

# the PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MAY 2019



About every other month, the USM Board of Regents, the governing body of the University System of Maryland, holds a meeting to discuss board business. The meetings are rotated among the 12 institutions within the system, and the president of the hosting institution gets to address the regents. It's a chance to show off a little, to talk about your goals and the progress you're making toward them.

I usually do the smart thing when it's our turn to host and showcase UMB's best asset: our students. Last month, I highlighted two priorities at UMB — entrepreneurship and global learning — along with some incredible students who illustrate why both are so important.

## ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Like so many priorities at UMB, entrepreneurship was one that our students themselves lobbied for. They told us what they wanted to see in terms of entrepreneurial support; what they needed to get their ideas into the development pipeline and their ventures off the ground. They started their own groups and networks. They found their own mentors.

And then, about five years ago, we caught up to our students and launched the Entrepreneurial Fellows program. We select eight fellows a year, and give each a \$5,000 stipend to work for six months on commercializing our most promising faculty inventions. The program brings all seven UMB schools together, which is critical because students have to understand the science, but they also have to develop business plans, regulatory and reimbursement strategies, etc.

Vivian Dang, who will graduate from our School of Pharmacy this spring, was one of our fellows last year. Her group included students from law, medicine, and the Graduate School, as well as College Park's Smith School of Business. Together, they worked on a strategy to secure FDA approvals for a small molecule cancer therapeutic developed by Vincent Njar, PhD, in the School of Medicine.

The interdisciplinary nature of the work was deeply important to Vivian. She said it gave her a bigger and fuller picture of the technology and of potential problems on its path to market. "PharmD fellows would question the safety and efficacy of the drug molecule," she says. "JDs would question the strength of the patent; MBAs would question if there's a market for the drug." Vivian says she's more collaborative now, she's more inclined to ask for feedback on her solutions, and she's freer in offering advice to teammates. She says her decisions are stronger.

Vivian's post-degree plan is to use machine learning to collect and analyze data from which she can create health interventions or further develop existing pharmaceuticals. I asked Vivian what UMB resources have been most helpful to her. Right after "faculty mentorship," she mentioned workshops at the Grid.

The Grid is where we house early-stage companies and provide business support through UM Ventures. It's where students mix with UMB startups; where we convene networking events and pitch competitions; where we nurture our expansive community of entrepreneurs, inside and outside UMB.

Kelsey Abernathy, a PhD student in the Graduate School's Marine-Estuarine-Environmental Science program, also cited the Grid as a key to her success, pointing to the connections she's made through faculty director Jenny Owens, ScD, MS, and mentor David Wise, MALD. With Dan Fucich, a fellow PhD student at the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Sciences, Kelsey has launched AlgenAir, a startup developing a natural air purifier that uses algae to reduce carbon dioxide in interior spaces.

Kelsey says starting a company has forced the pair to acknowledge what they do and don't know. "Prototyping a product requires you to solve a number of problems and, as a startup, you often lack the technical skills you need and the money to contract it out." So they had to learn when to ask for help and when to figure it out on their own. Ultimately, Kelsey says, they became simultaneously more self-sufficient *and* more collaborative. She and Dan elected to do prototype design and development in-house, so they built a team of advisors and manufacturing partners that complement their skill set and help them improve not only their product but their business model, too.

When asked the biggest challenges they've found on this entrepreneurial path, both Kelsey and Vivian say "balance." The worlds of scientific research and business are very different, Kelsey says, and it's easy to get swept up in the excitement that comes with pitching and starting a company. Finding balance between school and AlgenAir is something she and Dan work on every day by focusing on their priorities and how best to achieve them.

Vivian found herself trying to balance a full-time education, her work with professional organizations, and the Entrepreneurial Fellows program. At first, she sacrificed her sleep and her personal life. But she says being in the program actually taught her how to manage her time and her health, a skill she'll take with her into her professional career.

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## GLOBAL LEARNING

The meeting's theme of entrepreneurship then gave way to global learning. Of course, UMB has been engaged globally for many decades, with research, clinical care, and service collaborations that have saved and enriched millions of lives. We have deep capacity to influence health, well-being, and justice on the global stage, and we want more students to be a part of this work, to develop their global engagement and global competency, their ability to work with diverse populations in diverse settings.

We established the Center for Global Education Initiatives (CGEI) as a central hub supporting our international work. Through the center, we began a grant program to fund interprofessional teams of faculty and students taking part in research, training, and service-learning projects.

And just last year — again, at the recommendation of students — we joined the American Council on Education's Internationalization Lab to do a deep dive into our strategic planning, and 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. This last point is so important to us that we now require all students in CGEI-funded projects to describe how they'll link the work they do overseas to the work they do here at home.

Suhani Chitalia is a third-year student at our Carey School of Law. Last summer, she traveled to Malawi to work alongside students at the University of Malawi Chancellor College Faculty of Law ("Chanco," for short), the country's only law school. The project is part of Carey Law's longstanding partnership with Chanco in environmental justice, one that's flowered into a co-taught seminar launching next spring, which will pair students from each country to work on real environmental litigation cases in Malawi.

During her two months in Malawi, Suhani's main job was to spot legal issues and help Chanco's Environmental Justice and Sustainability Clinic address them. She visited Lake Chilwa in the Zomba district. The communities surrounding the lake rely on it for food and for work, but overfishing has depleted its resources. Suhani looked at zoning issues, socioeconomic distribution in the region, and where environmental risks are greatest.

Global experience taught Suhani to be a quick and creative thinker, a flexible implementer — skills, she says, that are essential for lawyers. She learned to appreciate the country's history, embrace its culture, and look for practical — if not always textbook — solutions. In a profession often tightly focused on

domestic experience (since lawyers are admitted to practice in specific jurisdictions), Suhani says international learning gave her transferable skills, which she's now using in her two-year fellowship exploring environmental justice and the Chesapeake Bay.

Michael Sikorski came to his own global experience in a very different way. A third-year MD/PhD candidate in the Medical-Scientist Training Program in the School of Medicine, he's working in Samoa with our Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health on typhoid epidemiology and genomics.



MICHAEL SIKORSKI AND SUHANI CHITALIA

But this isn't Michael's first out-of-country project. He's a seasoned global learner and worker, and began traveling internationally as an undergraduate. So when you ask Michael what he's learned from his time abroad, he has a lot of experiences to compare.

The best lesson, he says, is that the motivation for sustainable change must come from within the leadership and personnel of the hosting country. "As visiting team members, our interest and enthusiasm may never, and *must* never, surpass the motivation of our hosting collaborators." (In Samoa, he says, the team running the project — the Samoa Ministry of Health — is unparalleled in expertise and dedication.) This lesson has challenged Michael to align his own measures of success with the short- and long-term goals of his hosts. He doesn't indulge his research for its own sake; instead, he asks, "How will answering this question benefit the Samoan people?"

Resourcefulness is another lesson he's learned. "Biomedical research and clinical care at a U.S. top 50 research university essentially means access to some of the most cutting-edge [and expensive] technologies in the world," Michael says. But if UMB

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is the “have” in this scenario, much of the world, and much of our own country, are the “have nots.” Michael says that learning in conditions different than he’s used to has built confidence in his own abilities and confidence in the success and sustainability of projects undertaken in low-resource settings.

The regents were wowed by our students. Of course they were. I’m wowed every time I hear them describe their work, their passion, their drive to make a difference. In a couple of weeks, another class of these students goes out into the world, manifesting and multiplying UMB’s excellence. Proud, indeed.

