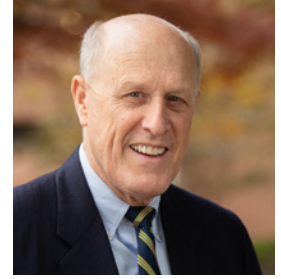


# the PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

NOVEMBER 2020



## GIVING THANKS

In early March, I shared a letter about the first cases of coronavirus in Maryland, and by March 12 we had canceled in-person activities at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB). We moved rapidly from in-person didactic classes to online, limited research to just those in a critical phase, adjusted field and clinical placements, and asked those who could to telework. The amount of uncertainty was incredible. Here we are eight months later, having had our first virtual graduations, our first virtual Founders Week Gala, and too many Zoom/Webex meetings to count. As we celebrate Thanksgiving this month, I count the UMB community high on the list of things for which I am thankful.

I'm thankful for those **who chart a path forward for UMB.** The Crisis Management Advisory Group has met consistently — sometimes more than once a day — to advise UMB. The Recovery Task Force has guided UMB's efforts to restore our maximum capacity to teach, research, care, serve, and operate by taking incremental steps through near-, mid-, and long-term recovery. Folks across 12 focus areas that span all University functions, including appropriate school, department, and shared governance representatives, have met regularly and shared recommendations so that we can reposition UMB for a better future post-COVID-19.

I'm thankful for those **who share their expertise.** Two School of Medicine faculty members, Dr. Wilbur Chen and Dr. David Marcozzi, were asked by Gov. Larry Hogan to serve on his Coronavirus Response Team. Dr. Kathleen Neuzil, director of the school's Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, is a co-director of the COVID-19 Prevention Trials Network, which brings together experts from National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)-supported clinical research networks to fight COVID-19. In mid-March, UMB Center for Health and Homeland Security team members began working 12-hour shifts, seven days a week at emergency operations centers across the state and became a vital component of Maryland's pandemic response and recovery. Faculty and researchers at the Francis King Carey School of Law are sharing expertise in multiple areas, including providing assistance to Maryland state and local public health officials on issues related

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*"I'm thankful that we are UMB. We are connecting with each other, offering support and resources, and finding creative ways to teach, work, and study."*

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to emergency public health powers during the COVID-19 crisis. And I am grateful to countless others who are not just weathering the pandemic, but also leading the way through it.

I'm thankful for those who **search for vaccines and treatments for COVID-19.** In May, School of Medicine researchers became the first in the United States to begin testing experimental COVID-19 vaccine candidates developed by Pfizer and BioNTech. We're now also in a Phase 3 clinical trial of an investigational COVID-19 vaccine co-developed by scientists at Moderna, Inc., and NIAID, part of the National Institutes of Health. Recently, a national consortium of researchers led by the School of Medicine found that hospitalized COVID-19 patients who were taking a daily low-dose aspirin to protect against cardiovascular disease had a significantly lower risk of complications and death compared to those who were not taking aspirin.

I'm thankful for **those on the front lines.** UMB's dedicated health care workers, first responders, and other essential employees are risking their lives every day in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. They are treating patients, connecting those in need with resources, and reminding folks to take care of their mental health. And police and public safety, vet services,

parking and transportation, custodial services, facilities and operations, payroll, procurement, and many more are keeping UMB running.

I'm thankful for **educators who have found a way to teach and students who have risen to the challenge.** Across UMB's seven schools, instructors have had to develop innovative solutions at an incredible pace. The School of Medicine is using virtual learning modules and assessments, remote standardized patient interactions, and telehealth electives. The School of Social Work's Office of Field Education changed from an in-person field experience to completely online for almost 900 MSW students, 350 agencies, 1,500 field instructors and task supervisors, and 65 liaisons within two weeks of UMB canceling in-person activities. The School of Nursing approved an early-exit option for students who wanted to begin working and bolster the nursing workforce during the pandemic. For this semester, the School of Pharmacy transformed orientation into a

*Continued on p. 2*

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series of web-based presentations to help safeguard the health of faculty and students alike.

