS, AND UNIVERSITY NEIGHBORS CAN COME TOGETHER WITHIN EASY REACH OF ONE ANOTHER.

And we're already looking to something more. The CEC is the anchor of what we're calling our Community Campus in Southwest Baltimore (figure 1). This is where UMB, our partners, and neighbors can come together within easy reach of one another and access what everyone else has to offer. We already have valuable partnerships and assets on the Community Campus, and we know this is just the start.

Because our momentum is accelerating. The city is investing in four neighborhoods identified as having the best potential right now to achieve inclusive, economically sustainable growth — neighborhoods that have a coalition of anchor institutions, investors, and community organizations *already* working together to make change. One of the neighborhoods is Southwest Baltimore, home to our Community Campus. Another is Penn North and Upton/Druid Heights, home to our School of Social Work-run Promise Heights. That's *two* communities in which UMB is working, singled out among several dozen for the city's investment. That's no coincidence.

Last summer, Promise Heights won an unequivocal endorsement of its work — a five-year, \$30 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education to expand programming. With more than 20 public, private, and community partners, Promise

Heights has put together a network laser-focused on making sure that children and families in one of Baltimore's highest-need neighborhoods have what they need to thrive.

It's this kind of work we're trying to institutionalize at UMB. We've applied for a community engagement classification from the Carnegie Foundation. It's a rigorous assessment of our institutional commitment to engagement and the extent to which we put planning and resources into it. The assessment already has spurred changes to faculty appointment, promotion, and tenure (APT). At the institutional level, community engagement doesn't factor into UMB's APT process. And that means that faculty don't get real, meaningful credit for it. That will end. We're going to make sure that engagement is recognized and rewarded. Because if this isn't part of our appeal to faculty — if we don't explicitly value *their* work in this area — then we can't say it's truly valuable to *us*.

DRIVE DISCOVERY

We're doing research at UMB that will fundamentally change how we approach our biggest challenges of human health and well-being; how we serve the communities and people who need our expertise the most. We've now gotten a huge opportunity to bolster that work. Joining with Johns Hopkins University, we've won an NIH Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA)

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to turn our breakthrough laboratory science into the drugs, devices, and treatments that extend and enrich people's lives.

This collaboration is vitally important to the people of Maryland. Together, the University of Maryland Medical System and Johns Hopkins Medicine serve three-quarters of the state's citizens. With this award, we can link our educational programs to improve clinical training. We can aggregate patient data to ask research questions in a powerful way. We can combine components of our research infrastructure to develop not only higher quality programs, but also programs with a larger reach across the state. And now that we're in this most prominent group of clinical research universities, we can secure grants that CTSA-funded institutions are more likely to get. We can access resources, partnerships, and expertise reserved for the very best among us.

This CTSA award will likely boost our extramural funding, which hit a record-shattering \$667 million last year. What's more, FY 2018 wasn't only UMB's best extramural funding year on record; it was also our most successful commercialization year. We disclosed 145 faculty inventions for patenting, licensed 43 technologies, and launched eight startups from our intellectual property. We had three of our startups acquired by multinational health care corporations for hundreds of millions of dollars. And, in turn, we're investing millions of dollars into the commercialization of our technologies, into the growth of our startups, and into locating promising companies right here in Baltimore. We do this not only because we believe in the power of our own ideas to make people healthier, happier, stronger — but because we believe in the power of innovation to move our city and state forward.

PROVE OUR VALUE TO LAWMAKERS

Our success hasn't gone unnoticed in Annapolis. The governor and General Assembly have been deeply supportive of UMB's efforts to fuel Maryland's economy, and their support translates into critical dollars for key workforce development initiatives:

- the Physician Assistant Regional Network we're developing with partners statewide to ensure we have enough primary care providers across Maryland;
- the Substance Use Disorder Internship Program, which allows the School of Social Work to place students at sites where demand for addiction professionals is acute and staffing is inadequate;
- three new programs at the Universities at Shady Grove that will help dental providers and other team-based professionals collaborate more effectively in providing comprehensive oral health care.

One of the biggest endorsements of our work this legislative session came with the passage of Senate Bill 897, which swells funding for our Strategic Partnership with the University of Maryland, College Park. By 2025, state funding for the partnership will approach \$30 million a year. The new money will allow us to sustain critical programs in areas like brain research, substance use disorders, and human trafficking. But we'll also be able to launch new programs that gain us visibility, increase the volume of research coming into Maryland, and drive economic development through company formation, job creation, and private investment. We've already set our sights on such areas as artificial intelligence in medicine and cybersecurity education.

BE A GLOBAL LEADER IN GLOBAL LEARNING

All of this work — the student success, the record-breaking numbers, the groundbreaking scholarship, the funding that serves as our imprimatur — shows that we are a potent force for the public good, at home and around the world.

To be sure, UMB *is* a global university — globally engaged and globally powerful. More than 700 students, faculty, and staff made 1,500-plus visits to 62 countries last year, working on critical projects of health, well-being, and justice. We have the world-leading Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, changing the very landscape of vaccinology for four long decades. We have the Institute of Human Virology, a global leader in fighting HIV/AIDS, the deadliest pandemic in modern medical history. And we are a leader among U.S. universities in the global/local movement, tying the work we do abroad with the work we do back home; linking curricula, strategies, and goals with those of our global collaborators; and freely importing and exporting the best ideas in serving vulnerable populations.

So we've joined the American Council on Education's Internationalization Lab to ensure that global learning opportunities are woven into the fabric of our curricula; that we can expand internationally focused research and scholarship; and that we can engage with our communities here in Baltimore and Maryland using a global/local lens.

At our inaugural Global Health Summit last month, we invited our international partners to campus and examined how we can capitalize on each other's expertise; how we can better collaborate with one another across the University, leverage economies of scale, and share the systems, practices, and protocols that have proved most effective. For too long, we've engaged in random acts of internationalization. It's time to bring the whole family together, and really make change in the global space, as we're doing in our local community.

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WIN SUPPORT FOR OUR WORK

I know the work we're doing resonates with many. Because in three years, we've raised \$250 million toward our Catalyst Campaign goal. And it's not just people *outside* the University who are investing in our work. In the last four years, the number of employees giving back to the University has grown by two-thirds.

I'll share just one employee story: Every weekend, our UMB CURE Scholars attend Saturday Academy in our Lexington Building. And every Saturday, security officer Evelyn Greenhill works overtime so they can. Every Saturday, she greets the scholars, gives them a smile and some encouragement. Two of the scholars have grown so close to her that they asked her to be their mentor. One of the scholars stops by the Lexington Building on non-CURE days just so he can get a hug.

So when Officer Greenhill noticed that one of the scholars didn't have warm enough clothes in the wintertime, she bought hoodies, long johns, hats, and gloves. When one of the scholars said she wanted to do a Spring Break tour of Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Officer Greenhill became her sponsor. A portion of her paycheck every two weeks goes to the CURE Scholars Program, because she says that's what it takes to support the city's children.

Philanthropy is something we have in our own hands. If we think that policies and investments at the local or national level strip vulnerable people of their rights; if we think that they punish the least among us; that they fail to support the science that will save us; that they weaken the rule of law; that they don't reflect our values and our priorities, we can, through philanthropy, make the nation and the state and the community we want.

This is the community I want. Next month, I begin my 10th year as leader of UMB. It's nearly inconceivable to me that I've been given this privilege for a decade. I'm so grateful for what we've built together, a community founded on knowledge,



WHEN RENOVATIONS ARE COMPLETE, THE NEW UMB COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CENTER AT 16 S. POPPLETON ST. WILL BE ABLE TO SERVE MORE NEIGHBORS WITH MORE PROGRAMS THAT ARE MOST IMPORTANT TO THEM.

discovery, and truth; a community founded on inclusion, respect, and understanding; a community founded on empathy and compassion; a community founded on the certainty that, together, we can take what we've built here and make this place better — make *us* better.