Sincerely,



Jay A. Perman, MD  
PRESIDENT



VIVIAN DANG, KELSEY ABERNATHY, DAN FUCICH, AND ME

# STATE *of the* UNIVERSITY ADDRESS *by* JAY A. PERMAN, MD

PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE

**THURSDAY | MAY 9, 2019 | 3 P.M.**

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, MSTF LEADERSHIP HALL  
*Refreshments for all employees immediately following at HSRF III*



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# LAURELS

MAY 2019

## UNIVERSITYWIDE

**Vickie Campbell**, library services supervisor, and **Lorraine Woods**, library services specialist, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, presented “Beyond ILL: Opportunities for ILL [Inter Library Loan] Staff to Develop New Expertise” at the OCLC Resource Sharing Conference in Jacksonville, Fla.

**Susan Dorsey, PhD, RN, FAAN**, professor, School of Nursing, and co-director, UMB Center to Advance Chronic Pain Research (CACPR); **Joel Greenspan, PhD**, professor, School of Dentistry, and co-director, CACPR; and associate professors **Cynthia Renn, PhD, RN, FAAN**, **Meg Johantgen, PhD, RN**, and **Shijun Zhu, DrE, MS**, all from the School of Nursing, along with colleagues from other institutions authored a manuscript, “Racial/Ethnic Differences in Experimental Pain Sensitivity and Associated Factors – Cardiovascular Responsiveness and Psychological Status,” which has been accepted for publication in the peer-reviewed journal *PLOS One*.

On March 14, Dr. Perman named the members of UMB’s Task Force on Sexual Harassment. School of Pharmacy Dean **Natalie Eddington, PhD, FAAPS, FCP**, will serve as faculty chair; Deputy Accountability Officer **Susan Buskirk, DM, MS**, will serve as administrative chair; and **Stephanie Suerth**, director of education and outreach, Office of Accountability and Compliance, will serve as task force coordinator.

Other members include: **Patty Alvarez, PhD**, Student Affairs; **Toni Antalis, PhD**, School of Medicine (SOM); **Vineet Dhar, BDS, MDS**,

**PhD**, School of Dentistry; **Leigh Goodmark, JD**, Carey School of Law (SOL); **Nivedita Hegdekar, SOM**; **Matt Lasecki, SPHR**, Human Resource Services; **Ann Mech, JD, RN**, School of Nursing; **Megan Meyer, PhD, MSW**, School of Social Work (SSW); **Russell McClain, JD, SOL**; **Tricia O’Neill, JD**, Academic Affairs; and **Susan Wolfsthal, MD, SOM**. University senates are represented by **Deborah Eisenberg, JD, SOL** (Faculty Senate); **Rachel Beaudry, MSW, SSW** (Staff Senate); and **Nicole Hays, SOM** (Student Senate). Thank you for your participation.



PR NEWS' 2019 NONPROFIT AWARD

UMB received *PR News'* 2019 Nonprofit Award for Employee/Internal Communications for the University’s Live Near Your Work (LNYW) campaign. The Office of Communications and Public Affairs (CPA) accepted the national award on behalf of CPA, the administration, Human Resource Services, the Office of Community Engagement, and the LNYW subcommittee at UMB. LNYW benefits UMB employees by offering down payment and closing cost assistance of homes in select Southwest Baltimore neighborhoods. Headed by **Dawn Rhodes, MBA**, chief business and finance officer and vice president, the program in 2018

benefited 20 employees, who received more than \$320,000. [Read more.](#)



MEDAL OF VALOR WINNER SCOTT PAYNE WITH UMB POLICE CHIEF ALICE CARY.

At the UMB Police Department (UMBPD) Recognition and Awards Ceremony on March 13, **Scott Payne**, police first class (PFC), was awarded the 2019 UMBPD Medal of Valor for performing an act of bravery above and beyond the call of duty. Payne kicked in the door of a rowhome, whose resident was disabled, to save him from a fire. Security officer **Ferdine Ramadan** and Cpl. **William Johnson** each received the 2019 UMBPD Commendation Award for distinguishing themselves through an extraordinary performance in connection with their duties on campus. And PFC **Vincent Williams-Bey**, Cpl. **Hazel Lewis**, Sgt. **Ronald Nicholson**, Sgt. **Randall White**, PFC **Tremell Jones**, and security officer **Ardeen Leake** each received the 2019 UMBPD Meritorious Award for distinguishing themselves through great and unusual performance, marked ability, keen observation, and exceptional energy.

MPH candidate **Michelle Peralta**, health and wellness educator at the Wellness Hub, Campus Life Services, presented “Learning to Enjoy Your Own Company — Everyone Benefits from ‘Me Time’” at the Within Our Reach: University of

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# LAURELS

MAY 2019

Maryland Annual Parkinson's Symposium in April. She also presented "Building Self-Compassion to Create a Brighter, Meaningful Future" at the University System of Maryland Women's Forum spring webinar.



MICHELLE PERALTA

**M.J. Toocy, MLS, AHIP, FMLA**, associate vice president, Academic Affairs, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, and director, National Network of Libraries of Medicine Southeastern/Atlantic Region, presented the keynote address, "We Can All Be Leaders," at the Leadership Institute of the Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries in Hot Springs, Va.

UMB's partnership with Coventry University in England took another step with collaborative community engagement articles that appeared in the current Carey School of Law's *Journal of Race, Religion, Gender & Class*. In fall 2017, UMB held a two-day RISING Baltimore symposium that was based on the famous RISING Global Peace Forum held in Coventry, England, and focused on sharing community engagement strategies. Coventry University faculty attended and the House of Lords' John Alderdice, FRCPsych, was the keynote speaker. UMB authors in the current collaboration included **Jenny Owens, ScD, MS**, faculty executive director, the Grid; **Amy Ramirez, MA**, director, Office of International Services; **Flavius R. Lilly, PhD, MA, MPH**, associate vice president, Academic and Student Affairs; **Roger J. Ward, EdD, JD, MSL, MPA**, senior vice

president, operations and institutional effectiveness; and **Virginia Rowthorn, JD, LLM**, executive director, Center for Global Education Initiatives.

## SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

**Qoot Alkubaizi, DDS**, program director, Division of Advanced Education in General Dentistry, **Mary Anne Melo, DDS, MSc, PhD**, associate professor, and **Howard Strassler, DMD**, professor, both in the Division of Operative Dentistry, were among the co-authors of "Underperforming Light Curing Procedures Trigger Detrimental Irradiance-Dependent Biofilm Response on Incrementally Placed Dental Composites," which was published in the *Journal of Dentistry*.

PhD candidate **Bahayer Baras, DDS**, received the Graduate Translational Research Award during the annual Graduate Research Conference at UMB.



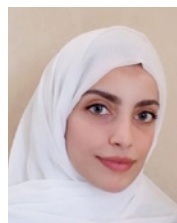
QOOT ALKUBAIZI



MARY ANNE MELO

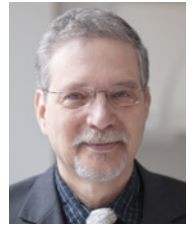


HOWARD STRASSLER



BAHAYER BARAS

**Gary Hack, DDS**, associate professor, Division of Prosthodontics, gave a poster presentation titled "Bridging the Clinical Simulation Gap: Fueling Success by Collaboration and Industry" at the American Dental Education Association Annual Session and Exhibition in Chicago.



GARY HACK

**Norbert Myslinski, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Pain and Neural Sciences, was the keynote speaker at the USA Brain Bee Neuroscience Championship held in April at the Pennsylvania State College of Medicine.



NORBERT MYSLINSKI

**Ke Ren, PhD**, professor, Department of Neural and Pain Sciences, presented "Utility of Animal Models for TMD and Orofacial Pain" at a public workshop hosted by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Committee on Temporomandibular Disorders (TMD) in Washington, D.C.