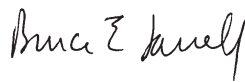
I'm thankful for **those who think of and give to others**. So many members of the community donated to the Student Emergency Fund and the Food for Our Front Lines campaign. The Staff Senate and Office of Community Engagement's annual drives have gone virtual to help meet the needs of our West Baltimore community. They are working closely with partner organizations to assess changing needs and determine logistical planning for the delivery of items. Donation links (aka "virtual blue bins") have been created, with links to each drive found at the Staff Senate's **Community Outreach Fund** webpage. The Community Engagement Center continues to offer services and connect in ways that keep folks healthy and safe. I'm thankful for every member of the UMB community who cares for their

fellow colleagues by wearing masks, maintaining physical distance, and washing their hands.

Most of all, I'm thankful that **we are UMB**. We are connecting with each other, offering support and resources, and finding creative ways to teach, work, and study. We are living our core values and fulfilling our mission to improve the human condition and serve the public good.

We are in this together, and for that, I give thanks.

Sincerely,



Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS  
PRESIDENT



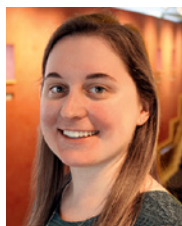
PHOTO BY MATTHEW D'AGOSTINO

RESEARCHERS AND STAFF AT THE CENTER FOR VACCINE DEVELOPMENT AND GLOBAL HEALTH ARE WORKING DILIGENTLY ON COVID-19 CLINICAL TRIALS.

# LAURELS

NOVEMBER 2020

## UNIVERSITYWIDE



EMILY GORMAN

**Emily Gorman, MLIS, AHIP**, research, education, and outreach librarian, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, received a second-place research award for her poster “Comparing Three Models for Librarian Office Hours in a School of Pharmacy,” presented at the 2020 Medical Library Association meeting.



ANGELA HALL

**Angela Hall, MBA**, director, Office of Parking and Transportation Services, was named UMB’s June Employee of the Month for working to

refund students’ fees, address cashier needs, and help make important decisions affecting parkers during the COVID-19 pandemic.



ERIN LATTA

**Erin Latta**, national DOCLINE coordinator, Network of the National Library of Medicine, Southeastern Atlantic Region, Health Sciences

and Human Services Library, received the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Medical Library Association 2020 Award for Outstanding Health Sciences Library Paraprofessional.



TONY NGUYEN

**Tony Nguyen, MLIS, AHIP**, executive director, Network of the National Library of Medicine, Southeastern Atlantic Region, Health Sciences and Human

Services Library, received the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Medical Library Association 2020 Marguerite Abel Service Recognition Award.

**Lauren Wheeler, MSLIS**, information services librarian, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, served as a panelist for the session “Health Literacy and Interprofessionalism: Educating Professional Student Teams in Health Literacy” at the Health Literacy in Action/Health Literacy Annual Research Conference in October.

**Tara Wink, MLS**, historical collections librarian, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, served as a moderator for the “Reopening the Archives” session at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference.

## SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY



MEENAKSHI A. CHELLAIAH

**Meenakshi A. Chellaiah, PhD**, professor, Department of Oncology and Diagnostic Sciences, co-authored “Osteoclast Cytoskeleton,

Podosome, Motility, Attachment, and Signaling By Receptors,” which

was published in the *Encyclopedia of Bone Biology*, and “Identification of Sequence-Specific Interactions of the CD44-Intracellular Domain with RUNX2 in the Transcription of Matrix Metalloprotease-9 in Human Prostate Cancer Cells,” which was published in *Cancer Drug Resistance*.



MAN-KYO CHUNG

**Man-Kyo Chung, DMD, PhD**, professor, Department of Neural and Pain Sciences, received an eight-year, \$8 million grant from the National Institute of

Dental and Craniofacial Research for “Trigeminal Nociceptors: Neural Intersection of Chronic Pain and Alveolar Bone Remodeling.”

**Ohannes Melemedjian, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Neural and Pain Sciences, received a four-year, \$1.5 million grant from the National Cancer Institute for “Identification of Novel Targets for the Treatment of Chemotherapy-Induced Painful Peripheral Neuropathy,” and a four-year, \$1.5 million grant from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke for “Validating ASCT2 for the Treatment of Chronic Postsurgical Pain.”



RICHARD TRAUB

**Richard Traub, PhD**, professor, and **Ohannes Melemedjian, PhD**, assistant professor, both from the Department of Neural and Pain Sciences, received

a four-year, \$3 million grant from

LAURELS ARE SUBMITTED BY THE COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENTS OF THE SCHOOLS AS WELL AS BY REPRESENTATIVES IN VARIOUS UNIVERSITYWIDE OFFICES. THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ERRORS IN THESE SELF-SUBMITTED LAURELS.