A full transcript and video of my 2019 State of the University Address are available [here](#).

Sincerely,

Jay A. Perman, MD
PRESIDENT

LAURELS

JUNE 2019

UNIVERSITYWIDE



EVERLY BROWN

Everly Brown, MLIS, head of information services, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, presented “Using Online Portals to Manage Library Services”

at the Congress of Academic Library Directors meeting in Columbia, Md.



ALICE CARY

Alice Cary, MS, UMB chief of police, has been named a finalist for Director of the Year by the national *Campus Safety* magazine. She was cited for improving

community relations through community policing initiatives; using existing security cameras, access control systems, burglary detection, and fire alarm systems to help reduce crime and hazards; and creating a homeless liaison and community outreach program to partner with federal, state, and local officials to provide humanitarian services to the community. The winners and runners-up will be announced at the *Campus Safety* conference in Las Vegas later this month.

The **Center for Global Education Initiatives (CGEI)** is pleased to announce the 2019 Faculty and Student Global Grant Awardees (one-year, \$5,000 grants):



CASSIDY CLASSEN

“ADVANCING ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP AT UNIVERSITY TEACHING HOSPITAL IN LUSAKA, ZAMBIA”

FACULTY LEAD: **Cassidy Classen, MD, MPH**, School of Medicine (SOM), Institute for Human Virology (IHV)
UMB CO-INVESTIGATORS: **Neha Sheth Pandit, PharmD, AAHIVP, BCPS**, School of Pharmacy (SOP), **Emily Heil, PharmD, BCPS-AQ, ID, AAHIVP, SOP**

STUDENT GRANTEES: **Benjamin Coleman, SOM, Heather Wittkorn, SOP**

“UNDERSTANDING BOTTLENECKS IN HIV TEST TURNAROUND TIME IN KIGALI, RWANDA”

FACULTY LEAD: **David Riedel, MD, MPH, SOM, IHV**

STUDENT GRANTEES: **Andryse Leukeu, Carey School of Law (SOL), Fridah Twara, SOP**



SEEMA KAKADE

“INVESTIGATION AND PARTICIPATING ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT ON BAUXITE MINE AND REFINERY IN BOKE, GUINEA”

FACULTY LEAD: **Seema Kakade, JD**, Environmental Law Clinic, SOL

UMB CO-INVESTIGATORS: **JingJing Zhang, JD, SOL, Lori Edwards, DrPH, RN, PHCNS-BC**, School of Nursing (SON)

STUDENT GRANTEES: **Sisi Liu, SOL, Stephanie Malchine, SOL, Salma Sharaf, SOM/MPH, Abigail Trumpy, SOL**

“SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH IN PRIMARY CARE OF ADOLESCENTS LIVING WITH HIV IN ABUJA, NIGERIA”

FACULTY LEAD: **Nadia Sam-Agudu, MD, SOM, IHV**

STUDENT GRANTEES: **Yasmin Lachir, SOM, Precious Ohagwu, SOP, Imani Wright, School of Social Work (SSW), Ashling Zhang, SOM**

“INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION (IPE) HOME-CARE VISITS: LESSONS LEARNED FROM IPE PROGRAM IN MAHA SARAKHAM, THAILAND”

FACULTY LEAD: **Erin Van Meter, PharmD, BCACP, SOP**

STUDENT GRANTEES: **Jessie Lawson, SSW, Meilin Lim, SOM, Betlihem Semma, SOP, Wendy Zhang, SON**



BRENNA ROTH

“BACTERIAL INFECTIONS AND PATTERNS OF RESISTANCE PRESENT AT MUHIMBILI NATIONAL HOSPITAL IN DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA”

FACULTY LEAD: **Brenna Roth, MD, MPH, SOM, IHV**

STUDENT GRANTEES: **Roger Lin, SOM, Saniya Chaudhry, SOP, Joy Musaerenge, SOP**

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LAURELS

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VIRGINIA ROWTHORN



NADIA SAM-AGUDU

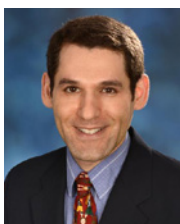
In addition, **Virginia Rowthorn, JD, LLM**, executive director, CGEI, and lecturer, Graduate School, organized and spoke on a panel at the annual Consortium of Universities for Global Health Conference in Chicago on March 9 on the topic of “From Carrot to Stick: Legal Implications of Short Term Experiences in Global Health and Recommendations.” **Nadia Sam-Agudu, MD, (SOM)** spoke on the panel as well.



ROBYN C. GILDEN



PAT MCLAINE



ADAM J. SPANIER

Robyn C. Gilden, PhD, RN, and **Pat McLaine, DrPH, RN**, both assistant professors, School of Nursing, and **Adam J. Spanier, MD, PhD,**

MPH, associate professor, School of Medicine, authored the editorial “Screening for Elevated Blood Lead Levels in Children and Pregnant Women,” which was published in *The Journal of the American Medical Association*.

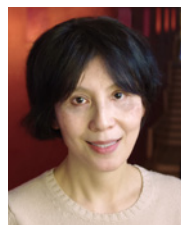


EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH EVELYN GREENHILL ACCEPTS HER PLAQUE FROM DR. PERMAN AS SOME UMB POLICE DEPARTMENT AND LEXINGTON BUILDING COLLEAGUES LOOK ON.

Evelyn Greenhill was named UMB’s Employee of the Month for May for her kind, professional, and upbeat approach to her job as a security officer at the Lexington Building and for her generously giving of her time and money as a UMB CURE Scholars mentor.



PATRICIA HINEGARDNER



NA LIN

Patricia Hinegardner, MLS, AHIP, associate director of resources, Health Sciences and Human Services Library (HS/HSL), and **Na Lin, MLS**, head, resource development and sharing, HS/HSL, presented “Promoting Research Data Discovery: Development of a Data Catalog at the University of Maryland, Baltimore,” at the

April Congress of Academic Library Directors meeting in Columbia, Md.

M.J. Tooley, AHIP, FMLA, associate vice president, Academic Affairs, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, and director, National Network of Libraries of Medicine Southeastern/Atlantic Region, participated on two panels at the Association of College and Research Libraries 2019 Conference “Research Futures: Librarians Perspective” and “Getting Ready for AI: A Library Journal Club.”

Tara Wink, MLS, historical collections librarian, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, co-presented “Making Waves Without Causing a Problem” at the April Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference in Morgantown, W.Va., and “Making Waves Without Capsizing Your Boat” at the Archivists and Librarians in the History of Health Sciences and Medical Museums Association Joint Meeting in Columbus, Ohio.

LAURELS

JUNE 2019



FROM LEFT, ADAM PUCHE, BRET HASSEL, MAUREEN SWEENEY, ERIC WEINTRAUB, AND MARY LYNN MCPHERSON POSE WITH DR. PERMAN AFTER RECEIVING THEIR REGENTS AWARDS ON APRIL 19 AT THE SMC CAMPUS CENTER. DONNA PARKER WAS NOT PRESENT FOR THE PHOTO.

Six UMB faculty members were among the honorees April 19 when the University System of Maryland Board of Regents announced its faculty awards in four categories: excellence in scholarship, research, or creative activity; in teaching; in public service; and in mentoring. The UMB winners are:

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING:

Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD, MA, BCPS, CPE, professor and executive director of advanced postgraduate education in palliative care, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, School of Pharmacy; and **Adam Puche, PhD**, professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, School of Medicine (SOM).

EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC SERVICE:

Maureen Sweeney, JD, associate professor, Carey School of Law; and **Eric Weintraub, MD**, associate professor, Department of Psychiatry, SOM.

EXCELLENCE IN MENTORING:

Donna Lynn Parker, MD, FACP, associate professor, Department of Medicine, associate dean for student affairs, and senior associate dean for undergraduate medical education; and **Bret A. Hassel, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, both of SOM.