KE REN

# LAURELS

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## CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW

**Taunya Banks, JD**, Jacob A. France Professor of Equality Jurisprudence, gave a talk on critical race theory at the University of British Columbia Allard School of Law in Vancouver.



TAUNYA BANKS

**Sarah Everhart, JD**, research associate and legal specialist, Agriculture Law Education Initiative, wrote “Sow the Seeds of Sound Advice for Farmer Clients,” which appeared in the Maryland State Bar Association *Bar Bulletin*.



SARAH EVERHART

**Larry Gibson, LLB**, professor, was inducted into *The Baltimore Sun's* Civic and Business Hall of Fame 2019.



LARRY GIBSON

**Daniel Goldberg, JD**, professor, republished “The Target Method for Partnership Allocations and Why It Should Be Safe-Harbored” in the PLI Tax Planning series “Tax Planning for Domestic & Foreign Partnerships, LLCs, Joint Ventures & Other Strategic Alliances 2018.”



DANIEL GOLDBERG

**Leigh Goodmark, JD**, professor, wrote “Sen. Martha McSally, Pioneering Air Force Pilot, Shows How Stereotypes Victimize Sexual Assault Survivors Again,” which appeared in *The Conversation*.

**Michael Greenberger, JD**, professor and director, Center for Health and Homeland Security, was quoted in “Supreme Court Declines to Hear Zappos Customer Data Breach Case,” which appeared in *The Washington Times*.



MICHAEL GREENBERGER

**Kathleen Hoke, JD**, professor and director, Legal Resource Center for Public Health Policy, was quoted in “The FDA Shakeup Could Stall E-Cigarette Regulations” in the *Verge*.



KATHLEEN HOKE

**Seema Kakade, JD**, assistant professor and director, Environmental Law Clinic, presented “Environmental and Health Settlements,” at the NYU Law School Workshop for State Attorney Generals at New York Law School. Kakade and **Robert Percival, JD**, director, Environmental Law Program and Robert F. Stanton Professor of Law, were nominated for the World Justice Challenge 2019 Access to Justice Solutions Award for the Transnational Environmental Accountability Project they co-directed.



FRANK PASQUALE

**Frank Pasquale, MPhil, JD**, professor, was named to the Expert Advisory Board of “Participatory Approaches to a New Ethical and Legal Framework for ICT” (PANELFIT). He and **Markus Rauschecker, JD**, cybersecurity program director, Center for Health and Homeland Security, presented “Artificial Intelligence in the Legal Field” at the Maryland State Bar Association Tech Committee event.



MICHAEL PINARD

**Michael Pinard, JD**, co-director, Clinical Law Program, and Francis & Harriet Iglehart Professor of Law, was a panelist and moderator for “The Widening Reach of the Criminal Justice System and the Impact on Communities of Color” at the fourth National People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference at American University Washington College of Law.



MARLEY WEISS

**Marley Weiss, JD**, professor, presented “Transnational Challenges of NAFTA 2.0 and the CPTPP for Workers' Rights” at the International Colloquium on Socially Responsible Trade Policy for Canada and Other Countries hosted by the University of Quebec.

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## SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

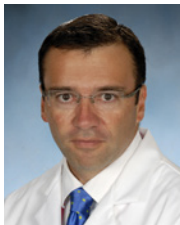
The following is a select list. For all the SOM laurels, visit [www.somnews.umaryland.edu](http://www.somnews.umaryland.edu).



ROBERT BLOCH

**Robert Bloch, PhD**, professor, Department of Physiology, received a one-year, \$200,000 grant from the Jain Foundation for “The Role of Dysferlin in

Skeletal Muscle In Vitro and In Vivo.” He also received a two-year, \$200,000 subcontract grant from FSHD Global and the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine for “Pre-clinical Testing for FSHD CRISPR-inhibition Therapy.”



JOSEPH CHEER

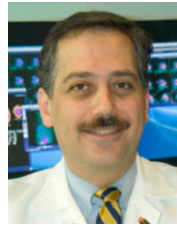
**Joseph Cheer, PhD**, professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, was awarded a five-year, \$1,738,125 grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse

(NIDA/NIH) for “Cannabinoid Receptor Control of a DRN to VTA Pathway and Its Role in Affective States.” Also, within Cheer’s lab,

**Dan Covey, PhD**, assistant professor, was awarded a \$1,051,544 K99/R00 award from NIDA/NIH for “Neural Circuit Control of Mesolimbic Dopamine and Reward.”

**Vasken Dilsizian, MD**, professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, was the recipient of the 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award at the World Federation of Cardiac Imaging

and Clinical Cardiology meeting, for his significant scientific contributions and outstanding achievements in the field of cardiac imaging. The meeting was held in Mumbai, India, Feb. 22-24.



VASKEN DILSIZIAN



CHENG-YING HO

**Cheng-Ying Ho, MD, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Pathology, received the 2019 American Society for Clinical Investigation (ASCI) Young

Physician-Scientist Award, which recognizes physician-scientists who are early in their first faculty appointment and have made notable achievements in their research. Ho presented her research at the Annual Joint Meeting of the Association of American Physicians/ASCI/American Physicians-Scientists Association in April.



DA’KUAWN JOHNSON

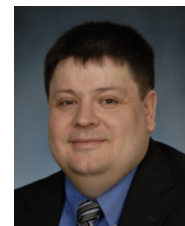
**Da’Kuawn Johnson, MD/PhD candidate**, was the March winner of the WMAR-TV and Chick-fil-A Baltimore’s Everyday Heroes Award for his

work as a volunteer with the Talent Mentoring Program, a partnership between UMSOM and Baltimore City Public Schools (BCPS) where medical students visit BCPS schools and mentor gifted and talented students.

**Habeeba Park, MD**, assistant professor, Department of Surgery, was named vice chair of the Maryland Committee on Trauma and became the Maryland Chapter of the American College of Surgeons representative to the State EMS Council.



HABEEBA PARK



DAVID RASKO

The Institute for Genome Sciences (IGS) was awarded \$17.5 million from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) to fund the IGS Genome Center for Infectious Diseases (GCID) for another five years.



CLAIRE M. FRASER

The principal investigator and administrative core director for the grant, which is titled “A Genomics Based Investigation of the Determinants of Polymicrobial Infectious Disease Outcomes,” is **David Rasko, PhD**, professor, Department of Microbiology



OWEN R. WHITE

and Immunology. IGS Director **Claire M. Fraser, PhD**, the Dean’s Endowed Professor, Department of Medicine, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, and

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IGS Associate Director **Owen R. White, PhD**, professor, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, director of bioinformatics, are co-principal investigators.

Resident **Stephanie Rice, MD**, and assistant professors **Jason Molitoris, MD, PhD**, and **Elizabeth Nichols, MD**, all from the Department of Radiation Oncology, were among the authors of “Trends in Utilization of Hypofractionated Whole Breast Irradiation (HF-WBI) in Triple Negative Breast Cancer (TNBC): A National Cancer Database (NCDB) Analysis,” which was published in *Breast Cancer Research and Treatment*.



CHAPOVAL SVETLANA

**Chapoval Svetlana, MD, PhD**, visiting assistant professor, and **Achsah Keegan, PhD**, professor, both from the Department of Microbiology and

Immunology, Center for Vascular and Inflammatory Diseases, and **Amit Golding, MD**, assistant professor, Department of Medicine, co-authored “Semaphorin 4A Stabilizes Human Regulatory T Cell Phenotype via Plexin B1,” which was published in *ImmunoHorizons*.