# LAURELS

NOVEMBER 2020

the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research for “Novel Target Identification for Treatment of Chronic Overlapping Pain Using Multimodal Brain Imaging.”



SILVIA MONTANER

**Silvia Montaner, PhD, MPH**, professor, Department of Oncology and Diagnostic Sciences, received a National Institutes of Health

administrative supplement for the National Eye Institute grant “Promotion of Retinal Vascular Hyperpermeability and Macular Edema by ANGPTL4.”



MARK A. REYNOLDS



HANA E SAITO



RADI MASRI



THOMAS W. OATES

The following contributed to the book *Risk Factors for Peri-Implant Diseases*:

**Mark A. Reynolds, DDS, PhD, MA**, professor and dean; **Hanae Saito, DDS, MS**, clinical associate professor; **Radi Masri, DDS, MS, PhD**, professor; **Harlan J. Shiau, DDS**,

**DMedSc**, clinical associate professor; **Thomas W. Oates, DMD, PhD**, professor; **Anmar A. Kensara, BDS, MS**, doctoral student; **Alyssa Dierkes, DDS**, resident; and **Katherine Ni, DMD**, resident.

## GRADUATE SCHOOL

The UMB/Anne Arundel Community College Collaborative Physician Assistant program Class of 2020 achieved a 100 percent first-time pass rate for the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam.



JAMES F. CAWLEY



SHANI FLEMING



KAREN L. GORDES



GERALD KAYINGO



VIOLET KULO

Members of the Physician Assistant Leadership and Learning Academy — **James F. Cawley, MPH, PA-C**; **Shani Fleming, MS, MPH, PA-C**; **Karen L. Gordes, PhD, PT, DSc**; **Gerald Kayingo,**

**PhD, MMSc, PA-C**; and **Violet Kulo, MS, EdD** — conducted the mixed-methods research project “An Exploration into the PA Entry-Level Doctoral Degree: A Report to PAEA Board of Directors” and submitted it to the Physician Assistant Education Association.

## CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW



CHAZ ARNETT

**Chaz Arnett, JD**, associate professor, was featured as an expert in the opening of a short film exploring the power of using cellphones to record police abuse for *The Verge* project “Capturing the Police.”



TAUNYA BANKS

**Taunya Banks, JD**, professor, published the chapter “Elizabeth Key, Seventeenth Century Virginia (US)” in the book *As if She Were Free: A*

*Collective Biography of Women and Emancipation in the Americas*.



DOUG COLBERT

**Doug Colbert, JD**, professor, co-authored “Bail Injustice in the Time of COVID-19,” which was published in *The Baltimore Sun* on Sept. 7.

# LAURELS

NOVEMBER 2020



DEBORAH EISENBERG



ANASTASIA SMITH

**Deborah Eisenberg, JD**, associate dean for academic affairs and director, Center for Dispute Resolution (C-DRUM), and **Anastasia Smith, JD**, director of special projects, C-DRUM, co-authored “Restorative Practices in Baltimore City Schools: Research Updates and Implementation Guide” in collaboration with the Open Society Institute-Baltimore.

**Leigh Goodmark, JD**, professor and co-director, Clinical Law Program, was quoted in “After Six Months on Rikers, a Nurse Stands Accused of Murder in a Case She Says Was Self-Defense,” which was published on Gothamist.com on Sept. 9.



MICHAEL GREENBERGER

**Michael Greenberger, JD**, professor and director, Center for Health and Homeland Security, was quoted in “The Next Subprime Crisis Could Be in Food,” which was published in *The Financial Times* on Sept. 13.



KATHLEEN HOKE

**Kathleen Hoke, JD**, professor, presented “To Open or Not to Open: Deciding How to Educate Children During a Pandemic”

at the Network for Public Health Law’s Virtual Summit: COVID-19 Response and Recovery on Sept. 17.



SEEMA KAKADE

**Seema Kakade, JD**, associate professor, presented on the subject of environmental justice to Exelon Corporation’s in-house counsel Sept. 16.