APRIL WRIGHT

April Wright, MLS, All of Us community engagement coordinator, National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Southeastern/Atlantic

Region, presented “Libraries, Health Information and the All of Us Research Program” at the West Virginia Library Association’s April meeting in Morgantown, and at

the Maryland/Delaware Library Association’s May conference in Cambridge, Md.



BRIAN ZELIP

Brian Zelip, MSLIS, MA, emerging technology librarian, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, presented “Making Dreams Come True:

Library-Led Design Thinking in the Health and Life Sciences,” at the April Congress of Academic Library Directors meeting in Columbia, Md.

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY



PATRIK BAVOIL

Patrik Bavoil, PhD, professor and chair, Department of Microbial Pathogenesis, is the co-organizer of the Microbial Pathogenesis Symposium “A

European Tribute to the Life and Career of Stanley Falkow,” which was held May 28-29 in Paris, France.



KATHERINE BELL

Katherine Bell, DDS '18, received the Omicron Kappa Upsilon Dr. William S. Kramer Award of Excellence, given to a junior dental student

who has demonstrated scholarship, character, and the potential promise for advancement of dentistry.

LAURELS

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JOEL GREENSPAN

Joel Greenspan, PhD, professor and chair, Department of Neural and Pain Sciences, and co-director, UMB Center to Advance Chronic Pain Research, was among the co-

authors of “Genome-wide Association Reveals Contribution of MRAS to Painful Temporomandibular Disorder in Males,” which was published in *Pain*.

William Hoffman Jr., MAS, department administrator, gave a presentation titled “Investigator/Faculty On-Boarding: Facilitating the Transfer of Your New PI” at the Society of Research Administrators International Midwest/Northeast Section Meeting held April 28 to May 1 in Chicago.



LINDA POWERS

Linda Powers, DDS '19, received the Do Good Award during the University of Maryland, College Park Alumni Association's first annual Maryland Awards held

April 26. She received the award in recognition of her creation of Miles for Smiles, a 5K run that raises awareness about the importance of oral health.

CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW

Jennifer Chapman, JD, MLIS, the Thurgood Marshall Law Library's Ryan H. Easley Research Fellow, received the 2019 Emerging Scholar Award from the *Denver Law Review* and has a forthcoming article in 2020.

Karen Czapanskiy, JD, professor, authored “Preschool and Lead Exposed Kids: The IDEA Just Isn't Good Enough,” which was published in the *Touro Law Review*.

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, are being honored by Community Mediation Maryland as recipients of the “Bridge Builders” award for their work chairing and drafting the final report for the Maryland Commission on the School-to-Prison Pipeline and Restorative Practices.



DONALD GIFFORD

Donald Gifford, JD, Jacob A. France Professor of Torts, co-authored *Harper, James and Gray on Torts 2019-2 Cumulative Supplement to Volumes 1-5*.

Toby Guerin, JD, managing director, Center for Dispute Resolution, and clinical law instructor, moderated a panel on “The Competition Circuit” at the American Bar Association Section of Dispute Resolution Annual Meeting in Minneapolis.



LEIGH GOODMARK

Leigh Goodmark, JD, professor and co-director, Clinical Law Program, wrote a book chapter in *The Politicization of Safety*.

Michael Greenberger, JD, professor and director, Center for Health and Homeland Security, discussed Russian interference in the 2020 election on the radio show “Background Briefing with Ian Masters.”



ROBERT PERCIVAL

Seema Kakade, JD, assistant professor and director, Environmental Law Clinic, and **Robert Percival, JD**, Robert F. Stanton Professor of Law

and director, Environmental Law Program, presented “Transnational Environmental Accountability” at the World Justice Forum in The Hague, Netherlands, on April 30.



CLARK J. LEE

Clark J. Lee, JD, MPH, senior law and policy analyst, Center for Health and Homeland Security, authored “Mediational Impact of Perceived Risk on Drowsy

Driving Intention and Willingness in University Students,” which was published in *Transportation Research Part F: Psychology and Behaviour*.

William Moon, JD, assistant professor, presented “Developing Your Scholarship & Scholarly Agenda” at the NYU School of Law Scholarship Workshop 2019 in New York on April 15.

LAURELS

JUNE 2019



MICHAEL PAPPAS

Michael Pappas, JD, professor and associate dean for research and faculty development, co-authored “The Costs of Creating Environmental Markets: A

Commodification Primer,” which appeared in the *UC Irvine Law Review*.

Marley Weiss, JD, professor, presented “The Intersection of Equal Employment and Immigration Law” at the National Conference on Equal Employment Opportunity Law, sponsored by the American Bar Association Section of Labor and Employment Law, Equal Employment Opportunity Committee, in Coral Gables, Fla.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

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

Hiroyuki Arakawa, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, was awarded the Distinguished Early and Middle Career Award from the Japanese Psychological Association. The award will be conferred at a reception in September.



BRIDGET ARMSTRONG

Bridget Armstrong, PhD, postdoctoral fellow, Department of Pediatrics, was the lead author on “Bidirectional Effects of Sleep and Sedentary Behavior Among

Toddlers: A Dynamic Multilevel Modeling Approach,” which was

published in the *Journal of Pediatric Psychology*.

Maureen Black, PhD, John A. Scholl, MD, and Mary Louise Scholl, MD, Professor in Pediatrics, was a co-author.

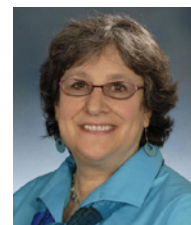


MAUREEN BLACK

Cynthia Bearer, MD, PhD, professor, Department of Pediatrics, was awarded the Children’s Environmental Health Network’s Science Award of the Year, which will be presented on Oct. 10.



CYNTHIA BEARER



KAREN KOTLOFF

Karen Kotloff, MD, professor, Department of Pediatrics and Department of Medicine, received the 2019 Henry P. and M. Page Laughlin Alumnus of the Year

Award from the Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University. This award was given in recognition of her outstanding contribution to medicine.



MYRON LEVINE

Myron Levine, MD, DTPH, The Simon and Bessy Grollman Distinguished Professor of Medicine, and associate dean for global health, vaccinology, and infectious diseases, Center for Vaccine

Development and Global Health, was awarded \$2.5 million from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for “Active Vaccination and Passive Antibody Strategies to Prevent Disease Caused by Multidrug-Resistant Bacterial Pathogens.”

Iris Lindberg, PhD, professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, is co-principal investigator of a five-year, \$2.6 million grant from the National



IRIS LINDBERG

Institute on Aging for “ProSAAS-Mediated Neuroprotective Mechanisms in Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s Diseases: The Role of Secretory Chaperones In Neurodegeneration.”



FABIO ROMERIO

Fabio Romerio, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Medicine, Institute of Human Virology, received a five-year, \$4,005,581 R01 grant from the National

Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for “Sustained HIV Remission Via Sequence-Specific Epigenetic Silencing of Latent Proviruses.”

Dennis Sparta, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, received a five-year, \$1,125,000 grant from the National Institute



DENNIS SPARTA

on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism for “CRF Neural Circuits of Binge Drinking.”

LAURELS

JUNE 2019

SCHOOL OF NURSING



FROM LEFT, MORGAN GARRETT, LAURA ALLEN, AND ROBYN GILDEN SHOW OFF THEIR HEAD START AWARD.

Catholic Charities Head Start of Baltimore City honored **Laura Allen, MA, MS, RN**, program director; **Morgan Garrett, MS, RN**, program coordinator; and **Robyn Gilden, PhD, RN**, assistant professor, with an Award for Excellence for their work helping Head Start centers in Baltimore become Eco-Healthy Child Care Centers through the school's Community and Public Health Environmental Initiative.