**Quincy Tran, MD, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, and his multidisciplinary research group won the Silver Snapshot Abstract Award at the 2019 Annual Congress of the Society of Critical Care Medicine, held in San Diego. Their winning abstract was titled “Resuscitation Unit Transferred More While Providing Similar Outcomes for Patients with Stroke from Large Vessel Occlusion.” Tran’s collaborators

included **Karen Yarbrough, DNP, CRNP**, nurse practitioner, Department of Neurology; **Wan-Tsu Chang, MD**, assistant professor, Department of Emergency Medicine; **Jay Menaker, MD**, professor, Department of Surgery; **Michael Phipps, MD**, assistant professor, Department of Neurology; and five students from the University of Maryland, College Park.



PAUL WELLING

**Paul Welling, MD**, professor, Department of Physiology, was elected into the Association of American Physicians (AAP) in March. The AAP, established in 1885, is an honorific, elected society of America’s leading physician-scientists.



LI ZHANG

**Li Zhang, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Physiology, Center for Vascular and Inflammatory Diseases, received a four-year, \$1,868,061 grant from the National

Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute for “Targeting the Proinflammatory Activity of Integrin Mac-1 for Treatment of Atherosclerosis.”

The school’s **Department of Radiation Oncology** was named among the top 10 accruing sites by NRG Oncology, a National Cancer Institute-sponsored national cooperative trial group. The department was ranked fourth nationally and sixth worldwide among sites accruing patients to NRG clinical trials in 2018.

## SCHOOL OF NURSING

Out of 130 **Doctor of Nursing Practice** (DNP) students at the school, 18 percent will present DNP projects nationally, 37 percent regionally, and 43 percent locally. In addition, two students are making three international presentations: **Rebeca Tholen** presented “Reducing the Risk of Alcohol Relapse After Transplantation” at the 21st International Conference on Addiction Treatment and Therapy in Miami. **Ke-Ni N. Tien** presented “Implementation of Early-Onset Sepsis Calculator in the Newborn Nursery at a Community Medical Centre in Baltimore, MD” at the 23rd Edition of International Conference on Neonatology and Perinatology on April 23 in London and will do so again on May 13 at the East Asian Congress on Nursing and Primary Health Care in Tokyo, Japan.



FROM LEFT, DEAN JANE KIRSCHLING, JAKE RODRIGUEZ, LINDSAY SMITH, AND OFFICE MANAGER STEPHANIE WHITE IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

Students **Jake Rodriguez** and **Lindsay Smith** participated in the American Association of Colleges of Nursing’s Student Policy Summit



# LAURELS

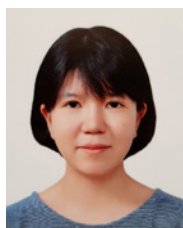
MAY 2019

in Washington, D.C., March 24-26. Attendees were immersed in didactic program sessions focused on the federal policy process and nursing's role in professional advocacy.



HYOJIN SON

PhD students **Hyojin Son** and **Jungmin Yoon** were awarded one-year Sigma small grants in the amount of \$5,000 and \$4,740, respectively. Son's funding will aid her work examining patient experience using patient portal and its perceived usability. Yoon's grant-funded research will look at training in relation



JUNGMIN YOON

to inappropriate antipsychotic medication usage in nursing home residents with dementia.

## SCHOOL OF PHARMACY



SANDEEP DEVABHAKTHUNI

elect of the Maryland Society of Health-System Pharmacy.

**Sandeep Devabhakthuni, PharmD**, associate professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, has been named president-

### **Mojdeh Heavner, PharmD**,

assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, has been accepted into the American Academy of Sleep Medicine Foundation's Young Investigators Research Forum. She also received a Presidential Citation from the Society of Critical Care Medicine.



MOJDEH HEAVNER

### Student **Shamir Kalaria**

received a 2019 New Investigator Award from the American Society of Clinical Psychopharmacology.



SHAMIR KALARIA

### Student **Yuwei Lu**

received a two-year, \$69,500 grant from the U.S. Pharmacopeial Convention for "Development of In Vitro Gut Fermentation Model to Investigate the In Vivo Performance of Enteric-Coated ABAB Antibody Producing Saccharomyces Boulardi Oral Dosage Form for the Treatment of Clostridium."



YUWEI LU

**Alexander MacKerell Jr., PhD**, the Grollman-Glick Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences, has received a \$74,250 contract from SilcsBio, LLC for "Computational Methods for Accelerating Biologics Formulation."

Student **Dami Onasanya** has been invited to serve as an inaugural member of the American Society of Pharmacovigilance's Improving Patient Outcomes Council.



DAMI ONASANYA

### **Kristine Parbuoni, PharmD**,

associate professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, has been elected to the Maryland Society of Health-System Pharmacy board of directors.



KRISTINE PARBUONI

### **Kathleen Pincus, PharmD**,

assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, received the Richard Parish Lecture Award from the District of Columbia College of Clinical Pharmacy.



KATHLEEN PINCUS

**Linda Simoni-Wastila, PhD**, the Parke-Davis Chair in Geriatric Pharmacotherapy in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, has received a 21-month, \$1,597,610 grant from the National Institute on Aging for "Antipsychotic Reduction in Nursing Home Residents with Alzheimer's Disease: Impact on State, Facility, and Resident Psychopharmacological Medication Use and Outcomes." She also received a six-month, \$102,775 contract from the Maryland Department of Health

# LAURELS

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for “Drug User Health Pharmacy Education Project Evaluation” and a six-month, \$64,069 grant from the Maryland Department of Health for “Naloxone Pharmacy Detailing Expansion.”

## SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



JENNY AFKINICH

PhD student **Jenny Afkinich** contributed to “Incarceration History and Depressive Symptoms Among Women Released from US Correctional

Facilities: Does Timing, Duration, or Frequency Matter?” which was published in the *International Journal of Mental Health and Addiction*.

**Melissa Bellin, PhD**, associate professor, co-authored “Pattern of Medication Use in Children with Very Poorly Controlled Asthma,” which was published in the *Annals of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology*.

**Christine Callahan, PhD**, research assistant professor, **Jodi Frey, PhD**, associate professor, **Paul Sacco, PhD**, associate dean for research, and **Amanda Mosby**, program manager, in collaboration with the school’s Financial Social Work Initiative partner Consumer Credit Counseling Services of Maryland, has received over \$172,000 in funding from the National Center for Responsible Gaming for their study “Developing and Testing a Brief Intervention for Problem Gambling in Credit Counseling.” Frey also was invited to be an expert panelist

by the American Heart Association CEO Roundtable to help write its Mental Health White Paper.



JAIH CRADDOCK

**Jaih Craddock, MSW, MA**, assistant professor, has been selected to be a scholar in the HIV Intervention Science Training Program (HISTP).

This three-year National Institute of Mental Health-funded training program is for under-represented new investigators and housed at Columbia University. HISTP provides support with grant writing and training regarding new HIV intervention technologies.



ANGELA HENNEBERGER

**Angela Henneberger, PhD**, research assistant professor, co-authored “Protective Factors Associated With Positive Mental Health in Traditional and

Nontraditional Black Students,” which was published in the *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*.



THEDA ROSE

**Theda Rose, PhD**, assistant professor, was a presenter on private religiosity and psychosocial well-being among black youth at the 2019 Society for Research in Child

Development biennial meeting in Baltimore in March.

**Wendy Shaia, PhD**, clinical assistant professor and executive director, Social Work Community Outreach Service, wrote “SHARP: A Framework for Addressing the Contexts of Poverty and Oppression During Service Provision in the United States,” which was published in the *Journal of Social Work Values and Ethics*.