PAULA MONOPOLI

**Paula Monopoli, JD**, professor and director, Women, Leadership, and Equality Program, gave a keynote speech Sept. 24 about the 19th Amendment as

part of the Constitution Day Lecture, a collaboration between the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies at Grand Valley State University and the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation.



ROBERT PERCIVAL

**Robert Percival, JD**, professor and director, Environmental Law Program, was quoted in “An Extra Trump Supreme Court Justice May Help Cement His

Environmental Rollbacks,” which was published in *The Washington Post* on Sept. 21.



MICHAEL PINARD

**Michael Pinard, JD**, professor and co-director, Clinical Law Program, participated in the panel “In Conversation with D. Watkins” at the Jane Harrison Speaker Series on the Importance of Housing on Sept. 23.



KAREN ROTHENBERG

**Karen Rothenberg, JD**, professor emeritus, appeared on WYPR Radio’s *On the Record* show Oct. 5 to discuss her memories of the late Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.



MATIANGAI SIRLEAF

**Matiangai Sirleaf, JD**, professor, presented “Africa, COVID-19 and Responsibility” at a guest lecture series sponsored by the Center for African Studies at the University of Florida.



RENA STEINZOR

**Rena Steinzor, JD**, professor, wrote “The Pandemic’s Toll on Science,” which was published in *The Regulatory Review* on Sept. 14.

# LAURELS

NOVEMBER 2020



MARLEY WEISS

**Marley Weiss, JD**, professor, presented “Coming Storms of Disruptive Change: Trade, Labor, Technology, and Collective Worker Representation”

at the New Waves of Worker Empowerment: Labor and Technology in the 21st Century conference at Saint Louis University on Sept. 18.

## SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

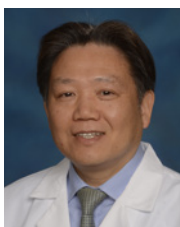
The following is a select list. For all the SOM laurels, visit [www.somnews.umaryland.edu](http://www.somnews.umaryland.edu).



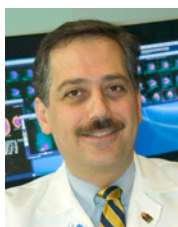
LAURA PIMENTEL

The following members of the Department of Emergency Medicine were honored June 11 during the graduation ceremony for senior residents

and fellows: **Megan P. Donohue, MD**, resident, Shira Kansas, MD, Outstanding Professionalism Award; **Cheyenne Falat, MD**, resident, Robert J. Doherty, MD, Exemplary Teaching Resident Award; **Naillid Felipe, MD, MPH**, resident, Barry S. Gold, MD, Memorial Award; **Laura Pimentel, MD, CPME**, clinical professor, inaugural Betty Tso Legacy Award; and **Sarah Dubbs, MD**; **David Gatz, MD**; **Angela Smedley, MD**; **Mimi Lu, MD**; and **Gentry Wilkerson, MD**, faculty teaching awards.



WENGEN CHEN



VASKEN DILSIZIAN

**Wengen Chen, MD, PhD**, and **Vasken Dilsizian, MD**, both professors in the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, wrote “Molecular Imaging of Amyloid Deposits for Early Diagnosis of Cardiac Amyloidosis and Monitoring Treatment Response,” which was published in the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*.



KAY CONNORS

**Kay Connors, LCSW-C**, instructor, Department of Psychiatry, led two presentations on COVID-19 coping techniques and resources, “Not All

Wounds Are Visible: A Community Conversation About Mental Health and COVID-19,” and “Parent Resources During COVID Outbreak and Recovery.”



ISABEL L. JACKSON

**Isabel L. Jackson, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, co-authored “Down-Regulation of miR-23a-3p Mediates Irradiation-

Induced Neuronal Apoptosis,” which was published in the *International Journal of Molecular Sciences*.



ALY KWON

**Aly Kwon, MS**, regulatory affairs specialist, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, was named UMB’s May Employee of the Month for

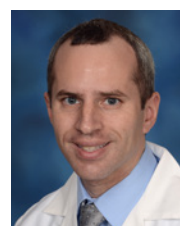
stepping forward to take on the vital work of overseeing the Vaccine and Treatment Evaluation Unit contract with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases when a colleague resigned.



DAVID MARCOZZI

**David Marcozzi, MD**, associate professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, wrote “Governor’s COVID-19 Task Force

Member: Don’t Let Reopenings Fool You and Stop Protecting Against the Spread,” which was published in *The Baltimore Sun* on June 18.