SUSAN BINDON

Susan Bindon, DNP, RN-BC, CNE, CNEd, has been named president-elect of the Association for Nursing Professional Development (ANPD) in 2019

and will serve as president in 2020. ANPD advances the specialty practice of nursing professional development for the enhancement of health care outcomes. Bindon also co-authored "New-to-Setting Nurse Transitions: A Concept Analysis," which was

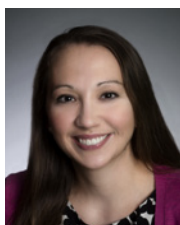
published in the *Journal for Nurses in Professional Development*.



AMY DANIELS

Amy Daniels, PhD, RN, CHSE, clinical simulation labs director and assistant professor, has been named an International Nursing Association for Clinical

Simulation and Learning (INACSL) research fellow. The INACSL fellowship is designed to develop future leaders in simulation research.



KELLY DORAN

Kelly Doran, PhD, RN, assistant professor, has been awarded \$300,000 by the American Heart Association to fund her research aimed at testing

the feasibility and efficacy of worksite health promotion interventions in reducing worker stress and improving cardiovascular disease among long-term care workers.



ERIKA FRIEDMANN



KRISTEN RAWLETT

Erika Friedmann, PhD, professor; **Kristen Rawlett, PhD, FNP-BC**, assistant professor; and



SUE THOMAS

Sue Thomas, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor emerita, authored "Mindfulness-Based Intervention with an Attentional Comparison Group in At-Risk Young Adolescents: A Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial," which appeared in *Integrative Medicine Research*.



JANE M. KIRSCHLING

Dean **Jane M. Kirschling, PhD, RN, FAAN**, was honored by the University of Maryland Medical Center (UMMC), receiving the 2019 University

of Maryland School of Nursing Colleague Award for her dedication to the field of nursing. The award was presented during UMMC's Nursing Excellence Awards, held May 9 during National Nurses Week.



NANCY M. LERNER



CARLA L. STORR



ALISON M. TRINKOFF



JUNGMIN YOON

Nancy M. Lerner, DNP, RN, CDONA, associate professor; professors **Carla L. Storr, ScD, MPH**, and **Alison M. Trinkoff, ScD, MPH, RN, FAAN**; and **PhD**

LAURELS

JUNE 2019

student **Jungmin Yoon, MSN, RN**, were among the co-authors of “Nursing Staff Availability and Other Facility Characteristics in Relation to Assisted Living Care Deficiencies,” which appeared in the *Journal of Nursing Regulation*.



KIM MOONEY-DOYLE

Kim Mooney-Doyle, PhD, RN, CPNP-AC, assistant professor, has received the Rising Star in Family Nursing Award by the International Family Nursing

Association (IFNA). The award recognizes an IFNA member who has shown exceptional early career effort in advancing family nursing.



RONALD J. PISCOTTY JR.

Ronald J. Piscotty Jr., PhD, RN-BC, FAMIA, assistant professor, was named an inaugural member of the Fellows of American Medical Informatics Association

(FAMIA) at the American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA) 2019 Clinical Informatics Conference in Atlanta. FAMIA recognizes the contributions of AMIA members who apply informatics skills and knowledge to their practice in a clinical setting, in a public or population health capacity, or as a clinical researcher.



JANET WULF

The school and **Janet Wulf, DNP, RN, CNE, CHPN**, program coordinator, were presented the Legacy Partner Award by Baltimore County Executive

John A. Olszewski Jr. at the Baltimore County Department of Aging (BCDA) Volunteer Luncheon on May 16. The award honors UMSON’s nursing partnership with the BCDA, taking blood pressure readings and calculating BMIs, a valuable clinical experience for the students.

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

The school’s student chapter of the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research received second place in the organization’s Outstanding Student Chapter competition.



NICOLE BRANDT

Nicole Brandt, PharmD, professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, and executive director, Peter Lamy Center on

Drug Therapy and Aging, has been appointed to the Health Resources and Services Administration’s Advisory Committee on Interdisciplinary, Community-Based Linkages.



AMY DEFNET



DANTE JOHNSON

Students **Amy Defnet** and **Dante Johnson**, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received Best Poster Awards at UMB’s 41st Annual Graduate Research Conference.



AAKASH GANDHI

Student **Aakash Gandhi**, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, has been elected chair of the International Society for

Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research’s Student Network for the 2019-2020 academic year.

Joga Gobburu, PhD, professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, and director, Center for Translational Medicine, has received the Food and Drug Administration’s Office of Clinical Pharmacology Distinguished Alumnus Award. He also received a one-year, \$138,983 contract from Supernus Pharmaceuticals for “PKPD Analysis and Reporting.”

Jenna Goldberg, instructional technology specialist, Office of Academic Affairs, was honored as UMB Employee of the Month of April for her efforts to solve a software problem that could have delayed the delivery of computer-based tests at the start of the spring semester.

LAURELS

JUNE 2019



EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH JENNA GOLDBERG WITH PHARMACY COLLEAGUES (FROM LEFT) GEORGE ANAGNOSTOU, LISA LBOVITZ, LINDSAY CURRIER, AND ANDREW COOP.



CHAD JOHNSON

Student **Chad Johnson**, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, has received an American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy's

Walmart Scholars Award.



FANG-YU LIN

Student **Fang-Yu Lin**, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, has received the American Chemical Society's Chemical Computing Group's Excellence

Award for Graduate Students for the project "Optimization of the Drude Polarizable Protein Force Field."

Postdoctoral fellow **Nabil Natafqi, PhD, MPH, CPH**, Department of Pharmaceutical Health

Services Research, was a finalist in AcademyHealth's Healthiest Communities Data Challenge.

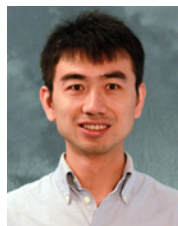


MARC TARABAN

Marc Taraban, PhD, research assistant professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a Best Poster Award at the Practical Applications of

NMR (Nuclear Magnetic Resonance) in Industry Conference 2019.

Fengtian Xue, PhD, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, has received a U.S. patent for "Compounds for Treating Parasitic Infections."



FENGTIAN XUE

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



JOHN CAGLE

John Cagle, PhD, associate professor, and PhD alum **Seokho Hong** wrote study findings that were published in the journal *Asian Social Work and Policy Review*.

They found that individuals who display higher levels of religiosity are comfortable with discussions about death, and older people have more favorable attitudes about hospice care.

Maryland's Department of Human Services has awarded the **Child Welfare Academy** over \$63,000 for its LGBTQ supplement. The purpose of the project is to improve child welfare practice and ensure the safety and well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youth in the child welfare system through comprehensive, statewide LGBTQ-affirming training for child welfare professionals.

PhD student **John Cosgrove** and professors **Bethany Lee, PhD**, and **Jay Unick, PhD**, co-authored "A Longitudinal Evaluation of Wraparound's Impact on Youth Mental Health Service Use," published in the *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders*.

Sarah Dababnah, PhD, assistant professor, postdoctoral fellow **Irang Kim, PhD**, and PhD student **Yao Wang**



SARAH DABABNAH

LAURELS

JUNE 2019

presented on cultural and structural factors underlying disparities among racial and ethnic minority children and adults with autism at the International Society for Autism Annual Conference in Montreal.

Karen Hopkins, PhD, associate professor, co-authored a paper focused on fostering stronger links between human service organizational and management research that was published in *Social Work Research*.



HYUN-JIN JUN

Postdoctoral fellow **Hyun-Jin Jun, PhD**, and professor **Paul Sacco, PhD**, co-authored a paper published in the *International Journal of Mental Health and Addic-*

tion examining prospective relationships between alcohol use, antisocial behaviors, depressive symptoms, and later gambling behaviors among emerging age (18-29) adults.

Erica Lewis, PhD, assistant professor, presented research findings

from phase I of her two-year evaluation study of the Quality Parenting Initiative (QPI) at the QPI National Conference in Philadelphia. The study is funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. Dean **Richard P. Barth, PhD, MSW**, moderated the discussion and **Bethany Lee, PhD**, associate professor, is co-investigator of the study.