MELISSA EDMONDSON SMITH

**Melissa Edmondson Smith, PhD**, assistant professor, and doctoral candidate **Kerry Lee** presented their paper “The Impact of Secondary Exposure to Gun

Violence Fatality on Mental Health Outcomes in Four Urban Settings” at the Correlates, Causes and Solutions for Firearm Violence in America conference in early April in Hartford, Conn.



ALEXANDRA WIMBERLY

**Alexandra Wimberly, PhD**, assistant professor, authored “How Yoga Impacts the Substance Use of People Living with HIV Who Are in Reentry From Prison or

Jail: A Qualitative Study,” which was published in the journal *Complementary Therapies in Medicine*.

The Open Society Institute has awarded the school’s Social Work Community Outreach Services (SWCOS) \$225,000 to help support SWCOS’ Positive Schools Initiative. The purpose of the grant is to enable the Positive Schools Center, a SWCOS initiative, to train educators and students in Baltimore City public schools to use restorative and complementary practices to improve school climates.



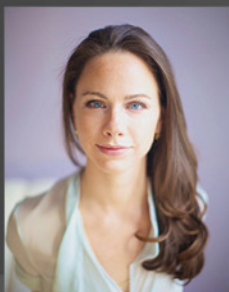
JOIN US FOR UNIVERSITYWIDE COMMENCEMENT!

# Commencement 2019

UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND, BALTIMORE

THURSDAY, MAY 16 | 9 A.M.  
ROYAL FARMS ARENA

Celebrate the Class of 2019 with President Perman and special guests, including:



*Keynote Speaker*

**Barbara Pierce Bush**

*Co-founder, Global Health Corps*

**HONORARY DEGREE  
RECIPIENTS**

**Victoria G. Hale**  
*Founder, One World Health  
and Medicines360*

**Philip Needleman**  
*Emeritus trustee, Washington  
University School of Medicine*

**HONORARY MARSHALS**

**Robert Beardsley**  
*School of Pharmacy*

**Jacquelyn L. Fried**  
*School of Dentistry*

**Jane Lipscomb**  
*School of Nursing*

**STUDENT REMARKER**

**Sarah Montague Shepson**  
*Carey School of Law*

**NATIONAL ANTHEM SINGER**

**Marisa Rushing**  
*School of Dentistry*

**AFTER THE CEREMONY**  
PLAZA PARK

*Party in the* **PARK**

**FREE FOOD, MUSIC, AND DRINKS  
FOR GRADUATES AND THEIR FAMILIES**



[umaryland.edu/commencement](http://umaryland.edu/commencement)



**#2019UMB**

# INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

MAY 2019

## IPE DAY IMPARTS TEAMWORK ACROSS DISCIPLINES

Talking about teamwork is one thing; putting it into practice is another. At the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB), students from across disciplines were able to do both during activities devoted to interprofessional education (IPE).

On April 3, the UMB Center for Interprofessional Education held its seventh annual IPE Day to enhance students' knowledge of this emerging collaborative team-based movement in health care, law, and social work. Sessions took place at the School of Nursing (SON) auditorium and classrooms and in meeting rooms at the Health Sciences and Human Services Library and the Southern Management Corporation Campus Center.

IPE leaders and participating faculty members from throughout the University welcomed 240 students from all seven UMB schools as well as the University of Maryland, College Park, which was represented by nine participants who study audiology or speech language pathology. Nearly a dozen students from SON and the School of Pharmacy made the trip from Rockville, Md., where they are enrolled at the Universities at Shady Grove.

All got a warm greeting from UMB President Jay A. Perman, MD, a pediatric gastroenterologist who continues his practice

in the weekly President's Clinic, which includes students from various schools. His clinic partner is UMB Assistant Vice President Elsie Stines, DNP, MS, CRNP. The pediatric nurse practitioner joined him onstage along with a multidisciplinary panel made up of their colleagues in the clinic, one of its patients, and the child's parents.

"I appreciate every single person on my team," Perman said, "but the most important person on the team is the patient." Think of the patient as the center of the team, he told the audience. "Make sure that the family can do what you're asking."

In the case of 19-month-old Claudine, who suffers from a chromosomal abnormality, parents Annaise Mouamba and Samuel Kabwe were challenged in several ways after they brought the infant home from the hospital. Coping with the demands of a gastric feeding tube was "stressful, stressful, stressful," said Claudine's mother, who had to leave her job. Without that income, they couldn't pay all their bills and lost power. The clinic's team intervened, and the utility restored their service because caring for Claudine's condition requires electricity.



STUDENTS FROM VARIOUS UMB SCHOOLS COLLABORATE TO ADDRESS THE HOUSING AND JOB ISSUES OF A STANDARDIZED PATIENT WITH MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS (FAR LEFT) DURING A TEAMWORK EXERCISE AT IPE DAY.

Continued from previous page



ANNAISE MOUAMBA SPEAKS OF HOW THE PRESIDENT'S CLINIC TEAM "HELPED US THROUGH OUR JOURNEY" WHILE, FROM LEFT, JILL MORGAN (SCHOOL OF PHARMACY), MARGARET MARTIN (SCHOOL OF MEDICINE), AND ELSIE STINES (PRESIDENT'S OFFICE) DELIGHT IN HOLDING HER DAUGHTER.

"I was scared," said Mouamba. "These are the people who helped us through our journey," she said, referring to the clinic team as she and her husband expressed their thanks. Their daughter has chromosome 4q deletion, which includes heart problems that cause weakness, which in turn hampers feeding. It's a complex condition.

Inspired by the playful baby and her parents, the students embarked on their own complex case in what has become a central part of IPE Day at UMB. Mentored by faculty members, participants broke into small groups in which they interacted with one another while pondering the care of a standardized patient, an actor portraying a patient. On this day, they addressed the case of Morgan Showalter, a fictional multiple sclerosis patient who faces housing and job issues.

Among their goals were to discover how to effectively work and communicate with professionals outside of their areas of study, which specialist skills they can best share with other professionals, and how interprofessional communication can improve quality of care.

In conclusion, Center for IPE Director Jane M. Kirschling, PhD, RN, FAAN, dean of SON, led a debriefing in which students were asked to comment on how they had been able "to learn with, from, and about one another." She also helped field a question about acronyms, or "mumbo-jumbo," which a good

team member is urged to avoid. "ADLs are activities of daily living," said Kirschling, giving examples such as showering in the morning and fixing lunch. And a CNL, she explained later, is a student with a university degree in a non-nursing field who is earning a Master of Science in Nursing in SON's Clinical Nurse Leader program.

Nabid Ahmed, a third-year student at the School of Medicine (SOM), was among those who spoke. He suggested more information be provided in the future about the curriculum in various disciplines so participants know what their peers are being taught.

"I had a really good experience today," he said, adding that he had been attracted to IPE Day by the chance to meet people from other schools and "to pick their brains" while working together on a case.

After the give-and-take, students got a chance to continue networking while enjoying a barbecue buffet. And in what has become a tradition of IPE Day, Kirshling and Center for IPE Co-Director David B. Mallott, MD, associate professor at SOM, presided over a raffle. Winners were able to take home gift cards along with their lessons learned.

— Patricia Fanning

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



VINCENT CONROY, PT, DSCPT, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, MAKES A POINT DURING ONE OF THE IPE DAY GROUP SESSIONS.

# EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

MAY 2019

## NICHOLSON, LONGTIME UMB WORKERS HONORED



ABOVE, EBONY NICHOLSON HAPPILY ACCEPTS HER \$1,500 CHECK AS UMB EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR FROM DR. PERMAN AND CHIEF HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER MATT LASECKI. TOP RIGHT, UMB'S 45-YEAR EMPLOYEES WHO WERE HONORED INCLUDED BRUCE STEFFE, LU ANN MARSHALL, AND JEAN MARIE ROTH. LOWER RIGHT, ARDEEN LEAKE RECEIVES HER UMB COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD.

Ebony Nicholson, MSW '16, is getting better about being honored.

Having broken down in tears in February 2018 when told she was UMB Employee of the Month, Nicholson merely felt "lightheaded and couldn't focus" on April 5 when she was named UMB Employee of the Year at the Employee Service Awards Luncheon at Westminster Hall. "But I didn't cry," she said with a smile afterward. "That's progress."

Nicholson, diversity, inclusion, and leadership program specialist in the Office of Interprofessional Student Learning and Service Initiatives (ISLSI), was saluted for supporting an array of programs including the Poverty Simulation, an interactive, three-hour workshop designed to help participants understand what it might be like to live in a typical low-income family and survive from week to week.

"Ms. Nicholson was hired in late 2016 to invigorate the diversity and inclusion programing of the ISLSI with Campus Life Services," said Matt Lasecki, SPHR, chief human resources officer and host of the luncheon. "Not only did she re-imagine existing programs, she also created and piloted a cultural responsiveness training program for staff. The focus of the program is to equip

participants with the tools necessary to continue to gain cultural competence and build allyship."

After the luncheon, Nicholson deflected praise to her ISLSI team and supervisor Courtney Jones Carney, MBA. "I am really honored and my work could not be done without my team. UMB is a special place. I don't know how many people get to work for such a supportive organization."

### 3,045 YEARS OF SERVICE

With her in Westminster Hall being honored were 119 UMB employees of 20 to 45 years of service. From housekeeper Helena Wharton being "thrilled" to celebrate 20 years to the Maryland Poison Center's Kevin Simmons clasping his hands over his head like a boxing champ after being recognized for 30 years, smiles were much in evidence.

"There's enormous value in the kind of deep institutional knowledge represented in this room," said UMB President Jay A. Perman, MD. "You know the University's strengths and our challenges. Our history and traditions, our culture and climate. You're the ones whom colleagues seek out when they need the impossible. And they always seem to need the impossible."

Continued from previous page

Together the 119 longtime employees being honored represented 3,045 years of service. Some 270 of those years came from the six 45-year employees who were honored: Lu Ann Marshall (Carey School of Law), Mary Miller (Accounts Receivable), Judy Pennington (School of Dentistry), Jean Marie Roth and Phillip Tunstall (both School of Medicine), and Bruce Steffe (Facilities Management).

Asked about their nearly half-century at UMB, memories abounded. Steffe, hazardous materials and demolition project manager, recalled restoring the roof of Davidge Hall in 2000-2001 and “seeing how the roof and dome skylight was constructed back in the 1800s.” Miller, who helps handle \$800 million a year in sponsored projects, said “You wouldn’t believe all that I learned over the years here — plus the camaraderie and so much more.”



AYAMBA AYUK-BROWN WILL USE HER JAMES T. HILL SCHOLARSHIP FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION SUCH AS INTERCULTURAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM.

Marshall, records and registration coordinator, proudly recalled winning the inaugural Founders Week Public Service Award (1996) and the Board of Regents Public Service Award (2000) as well as leading tours of Westminster Burying Ground and Catacombs for over 35 years, “a job I enjoy immensely.” And Roth, academic services specialist, cited “so many memorable moments” but especially a former supervisor Peggy Brooks-Bertram, PhD. “I had been on campus approximately six years and she saw me as not just someone who worked *for* her, but *with* her. She gave me confidence and taught me that I was an equal, that I was significant, which is something I will never forget.”

#### GIVE ME AN ‘O’

Lasecki had fun with each of the service groups, recounting highlights from the year they began working at UMB. Frank



THE 40-YEAR UMB EMPLOYEES WHO WERE HONORED BY LASECKI AND DR. PERMAN INCLUDED (FROM RIGHT) JOYCE VICKERS, CYNDI RICE, AND LISBETH BAKER.

Sinatra died in 1998, when the 20-year group started at UMB. Whitney Houston’s “I Will Always Love You” won a Grammy in 1993, when the 25-year group started, and so on. Lasecki also dropped in sports tidbits. But his repetitious “the Orioles didn’t win the World Series that year” finally was too much for Thomas Sloane of the Department of Psychiatry at the School of Medicine. He stood and announced, “Hey, I’m a 35-year employee and the Orioles *did* win the World Series the year I started — 1983,” drawing applause from the crowd.

After a fabulous lunch was served, Lasecki and Perman began honoring group and individual award winners. The Staff Senate and nominees for the Board of Regents Staff Award were acknowledged. Ardeen Leake, a security guard in the School of Pharmacy who began at UMB in 1987, got a standing ovation when she received UMB’s Community Service Award.

Said Lasecki: “Ms. Leake provides students with an emergency pantry filled with snacks to help them get through the day. She has given students and staff her own gloves when they have forgotten theirs. She continuously volunteers in serving the homeless at various kitchens and collects clothing to give to the homeless.”

Asked later why she does it, Leake smiled and said “In honor of God. My grandmother inspired me to do all I do.”

Ayamba Ayuk-Brown of the School of Nursing received the \$2,000 James T. Hill Scholarship, which supports the University’s commitment to staff development. Expressing “a lot of gratitude and appreciation” she plans to use the money for continuing education, especially the Intercultural Leadership certificate program starting this fall in UMB’s Graduate School.

Then it was time to honor Nicholson with an oversized \$1,500 check for Employee of the Year. “It’s very easy at an organization this big to feel your work is insignificant,” said Nicholson, who said the prize money will go in the bank toward future house repairs. “So I think it’s nice to be reminded that each of us plays a role in it and a role in making this place work. We are also responsible for improving UMB in our collective roles.”

— Chris Zang

See a *photo gallery* of the event.

# CORE VALUES SPEAKER SERIES

MAY 2019

## FORMER WHITE HOUSE SOCIAL SECRETARY PROMOTES CIVILITY



LEA BERMAN'S INSIGHTS ON CIVILITY IN WASHINGTON BROUGHT A SMILE TO HOST DR. PERMAN AND AN AUDIENCE OF 150 AT THE SMC CAMPUS CENTER.

Lea Berman, MA, is an expert on the subject of civility and co-author of *Treating People Well: The Extraordinary Power of Civility at Work and in Life*. She says being civil is not only the right thing to do, it also carries many side benefits.

“We’re not suggesting you just do what your mother said to do and be nice, we’re advocating for civility because it’s incredibly self-interested,” Berman told a crowd of 150-plus at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) on April 8 as the latest guest in the University’s Core Values Speaker Series. “When people like you, they are more helpful and more pleasant. If you make an effort to talk to someone, to make eye contact, any little thing like that, it makes them feel better and it makes you feel better.

“We’re not saying you should be a pushover, we’re saying you should have some standards about your personal behavior that can be an example for others. And then you can allow that to serve you in your own life, because it makes your life less stressful and easier.”

Berman, the White House social secretary under former President George W. Bush from 2004 to 2007, shared stories about that high-profile job, lamented the decline of civility in American discourse, and offered tips on social and workplace behavior during a 45-minute Q&A with UMB President Jay A. Perman, MD, and the audience. Berman’s main message: Be nice to people and maintain a positive outlook.

“Manners are more than just etiquette,” she said. “By creating a template of who we are on the outside, we create who we become on the inside. So our manners are the visual manifestation of our

sensitivity to others. And that’s why it’s really important to be positive and reach out to people in a civil way.”