BRIAN M. POLSTER

**Brian M. Polster, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Anesthesiology, and co-investigators were awarded a five-year, \$2.9 million R01

grant from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke for “Reprogramming Proinflammatory Microglia by Restoring Mitochondrial Function.”

# LAURELS

NOVEMBER 2020



FEYRUZ RASSOOL

**Feyruz Rassool, PhD**, professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, received a European patent for “Therapy Regimen and Methods to

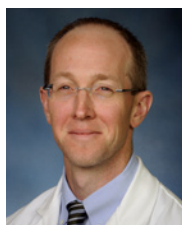
Sensitize Cancer Cells Treated with Epigenetic Therapy to PARP Inhibitors to Ovarian Cancer.”



GIOVANNINO SILVESTRI

**Giovannino Silvestri, PhD, MS**, research associate, Institute of Human Virology, Division of Infectious Agents and Cancer, was the second author

of “PI3K $\delta$  Inhibition as a Potential Therapeutic Target in COVID-19,” which was published in *Frontiers in Immunology*.



MICHAEL WINTERS

**Michael Winters, MD**, professor and vice chair of clinical and administrative affairs, Department of Emergency Medicine, led the

department’s seventh annual Critical Care Symposium as a livestream June 24. More than 2,500 people from 70 countries registered to watch the conference.

## SCHOOL OF NURSING

**UMSON’s Pi Chapter** of the Sigma international nursing honor society recognized Anne Arundel Medical Center as a member organization during a chartering ceremony Sept. 21, changing the chapter’s name to Pi at-Large Chapter.



RACHEL BLANKSTEIN BREMAN

**Rachel Blankstein Breman, PhD ’18, MPH, RN**, assistant professor, co-authored “Pregnant Women’s Reports of the Impact of COVID-19 on

Pregnancy, Prenatal Care, and Infant Feeding Plans,” which was published in *MCN: The American Journal of Maternal/Child Nursing*.

**Nancy Bolan, PhD, MPH, FNP, CNM**, assistant professor and director, Office of Global Health, wrote “Leveraging Global Fund Investments for Health Systems Strengthening: A Qualitative Case Study on Morocco’s Concept Note Development,” which was published in the *Eastern Mediterranean Health Journal*.



ALLISON D. DAVIS

**Allison D. Davis, PhD ’06, MS ’03, BSN ’02, RN**, assistant professor, was appointed director of the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program’s Community/

Public Health Nursing specialty.



KATIE MCELROY

**Katie McElroy, PhD ’16, MS ’10, BSN ’98, RN**, assistant professor, was appointed to the Baltimore County Board of Health, which develops policies related to health

services in the county and investigates diseases, epidemics, and nuisances affecting public health.



HASSAN MCLAIN

Student **Hassan McLain** received a \$500 scholarship to help overcome hardships linked to COVID-19 from the Foundation for Academic Nursing, the

philanthropic arm of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, through its COVID-19 Nursing Student Support Fund.



MICHELLE MOULTON

**Michelle Moulton, DNP ’19, MS ’09, RN, PCCN-K, CHSE**, assistant professor, was named a UMB Interprofessional Education (IPE) Faculty Scholar.

This program supports faculty from UMB professional schools in expanding their knowledge and expertise related to providing IPE to advance the University’s mission.

# LAURELS

NOVEMBER 2020



VERONICA P.S.  
NJIE-CARR

**Veronica P.S. Njie-Carr, PhD, RN, ACNS-BC, FWACN**, associate professor, and **Shijun Zhu, DrE, MS**, associate professor and statistician, were among the co-authors of “Evaluation of a Technology-Enhanced Intervention for Older Women with HIV Infection: A Proof of Concept Study,” which was published in *AIDS Care*.



SHIJUN ZHU



KARA PETROSKY

**Kara Petrosky, MS**, simulation (standardized) training specialist, passed the Society for Simulation in Healthcare’s Certified Healthcare Simulation

Educator exam.



JEMIMA PIERRE-  
JACQUES

Alumna **Jemima Pierre-Jacques, DNP ’20, PMHNP, RN**, and **Kristen Rawlett, PhD ’14, FNP-BC, FAANP**, assistant professor, were awarded the Outstanding Poster Award at the WellSpan Health Collaborative Evidence-Based Practice



KRISTEN RAWLETT

and Nursing Research Conference for “Implementation of the Primary Care PTSD Screen for DSM-5 (PC-PTSD-5) Tool at an Adult Substance Use Disorder Clinic.”