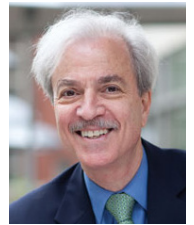


ERICKA LEWIS

The Baltimore City Health Department has awarded the school \$132,000 to help build capacity for its Resiliency in Communities After Stress and Trauma Program. **Kyla Liggett-Creel, PhD**, assistant clinical professor, is the principal investigator.

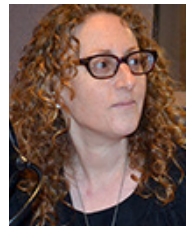
PhD student **Danielle R. Phillips** and PhD alum **Elizabeth Aparicio** co-authored “‘She Was There Through the Whole Process:’ Exploring How Homeless Youth Access and Select Birth Control,” which was published in *Children and Youth Services Review*.

Michael Reisch, PhD, Daniel Thursz Distinguished Professor of Social Justice, recently published three essays in international anthologies: “Social Work Under Trump,” *International Perspectives on Social Work and Social Policy in the Era of Right-Wing Populism*; “Critical Social Work in the U.S.: Challenges and Conflicts,” *The Routledge Handbook of Critical Social Work*; and “The Interpretation of Social Justice, Equality, and Inequality in Social Work,” *The Routledge Handbook of Social Work Theory*.



MICHAEL REISCH

Corey Shdaimah, PhD, professor, and colleagues presented at the opening plenary for the Beyond Discourse: Critical and Empirical Approaches to Human Trafficking conference at the University of Kansas.



COREY SHDAIMAH

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING
YOUR VOICE MATTERS

FACULTY AND STAFF: THANKS TO THOSE WHO TOOK PART IN THE RECENT CLIMATE SURVEY.

These results will help us better understand how we are meeting employee needs and where we have opportunities to improve.

Look for results soon!

HUMAN
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COMMENCEMENT REVISITED

JUNE 2019

MAY 16 AND 17 WERE SPECIAL DAYS AT UMB

as the Class of 2019 turned out in record numbers for the Universitywide commencement, which was moved to Thursday morning and featured keynote speaker Barbara Pierce Bush, co-founder of Global Health Corps. Party in the Park was next, followed by individual school convocations.

Revisit the celebration with stories, pictures/videos, and more.



JUNE 2019

PROGRESS REPORT SHOWS MANY GAINS

The recently released two-year progress report on UMB's 2017-2021 Strategic Plan shows significant advancement. Greater than 50 percent of the stated goals are "completed, nearly completed, or have made significant progress" said Roger J. Ward, EdD, JD, MSL, MPA, senior vice president for operations and institutional effectiveness.

The current strategic plan, which grew out of UMB's original 2011-2016 Strategic Plan that aimed to make the University "greater than the sum of our parts," is based on six thematic areas:

- Health, justice, and social impact
- Research and scholarship
- Student success
- Inclusive excellence
- Partnership and collaboration
- Efficiency, effectiveness, and assessment

Out of those six themes, there are currently 303 goals distributed among 28 strategic objectives by the seven academic units and the eight units led by UMB vice presidents. Some 289 of the 303 goals (95 percent) are underway at various stages of completion, including 86 noted as completed and 92 as nearly completed.

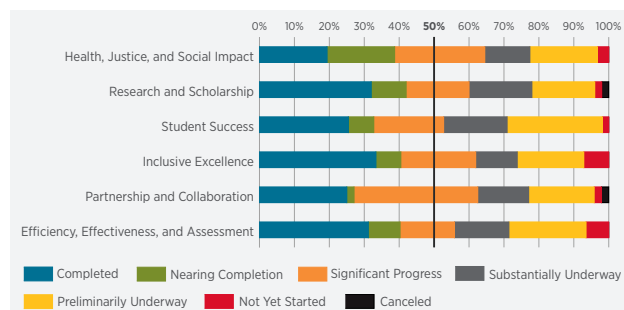
The two-year progress report, which is through June 30, 2018, includes updates on each of the themes by University officials. Under research and scholarship, Dawn Rhodes, MBA, chief business and finance officer and vice president, said, with respect to our global field offices that "successful efforts to date include training international staff on UMB operations, streamlining procurement procedures to improve the timeliness of approvals, and incorporating human resource management best practices to increase retention and staff productivity."

Bruce Jarrell, MD, FACS, executive vice president and provost, and dean of the Graduate School, mentioned how the launch of the Grid (Graduate Research Innovation District) is helping Baltimore — "a city of makers, creators, builders, and problem solvers" — impact the region's economic growth under the theme of health, justice, and social impact.

Demonstrating the efficiency, effectiveness, and assessment theme, School of Nursing Dean Jane M. Kirschling, PhD, RN, FAAN, spoke of the launch of a "cultural transformation" at the school embracing the use of data analytics. The Office of Community Engagement (OCE) is an excellent example of the

theme partnership and collaboration, said Jennifer B. Litchman, MA, senior vice president for external affairs, who pointed out "to date, 22 interactive programs are in the OCE portfolio reinforcing our commitment to our neighbors."

Natalie D. Eddington, PhD, FAAPS, FCP, dean, School of Pharmacy, spoke on the student success theme, citing how new degree and certificate programs at the school are flexible to meet the demand of professionals who "want to stay relevant in an evolving workplace." Under the theme inclusive excellence, Peter J. Murray, PhD, chief information officer and vice president, mentioned his CITS group (Center for Information Technology Services) reaching out to the Diversity Advisory Council (DAC) for guidance. "We will continue to work with the DAC to deepen our sensitivities and to assess our efforts to advance cultural competence," Murray said.



MORE THAN 50 PERCENT OF GOALS IN EACH THEME ARE COMPLETED, NEARING COMPLETION, OR SHOW SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS.

The progress report ends by saying, "working together as one University, we are moving even closer to realizing our vision for Maryland, the region, and beyond."

UMB President Jay A. Perman, MD, whose letter begins the two-year report, expressed his thanks to the many people involved. "As you read this summary of our progress, know that you — our students, faculty, and staff — are central to the successes we have achieved thus far. I thank you for your dedication to our work and to our excellence."

— Chris Zang

Read the full progress report [here](#).

UMB LAUNCHES '1807,' ITS FIRST ARTS JOURNAL

There have been some interesting groups that have gathered in the Gladhill Board Room in the Health Sciences and Human Services Library over the years. Perhaps the most eclectic group of 90 met there on May 10 to celebrate the launch of *1807: An Art & Literary Journal*.

The 73 artists whose work was displayed among the more than 250 submissions came from faculty, staff, and students at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) as well as Medical Center employees and our West Baltimore neighbors.

The breadth of diversity among both artists and types of art (writing, visual arts, photography, and varied media) was pointed out by Maryland First Lady Yumi Hogan, honorary chair of UMB's Council for the Arts & Culture and an artist herself, whose painting "Nature's Breath" adorns the cover of the 60-plus-page journal.

"In art, it doesn't matter where you come from or what you do, we are all one and the same as artists," said Hogan, who is an adjunct professor at Maryland Institute College of Art.



THOSE WHOSE SUBMISSIONS WERE IN THE JOURNAL COULDN'T WAIT TO SHOW OTHERS AT THE LAUNCH.

and you all made it happen," he said to the room filled with those who created the art and those who turned it into a glossy, attractive, full-color journal. "It's incredible to me and very reinforcing to me how many of our people here at UMB leave work each day and go home to another life ... a life of art, and reflection, and creative expression. Thank you for letting us see this *other* side of you."

Those assembled enjoyed each other's artwork that rotated on TV screens around the room, as well as food and drinks.

"I made these," housekeeper Rita Boone said proudly, showing a colleague the circular metallic earrings labeled "Plum Passion" on page 31 in the journal. "I'm so excited. I didn't think anything of mine would be picked but here I am!"