Perman introduced Berman as a longtime Washington, D.C., insider and the consummate hostess, noting that before her White House tenure she served as chief of staff for former Second Lady Lynne Cheney and social secretary for Cheney and her husband, former Vice President Dick Cheney. A mother of two, Berman also has worked for political campaigns and the National Republican Senatorial Committee, run an event planning business, and is the creator of *America’s Table*, a blog dedicated to food and entertaining.

“Civility is a value that seems rather hard to come by nowadays, and we’re deeply grateful to Ms. Berman for sharing her hard-earned wisdom,” said Perman, who noted that Berman had declined an honorarium for her appearance. Instead, UMB made a donation to a charity she supports called So Others Might Eat, an interfaith organization that helps the poor and homeless in Washington.

UMB’s president pointed out that *Treating People Well* was a bipartisan effort with co-author Jeremy Bernard, the White House social secretary under former President Barack Obama, then Perman kicked off the discussion by asking Berman to describe a typical day in the life of a White House social secretary.

Berman said the secretary is responsible for all events that take place in the White House and on its grounds except for the press room and the Oval Office, meaning more than 400 public events a year, including holiday celebrations, Rose Garden receptions, and even private get-togethers such as two first ladies having lunch in the family residence.

“It’s like being on a hamster wheel,” Berman said. “It never really slows down, because you have events every day and you’re also working on things that are happening next week, next month, or three months from now. It’s very hectic and therefore stressful, but everybody’s job is stressful, because we are all concerned about doing our job the best we can and maintaining our good reputation. Stress is just something that’s a part of everybody’s work life.”

Berman’s stress level definitely spiked at times at the White House. Asked by Perman about the highs and lows of the job, she detailed an event with the president of China and his delegation that devolved after the White House announcer referred to “the Republic of China” (also known as Taiwan) rather than “the People’s Republic of China.” The Chinese delegation was insulted, with many of them declining to attend the ensuing luncheon.

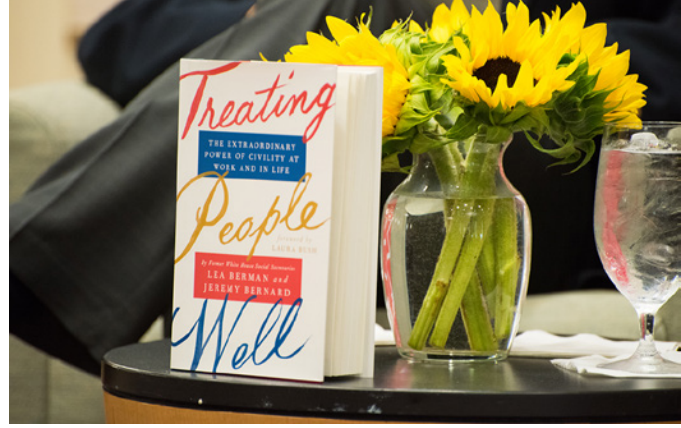


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As for a high point, Berman recounted her most memorable events as two annual dinners tied to the celebrations of Hanukkah and Ramadan, with the latter coming at a particularly difficult time during the Iraq War. “It was so wonderful to see these expressions of tolerance in an institutional form, and it made me really proud,” she said.

The conversation steered into the decline of civility in U.S. discourse, with Berman lamenting that the impersonality of the internet leads people to behave in ways online that they would never do face to face. She said the coarseness of political dialogue has been fueled by leaders with no filters or boundaries such as President Donald Trump. But there is plenty of blame to go around, she says.

“We have these very two narrow extremes politically who are running the show and then the rest of us are all in the exhausted middle,” Berman said. “Aren’t you sick of it? Aren’t you so tired of how these politicians can’t figure out how to get along? That is their job, and they’re all failing at it.”



“All they’re doing is creating future American political leaders who think this is how they’re supposed to behave, and that is really something to be concerned about,” Berman added. “I don’t know what to do as a society to fix this, but all I can do as an individual is treat people with kindness and set myself as an example as a form of passive resistance. I will not lower myself to the level that these people have brought this country.”

— Lou Cortina

Watch a *video* of the event.

## UMB POLICIES

# OPIOID ADDICTION AND PREVENTION

**UMB is committed to a safe and substance-free environment.**

It has adopted a policy in response to state legislation that includes:

- ▶ Increased awareness regarding heroin and opioid addiction and prevention
- ▶ Mandatory online prescription drug abuse prevention course for new students
- ▶ Designating the UMB Police Department as trained personnel for the administration of overdose-reversing medications

To read the new University policy, visit [umaryland.edu/opioid-policy](http://umaryland.edu/opioid-policy).



# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

MAY 2019

## BRATT'S TEAM TACKLES CHALLENGES IN FIRST 11 MONTHS

The last 11 months have been interesting for the Office of Emergency Management at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB). That is in part because they are the *first* 11 months of the office.

Jonathan Bratt, MS, became the University's first executive director of emergency management in May 2018. He quickly assembled a team of three that now includes Bernadette Taylor, MA, and Hayley Markman, MPA.

"When I did my round-robin of meeting everyone, one of the deans said his challenge to me was to build a nationally recognized university-based emergency management program. I took that challenge very seriously," says Bratt, who came to UMB from the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems. "In fact, I've been using the national standards as the premise to identify the requirements, resources, and needs for my team to develop protocols for what our future capabilities should look like."

Bratt admits in addition to building an Office of Emergency Management and monitoring severe weather closings his early efforts have included "grabbing the low-hanging fruit" — things that can be improved quickly, "gaps we can bridge, and build from there."

Emergency management, which he defines as the process of creating an organizational framework that reduces vulnerability to hazards and copes with disasters, wasn't totally foreign to UMB before Bratt's arrival. He said Steven Deck, DM, MBA, director, UMB Department of Environmental Health and Safety, and Eric Oddo, MPA, of the Carey School of Law's Center for Health and Homeland Security, built continuity of operations plans for the UMB schools in 2017 and have been huge assets to Bratt and his team.

Bratt said many institutions of higher education don't have an emergency management program and it likely wouldn't have come to UMB if Dawn Rhodes, MBA, chief business and finance officer and vice president, hadn't had one at her previous job at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI).

"She saw what an emergency management program had done for IUPUI and said we need one here — so here we are," Bratt says with a smile. Higher education isn't alone in being slow to grasp the importance of emergency management. "It's a growing and relatively new profession," Bratt says. "In the last decade,



JONATHAN BRATT, BERNADETTE TAYLOR (LEFT), AND HAYLEY MARKMAN HAVE BONDED QUICKLY AS UMB'S EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TEAM.

things have changed dramatically in how we conduct business in emergency management."

Such support from across UMB has been overwhelming — even a little scary. "When many stakeholders have said, 'Thank goodness you're here,' it was a vote of confidence. But at the same time I thought, 'Oh my gosh! What did I get myself into?'" Bratt says with a laugh. "But I think everybody recognizes the need and wants the University to be better prepared and more resilient."

UMB is not working alone in the pursuit of preparation and resiliency. Emphasizing the importance of partnerships, Bratt has reached out to state and city emergency management agencies, the University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP), the city's police and fire departments, and more, to find ways to collaborate. "We want to understand shared gaps in capabilities, identify institutional strengths, and develop a program that accounts for the larger community's ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters. To that end, we are sharing information with our partners, conducting joint training and exercises, and building capabilities to address the needs in the community," Bratt says.