ESSENTIAL IN PRODUCING THE ARTS JOURNAL WERE, FROM LEFT, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF JENNIFER LITCHMAN, DESIGNER MAUREEN LINDLER, COUNCIL MEMBER NANCY GORDON, AND CREATIVE DIRECTOR DANA RAMPOLLA.

Kate Tracy, PhD, vice chair of the School of Medicine's Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, was more low-key but obviously pleased. Her "Lessons from Glassblowing" on page 50 are a release from her daily research duties, she explained.

"The point is I spend my entire day thinking, operating like a scientist. I wanted to learn something new and creative," she said. "So I got into an intensive glassblowing experience in Corning, N.Y. ... It's like meditating, it's so completely out of your body."

Maryland Secretary of Education James Fielder Jr., PhD, was on hand as a journal contributor. Described by Perman as a "poet laureate," Fielder agreed that art rounds out a person. "Each of you penetrates so many parts of the community because you do so many important things," he said, adding that STEM courses are now STEAM courses because art has been added to the traditional science, technology, engineering, and math. "The more that you can bring creativity to each of those fields, the more we can move forward."

Litchman, founder of the Council for the Arts & Culture, closed out the presentations by reminding the artists to sign several journals for the archives and to consider adding their art to a campus exhibit this summer.

The journal can be seen **online** and can be purchased for the fitting price of \$18.07 (also the date of UMB's founding). "So in closing," Litchman said, "thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you for exhibiting, for being here today, for being supportive. Thank you!"

— Chris Zang

WHITEPAPERPROJECT

JUNE 2019

PRESIDENT'S FELLOWS PROPOSE STEPS TO CURB GUN VIOLENCE



LAUREN HIGHSMITH MAKES A POINT AT THE WHITE PAPER PRESENTATION AS THE OTHER FELLOWS, ZACHARY LEE, JESSICA EGAN, JENNY AFKINICH, VIBHA RAO, AND NICOLE CAMPION DIALO, LOOK ON.

From the time the President's Fellows White Paper Project began on Sept. 6, 2018, to the time the fellows presented their paper at a symposium seven months later, 168 people in Baltimore City had been shot to death.

Findings related to how the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) can impact gun violence in Baltimore City were released by this year's President's Fellows during a presentation April 8 at the SMC Campus Center. The interdisciplinary team of fellows studied the root causes of gun violence and used a team approach to examine its traumatic impact on communities. It also studied UMB's role as an anchor institution in addressing gun violence through education, research, clinical care, and service.

The topic of gun violence stemmed from a letter by President Jay A. Perman, MD, to the UMB community after the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., on Feb. 14, 2018, claimed 17 lives.

"One of the things I called for was some input from the campus community as to what the role of UMB should be in gun violence," said Perman, speaking to the fellows and an audience of about 60 faculty, students, and staff at the April 8 event. "I do have a firmly held belief that most of the good ideas around here come from the students. I've learned the importance of listening

to the students, so that's what we did with the President's Fellows for this academic year."

The President's Symposium and White Paper Project engages faculty, staff, and students from all UMB schools and academic programs in a yearlong conversation on a topic that is of interest and importance to the University and its community.

The 2018-2019 President's Fellows — Nicole Campion Dialo, School of Medicine; Zachary Lee, Carey School of Law; Vibha Rao, MD '18, Graduate School; Jenny Afkinich, MSW, Graduate School; Lauren Highsmith, MSW '19, School of Social Work; and Jessica Egan, School of Nursing — tackled the topic and published a white paper, "Addressing Gun Violence: UMB's Role as an Anchor Institution" in which the fellows make 25 recommendations.

"The students have really done an excellent job," said Patty Alvarez, PhD, assistant vice president of student affairs, as she welcomed those in attendance and introduced Perman.

"I know most of us feel powerless when we see a shooting in a school, when we see the carnage that I just mentioned, right outside our walls. But these folks," Perman said, gesturing toward the fellows, "they don't act powerless and they decided to take on the politics and the systems and the societal inaction that had gotten us to this bad place. Interestingly ... they decided to examine gun violence not only as a matter of health, but health equity."

Perman said the students looked at all the things that may sow division in the community such as fear, anger, and injustice, and explored how those conditions give rise to violence.

"And then they turned the lens inward to tell us what our institution could and should



AUDIENCE MEMBERS WERE IMPRESSED BY THE REPORT AND THE 25 RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE PRESIDENT'S FELLOWS.

Continued from previous page

be doing in our own community to mitigate gun violence and to care for those affected by it,” he said.

The students collected data and interviews from a series of visiting speakers throughout the academic year, starting with the kickoff event Sept. 6 that featured Cassandra Crifasi, PhD, MPH, deputy director of the Center for Gun Policy and Research at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Other speakers included: former Baltimore City Police Capt. and spokesman T.J. Smith, MA, MS; Carol Vidal, MD, MPH, assistant professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine; Jonathan M. Metzler, MD, PhD, director, Center for Medicine, Health, and Society, Vanderbilt University; and Natasha Pratt-Harris, PhD, coordinator of the Criminal Justice program at Morgan State University.

“We orient our paper around one common and recurring theme that was inescapable in every study we read, in every interview we conducted, and in every recommendation we propose: Fostering healthy, collaborative relationships between the interprofessional schools of UMB, between UMB and the community, and amongst all individuals who reside in West Baltimore is key to building collective efficacy within and around our campus,” the fellows wrote.

The Florida high school shooting hit close to home for Lee, the law student. He graduated from the school in 2013, as did his sister in 2015.

“After what had happened on Valentine’s Day last year, I saw a handful of children from my hometown become the national leaders and sort of guide the conversation on what gun violence looks like in this country and I was very inspired by them, generally,” Lee said. After participating in a March for Our Lives event, he said he thought “this can’t be the end of the conversation, so I decided to take on this task.”

Egan, a bedside nurse for seven years who is pursuing her doctorate in nursing practice, said she applied for the fellowship as a way of trying to address the impacts of violence she sees at work in the city. “I find gun violence particularly upsetting because it brings about a lot of human suffering that I feel should be avoidable,” she said.



VIBHA RAO OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL DISCUSSED SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC INEQUITIES AMONG OTHER TOPICS DURING HER PART OF THE PRESENTATION.

Among the group’s recommendations:

- Commission a Universitywide scan of the exposure and impact of gun violence on students, faculty, and staff.
- Support and encourage faculty to utilize tools to recognize and process their own implicit biases.
- Host an annual open forum conducted by a professional mediator.
- Support a campuswide award system recognizing students who have dedicated their educational careers to community service.
- Increase the number of paid community service hours to eight (a full day) for employees.
- Establish a funded award for members of the UMB community actively doing work in violence reduction and/or prevention.
- Designate a “community affairs liaison” at each school.
- Host an annual Universitywide community service event.
- Increase support for Thread, a large network of volunteers from across Baltimore that works with city schools to support young people facing significant challenges.
- Create and promote a unified institutional position on public policies to mitigate gun violence.

The 2018-2019 President’s Fellows continue a proud tradition that dates to 2011. Past UMB student fellows have examined topics such as global literacy, entrepreneurial exploration, cultural competence, community engagement, interprofessional education, civility, and urban renewal.

— Mary T. Phelan

Read the White Paper Project.

STUDENT ENTREPRENEURS SHOW THEIR STUFF



THE GRID PITCH '19 TEAMS POSE WITH THEIR MENTORS AND SUPPORTERS AFTER THEIR PRESENTATIONS AT THE GRID INNOVATION SPACE.

Speaking over the steady chirp of a hand-held carbon dioxide monitor, Dan Fucich, a PhD candidate in the Graduate School's Marine Estuarine Environmental Sciences program at the Institute of Marine and Environmental Technology (IMET), encouraged attendees of Grid Pitch '19 to take a deep breath.

As they exhaled, Fucich shared the results of the monitor — 1,500 parts per million. “The air you just put into your lungs contains carbon dioxide levels that are three times what is occurring outside,” he warned. At levels above 1,000 parts per million, “you start to feel drowsy. You might not be able to think clearly,” he said, ticking off a list of the negative effects of high CO₂ levels, including headaches and respiratory problems.

Fucich and his partner, Kelsey Abernathy, also a PhD candidate at IMET, are co-founders of AlgenAir, an e-commerce company that has developed a natural air purifier called the Aerium, which uses algae to combat indoor air pollution. The entrepreneurial students pitched their idea and displayed a working prototype at Grid Pitch '19 on May 1 held at the Grid, an innovation space at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) where students, entrepreneurs, faculty, and staff connect to bring innovative health and social impact ideas to life.

AlgenAir was joined by five other groups of fellow business-minded students for the Grid Pitch, which is described as a “celebration of ideas and student entrepreneurs.”

“This is not a contest, it's a showcase,” said Jim Kucher, DPA, faculty program manager of the Grid. “We want to give each team feedback because this is a learning experience.” To that end, attendees were encouraged to talk to teams during the event and to scan a QR code on the program linked to an online survey of each presentation.

After applying and being accepted to Grid Pitch, each team received several weeks of mentoring from experienced industry professionals. The mentors included David Wise, MALD, director of the Maryland Momentum Fund; Darryl Carter, MD, co-founder and former vice president of Nora Therapeutics and advisor for University of Maryland Ventures; Newt Fowler, partner, business transactions, Womble, Bond, and Dickinson; and Neil Davis, director of entrepreneurial development, TEDCO.

Davis said serving as a Grid Pitch mentor was an energizing role that served a dual purpose as a scouting mission. “TEDCO is always looking out for the next wave of really good entrepreneurs, so it makes sense for us to be here,” he said.

Unlike at last year's event, Grid Pitch '19 teams were separated into three categories depending on the concept's stage of development. As the most advanced entry, AlgenAir earned the title “MVP,” short for Minimum Viable Product, an industry term that refers to a product that will appeal to early adopters and can provide market analysis before a full rollout.



PHD CANDIDATE KELSEY ABERNATHY DESCRIBES THE FINER POINTS OF THE AERIUM AIR PURIFIER THAT SHE AND DAN FUCICH HAVE DEVELOPED.

Continued from previous page

Other categories were “Vision,” which encompassed teams just beginning to think about their ideas, and “Venture” for those that have moved further along in the process but are still in the early development phase.

The Aerium air purifier, which is reminiscent of a lava lamp stylishly revamped for the new millennium, contains water tinted green by live algae and has the air-scrubbing power of 25 houseplants, according to creators Fucich and Abernathy.

The team made its debut at last year’s Grid Pitch with an idea to produce algae nutraceuticals using rooftop bioreactors. After consulting with mentors at the Grid, they realized an air purifier was a more viable option and made the switch in August 2018.

“One of the most important things you can learn as an entrepreneur is that ‘no’ is a very good thing,” noted Kucher. “Finding out a project won’t work is extremely valuable.”

The AlgenAir team learned that lesson, as well as three teams in the Vision category, which Kucher described as beginning-stage ideas that are still being fleshed out. “We started out with six Vision projects,” he said. “Tonight, you’re going to see three. That means three didn’t make it. That’s not fun. But it’s a valuable lesson to learn.”

The three Vision teams that presented at Grid Pitch ’19 are:

Sri Lankan American Knowledge Exchange (SLAKE): Nimasha Fernando, MPH candidate, School of Medicine (SOM); Rishvi Jayathliake, PhD candidate, University of Maryland, College Park.

SLAKE is an organization that aims to remedy brain drain in Sri Lanka while creating global learning opportunities in the United States. SLAKE will do this by serving as a connecting hub that harnesses the potential of teams of students and young professionals in the U.S. who have an interest in Sri Lanka and connecting them with research teams and community organizations in the country.

Healthcare Collective: Sierra Fisher, School of Nursing (SON).

Healthcare Collective will bring the power of preventive medicine to underserved populations and act as a resource for individuals with health concerns.

HomED: Serban Negoita, Yi An, SOM.

HomED is a web application that will utilize user-generated input to provide patient-specific and clinician-validated information



NETWORKING WAS ALSO AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF THE GRID PITCH.

regarding whether to pursue care at an emergency department, urgent care center, or primary care practice. Patients who are unwilling to pursue care at a medical facility will be offered home-based emergency medical services through the HomED platform.

The middle category called Venture included two teams — CAP Strategies, composed of three School of Pharmacy students (Jeff Banasazak, Griffin Savageau, and Jay Shah) — who want to encourage medication adherence by using pill cap monitoring technology, and Danielle Miller, an FNP candidate at SON who wants to improve patient follow-up care in emergency departments.

A May graduate, Miller is using her experience as a Shock Trauma nurse to fill a gap she sees in patient care transition. “The problem we have here in Baltimore,” she explained, “is patients utilizing emergency care for primary care and the lack of coordination after the patients leave the ER,” which leads to lingering problems and increased readmission rates.

Her solution is to offer primary care within emergency departments to ensure easy referral and triage so the patient can be followed by a primary care team.

Each team walked away from Grid Pitch a winner with a monetary prize provided by UM Ventures intended to further their projects. The MVP team received \$2,500; Venture teams each received \$1,000; and the Vision teams each received \$500.

Miller said she is grateful for the Grid Pitch experience and that the prize is a bonus. “It’s been really amazing to bounce ideas and get the support of experienced professionals who have been through the business development adventure themselves,” she said.

— Laura Lee

See a *video* from the event.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

JUNE 2019

UMB, NEIGHBORS UNITE DURING ANNUAL SPRING FESTIVAL



FACE-PAINTING, MUSIC, AND BUILDING BLOCKS BROUGHT SMILES TO SOME OF THE YOUNGER ATTENDEES AT UMB'S FOURTH ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD SPRING FESTIVAL.

The president's co-host was Maryland First Lady Yumi Hogan, who is honorary chair of the UMB Council for the Arts & Culture. In what has become a tradition, she was joined by guests celebrating their Korean heritage. The first musical performance of the day was the Flower Crown Dance by the Hee Kyung Lee Korean Traditional Dance Team. The Han Pan Korean American Cultural Center presented Samulnori percussion.



A WIDE VARIETY OF FOOD CHOICES, INCLUDING KOREAN DISHES, HAD GUESTS LINING UP FOR MORE.

In a feast for the senses, the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) held its fourth annual Neighborhood Spring Festival to encourage people to connect with their neighbors in West Baltimore. More than 300 attendees from the Poppleton community and beyond gathered beneath a huge tent on the lawn near the UMB Community Engagement Center (CEC) to enjoy the arrival of spring.



THE HEE KYUNG LEE KOREAN TRADITIONAL DANCE TEAM PERFORMED SEVERAL COLORFUL NUMBERS.

"It was a fabulous display of our community and University partnership," said Ashley Valis, MSW, executive director of strategic initiatives and community engagement at UMB. "We had generations of residents dancing, singing, laughing, and meeting new friends. And that's what it's all about."

UMB President Jay A. Perman, MD, welcomed both newcomers and those who regularly participate in CEC activities, urging everyone to have fun and take advantage of public health aspects of the April 27 event.

The entertainment was cross-cultural, with marching band appearances by La Banda del Pulgarcito and the Baltimore Christian Warriors. Line dancing by Spirit Feet prompted many in the crowd to put down their plates of food or finish off their ice cream cones so they could join in the fun.

On several occasions, applause swelled. For instance, youngsters flipped into the air and snapped boards with their feet during a tae kwon do demonstration by Cadet Martial Arts & Fitness. And the Samulnori percussion piece culminated with performers handing off their spinning plates to none other than the First Lady and Perman, who were strategically seated nearby.