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When Markman became UMB's first Continuity of Operations Program (COOP) manager, one of her first priorities was to meet with her counterpart at UMCP, who also had just started. "We can leverage each other's knowledge, experience, and expertise and both of us will be more efficient and timely," Bratt says. "So, when College Park has an emergency or needs our support, we can help

them and the same is true the other way around. The priority is collaboration, resource sharing, and capability development."

Because as he said at the September Q&A with Police Chief Alice Cary, MS, "the worst time to exchange your business card is at the scene of an incident. You should be doing that beforehand."

A former paramedic who still serves as deputy team commander on a federal medical disaster response team, Bratt says he is proud of the many UMB initiatives that have taken shape since his arrival.



JONATHAN BRATT: "THE PRIORITY IS COLLABORATION, RESOURCE SHARING, AND CAPABILITY DEVELOPMENT."

- **Stop the Bleed program.** The Office of Emergency Management has partnered with the University of Maryland Shock Trauma Center to deliver training to University members and neighbors on how to treat bleeding as a result of a mass shooting. Bratt points out this program was part of the Hartford Consensus Report that grew out of the Newtown, Conn., school shooting. The statewide training initiative is being championed by Habeeba Park, MD, and her team at Shock Trauma. In addition to the training, the University will be installing bleeding control kits around campus, red bags that contain bandages, tourniquets, and more.
- **Internal door locks in classrooms and large meeting spaces.** Another part of the Hartford Consensus Report recommends the installation of devices that allow individuals to secure rooms during an active shooter situation but also gives access to law enforcement and those authorized to open that door. The Office of Emergency Management is working

with Facilities Management, the UMB Police Department, the Fire Marshal's Office, and each school to identify vulnerable areas and install access control devices.

- **Major upgrade to our mass notification system.** This upgrade to UMB Alerts is being rolled out this summer. The upgrade will provide officials the added ability to better target messages as well as empower individuals to self-subscribe for alerts regarding their UMB building, school, and other areas. These enhancements will streamline communications, enable first responders to more rapidly send messages, and reduce alarm fatigue from recipients receiving alerts too frequently.
- **International emergencies workshop.** UMB has a large contingent of faculty, staff, and students who are overseas. The Office of Emergency Management is working through risk assessments and procedures for how the University deals with emergencies that involve its constituents overseas. A June workshop will start the discussion, Bratt says, with participants representing a longitudinal cross-section of the campus as well as input from the UMB Center for Global Education Initiatives.
- **Revitalizing Continuity of Operations.** In addition to Markman as the first COOP manager, the Office of Emergency Management will lay the foundation to ensure mission-critical departments and functions have viable strategies for overcoming interruptions to operations. The program will create a comprehensive approach for streamlining coordination, enhancing communication, and improving interdepartmental collaboration during an emergency.

In closing, Bratt says he has gained a new respect for UMB and its people in his first 11 months.

"This institution is unique in higher education in that our mission extends beyond that of a traditional university. We serve the community in a variety of important ways including education, critical infrastructure, the provision of health care, support to the University of Maryland Medical Center, and countless other programs that impact the daily lives of those living in Maryland and around the world," he says. "It makes the job a lot more complex, but it also makes it a lot more interesting and fulfilling. With the great team we have built, we are looking forward to the challenge."

— Chris Zang

# COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS & CULTURE

MAY 2019



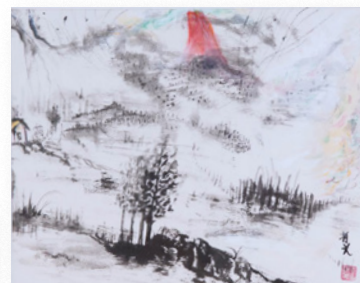
## FIRST LADY EXHIBITS ART AT HS/HSL

Maryland's First Lady Yumi Hogan shared her art exhibit "Nature's Spring Sonata" with the UMB community from March 18 to April 18. The display at the Health Sciences and Human Services Library (HS/HSL) included many works by the First Lady, an accomplished artist who is an adjunct professor at Maryland Institute College of Art and honorary chair of UMB's Council for the Arts & Culture.

Mrs. Hogan's works, made with sumi ink and hanji paper, display interpretations of her life, memories, and visually reflect those connections with nature. On March 25, UMB President Jay A. Perman, MD, hosted a reception in HS/HSL's Weise Gallery to honor Mrs. Hogan and her artwork.

All proceeds from the sale of the art benefited the Yumi C.A.R.E.S. (Children's Art for Recovery, Empowerment, and Strength) Foundation, which provides an art therapy program for children facing health challenges at the University of Maryland Children's Hospital. The vision for this pioneering program was conceived by Mrs. Hogan during her time at the University of Maryland Medical Center while her husband, Gov. Larry Hogan, was treated for non-Hodgkin lymphoma.

— Laura Lee



# CAMPUSCLIMATE

MAY 2019

## FORUMS ENHANCE SURVEY RESULTS

UMB assessed its campus climate to determine how the University can continue to create, affirm, and strengthen an inclusive campus community. The results of the student campus climate survey distributed to all students in February 2018 are being disseminated, in part through a series of presentations to groups of students and members of the faculty and staff.

Input from the sessions, held on Feb. 25 and March 25, will be shared with a campus climate task force.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT, COURTNEY JONES CARNEY PRESENTS THE RESULTS OF UMB'S CAMPUS CLIMATE SURVEY FOR DIVERSITY TO AN ATTENTIVE AUDIENCE. THEN ATTENDEES BROKE INTO GROUPS WHERE THE LIKES OF TASHARA BAILEY DISCUSSED THE FINDINGS OF THE SURVEY.

President Jay A. Perman, MD, told the attendees that UMB is committed to student success and inclusive excellence. In a message to two different groups that gathered on March 25, he said: "We're committed to better understanding the student experience — especially as it relates to diversity — so that we can improve it. Our goal is to ensure that every member of our community feels included and respected and able to succeed."

The three sessions, held at the SMC Campus Center, drew 135 attendees. From the 6,118 recipients of the survey, there was a 24 percent response rate. In regard to the general campus climate for diversity, 64 percent said, "It is easy to find people on campus who understand me"; 92 percent said, "I feel safe at this school."

"We're doing well," said Courtney Jones Carney, MBA, director of the Office of Interprofessional Student Learning and Service Initiatives, referring to the 92 percent result. But she noted, "We need to pay just as much if not more attention to the 8 percent who seemed to have a distinctly different experience."

Other results included:

- 83 percent of students believe that school leaders are visibly committed to fostering respect for diversity on campus.
- 80 percent believe that diversity is fully embraced within the campus culture.
- 74 percent believe that all students feel welcome and supported at UMB, regardless of identity.

"Once you understand it, you can impact it," said Patty Alvarez, PhD, assistant vice president of student affairs, who led the discussions with Jones Carney. Flavius Lilly, PhD, MA, MPH, associate vice president of academic affairs and student affairs and senior associate dean of the Graduate School, played a key role in analyzing the survey data and co-presented on Feb. 25.

During the sessions, attendees were able to contribute written input toward next steps. Others can complete [a form online](#).

Of the students whose ideas were shared by nearly a third or more of the respondents:

- 44.3 percent recommended having more multicultural events.
- 32.9 percent recommended recruiting more individuals from minority groups for leadership, faculty, and staff positions.
- 31 percent recommended incorporating issues of diversity and cross-cultural competence more effectively into the curriculum.

One striking finding involved bystander behaviors. Some 13.1 percent of respondents said that, since the beginning of the school year, they had observed "someone on campus being shunned, ignored, intimidated, or treated in an offensive, hostile manner."

"Bystander intervention" will need to be part of UMB's action plan, Alvarez told the group.

— Patricia Fanning

Read the *results*. See a *video* of the March 25 session.