Curtis Eaddy II, events and marketing manager of the Southwest Partnership, served as emcee. "It's not just a spring fest," he told the crowd, "but it's a *healthy* spring fest." He urged attendees to utilize the vision and blood pressure screenings.

Inside the CEC, the Student Sight Savers Program of the School of Medicine (SOM) offered eye tests to children and adults.

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At a table under the tent, UMB students who belong to the interprofessional Health Alliance offered information. SOM students Ryan Dunlow and Trish Hays said their fitness journals and first-aid kits were popular giveaways.

At the curb on Baltimore Street, the “UMMC on the Move” mobile health van welcomed festival-goers, checking vital signs and providing health facts. Community health worker Griselda Funn, based at the University of Maryland Medical Center Midtown Campus, is a member of the van’s team that makes routine stops at the CEC.

“This is my third time being here,” Funn said of the festival. “It’s really well-attended, and the performers are amazing. The resources for the community are things they really needed.”

Having been raised in Poppleton, Eddy said the opportunity to emcee such a vibrant event was a special honor. And it was no small feat given the many features that deserved attendees’ attention: free produce, vendors selling jewelry and other crafts, representatives of the Port Discovery Children’s Museum and the National Aquarium, face-painting, pony rides for children, and cavorting mascots. The UMB Police Department’s McGruff the Crime Dog, the Ravens’ Poe, the Oriole Bird, and Splash, a Chesapeake Bay retriever wearing a life vest from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, all appeared.



NO SPRING OUTDOOR EVENT IS COMPLETE WITHOUT A LARGE, DRIPPING ICE CREAM CONE.



HORSE RIDES WERE A FIRST-TIME EXPERIENCE FOR SOME OF THE WEST BALTIMORE NEIGHBORS ENJOYING THE SPRING FESTIVAL.

During part of the day, sixth- through ninth-graders in the UMB CURE Scholars Program displayed their research posters and answered questions about health disparities. Later, a large group of scholars joined in the activities after competing in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Expo at the University of Maryland BioPark.

For children at the festival, pony rides were a big draw. “The horse caught his eye,” Rodney Timpson said of his son, Solomon, 6. And what did the young rider think of his trip? “Kinda bumpy,” he replied.

— Patricia Fanning

See *pictures and video* from the event.



CO-HOSTS PRESIDENT JAY PERMAN AND FIRST LADY YUMI HOGAN PROUDLY POSE WITH HEE KYUNG LEE DANCE TEAM MEMBERS AFTER THEIR SWORD DANCE.

CURECORNER

JUNE 2019

SCHOLARS CELEBRATE ANOTHER YEAR OF SUCCESS

As the school year comes to a close for students in West Baltimore, 93 UMB CURE Scholars gathered together to celebrate another year of achievements at the CURE End of Year Ceremony.

The Saturday event began with a warm welcome from University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) President Jay A. Perman, MD. He took a moment to look back on the conception of the UMB CURE Scholars Program, which was the first such academic enrichment program in the country to introduce a pipeline to careers in STEM to students as young as sixth grade.



ALL THE AWARD WINNERS GATHERED ONSTAGE AT UMB CURE SCHOLARS END OF YEAR CEREMONY.

“I’ll be honest with you, we didn’t know for sure that the program would work. It was one-of-a-kind, so there was a lot of risk,” Perman told the scholars on May 4 in Leadership Hall, part of the University of Maryland School of Medicine. “But every new year and with every new class of scholars, it just gets better and better because you make the difference. In my nine years leading this University, I can tell you truthfully that I’m not prouder of anything or anyone than I am of you.”

Each of the scholars, along with their parents and UMB mentors, many of whom were in attendance, had a lot to be proud of this year. During the End of Year Ceremony, they celebrated the

achievements of four cohorts of scholars, including a brand-new extension of the program called CURE Connections (C2). Funded by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences’ Science Education Partnership Award (SEPA), C2 is catered toward students in ninth and 10th grade aimed at getting them prepped for college applications while also helping them navigate the challenges of high school.

Levan Sakie, a rising eighth-grade student in Cohort 3, was chosen to be the keynote speaker. He talked about the challenges of emigrating from Liberia to America and how his family members, teachers, and mentors helped him to succeed both in and out of the classroom.

“I came to this country at the age of 9,” he said. “School in America was different from school in Liberia. When I transferred to Southwest Baltimore Charter School, my mom was still in Liberia, so I wasn’t really comfortable. Thankfully, I had my aunt and uncle, my cousin, and an incredible teacher to turn to for help.”

He went on to explain that in the fifth grade his cousin helped him create a school project on climate change that caught the attention of a CURE staff member, who suggested he apply for the UMB CURE Scholars Program, which now enrolls 100-plus students from three

West Baltimore middle schools and seven area high schools.

“My aunt and uncle were thrilled!” Sakie continued. “They said that they didn’t have these kinds of opportunities when they were children.”

Since joining the program, Sakie has spent two years in the robotics and coding track. He also has had several opportunities to present a research poster on Robotic Prosthetic Eyes and Ocular Cancer in the program, which is funded in part by the National Cancer Institute’s Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (CURE).

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“When I grow up, I want to be an electrical engineer,” said Sakie. “The work I’ve done with CURE has shown me how this can connect to health care and cancer.”

After his speech, Sakie was presented with the first award of the day, the Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics Exposition Award for demonstrating leadership, one of UMB’s seven core values.

More awards followed including Scholar of the Month, Perfect Attendance, Academic Excellence, and Star Performance Awards. There was also a section of awards to personally thank the teachers and mentors. The program is designed to offer scholars a 5:1 mentor-to-scholar ratio with an after-school component, Saturday tutoring component, and six-week Summer Enrichment component.

The most anticipated awards for the scholars were from the CURE STEM Expo that took place the week before on April 27 at the UM BioPark.

Judges included many UMB participants as well as others, such as Nicole E. McNeil-Ford, PhD, health scientist administrator at the NCI’s Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities, and Dwight Carr, MS, the STEM program manager at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, who has guided the scholars’ participation in the Maryland MESA program.

As the CURE End of Year Ceremony came to a close, the scholars and their mentors looked ahead to the future. Tyler McKenzie, the C2 council president and rising 10th-grader in Cohort 1, took the stage to offer some words of wisdom to the rising ninth-graders before they entered high school.

“Always remember that you can achieve your goals, but you have to put in the work,” he told his fellow scholars. “High school isn’t a walk in the park, but the CURE Program is on your side. You have us, in Cohort 1, rooting for you, and we can’t wait for you all to join us this summer. Welcome to C2!”

The UMB CURE Scholars Program will be welcoming its fifth cohort of incoming sixth-graders in fall 2019.

— Jena Frick and Patricia Fanning

View a [photo gallery](#), [End of Year award winners](#), and [STEM Expo award winners](#).



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP, KEYNOTE SPEAKER LEVAN SAKIE, A RISING EIGHTH-GRADER IN COHORT 3 OF THE CURE SCHOLARS, RECOUNTS THE CHALLENGES OF EMIGRATING FROM LIBERIA BEFORE HE AND HIS FELLOW SCHOLARS RECEIVED THE AWARDS NEXT TO HIM. QUINCY GOLDSMITH, INTERIM PROGRAM PARTNER AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGER FOR UMB CURE, POSES WITH MULTI-AWARD WINNER COHEN CROSLIN, A RISING NINTH-GRADER IN COHORT 2. SCHOLARS OF THE MONTH, FROM LEFT, JAMIYA MITCHELL (DECEMBER), KENWAN RICE (FEBRUARY), RYAN AYE (JANUARY), TAYMAR HARRIS (APRIL), KHAMARI STUBBS (MAY), AND KADEN JOHNSON (MARCH), PROUDLY POSE WITH THEIR CERTIFICATES. SEVERAL OF THE SCHOLARS PATIENTLY WAIT FOR THE PROGRAM TO BEGIN AT LEADERSHIP HALL IN THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.