ZAHRA RAHMATY

PhD student **Zahra Rahmaty, MSN, RN**, received a 2020 Pi at-Large Chapter Doctoral Student Grant of \$1,500 for her project “Caregiver Feeding Practices and Childhood Obesity.”



BARBARA RESNICK

**Barbara Resnick, PhD ’96, RN, CRNP, FAANP, FAAN**, professor, Sonya Ziporkin Gershowitz Chair in Gerontology, and co-director, Biology and Behavior Across

the Lifespan Organized Research Center, wrote “COVID-19 Lessons Learned from the Voices of Our Geriatric Nurses: Leadership, Resilience, and Heroism,” which was published in *Geriatric Nursing*.



KARIN RUSS

**Karin Russ, MS ’09, BSN ’89, RN**, clinical instructor, Universities at Shady Grove (USG), was named USG’s public health official, a new position that will support

campus needs related to COVID-19 and be the main point of contact with county and state health officials and university partners.

## SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

**Joga Gobburu, PhD**, professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, and director, Center for Translational Medicine, received a one-year, \$9,305 contract from the University of Pittsburgh for “ETCTM ePK Resource Laboratory at Pittsburgh.”



MATHANGI  
GOPALAKRISHNAN

**Mathangi Gopalakrishnan, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, received a two-year, \$155,000 contract

from Dr. Reddy’s Laboratories for “Proposal for DFN-15 (Celecoxib Oral Solution) MIDD-II,” and a two-year, \$105,000 contract from West Therapeutic Development for “Proposal for Ketamine Nasal Spray — MIDD Approach.”



VIJAY IVATURI

**Vijay Ivaturi, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, received a one-year, \$12,550 contract from Johns Hopkins

University for “Preclinical Modeling to Study Tuberculous Meningitis.”

Student **Marlene Mahipat** received an AARP Maryland Recognition Award.

**Joey Mattingly, PharmD, MBA, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, was



# LAURELS

NOVEMBER 2020

appointed to the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute's Advisory Panel on Clinical Effectiveness and Decision Science.



JOEY MATTINGLY



SARAH MICHEL

**Sarah Michel, PhD**, professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, and associate dean for graduate programs received a four-year, \$1,396,138 grant from the National Institutes of Health for "The Role of Zinc Fingers in H2S Signaling."



EBERE ONUKWUGHU

**Ebere Onukwughu, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, received a three-year, \$330,379 contract from BeiGene for "Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma Healthcare Resource Utilization and Costs of Care: A SEER-Medicare Analysis."



RYAN PEARSON

**Ryan Pearson, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a one-year, \$68,253 contract from Maryland Industrial Partnerships for "Target Site Distribution Kinetics of EK101."

**Hongbing Wang, PhD**, professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a two-year, \$405,563 grant from the National Institutes of Health for "Human CYP2B6 in Alcohol Metabolism and Alcoholic Liver Injury."



HONGBING WANG

## SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



RICHARD P. BARTH

**Richard P. Barth, PhD, MSW**, professor and former dean, is among the co-authors of "Victimized by the State: Police Violence and Associations with Public Perceptions of the Police," which was published in the *Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research*.



JAIH CRADDOCK

**Jaih Craddock, PhD, MSW, MA**, assistant professor, wrote "Sexual Health Communication Among Young Black Women and their Social Network Members," which was published in the *Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research*.

**Jodi Jacobson Frey, PhD, MSW**, professor, was awarded a five-year grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

for "Preventing Suicide in Michigan Men (PRiSMM)," a multicomponent collaboration led by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.



JODI JACOBSON FREY



LAURIE GRAHAM

**Laurie Graham, PhD, MSW**, assistant professor, co-authored "Explanatory Theories of Intimate Partner Homicide Perpetration: A Systematic Review," which was published in *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse*.



BETHANY LEE

**Bethany Lee, PhD, MSW**, professor; **Rochon Steward, MSW**, program manager; and PhD student **Danielle Phillips** are among the co-authors of "Equipping TFC Parents as Treatment Providers: Findings from Expert Interviews," which was published in the *Journal of Child and Family Studies*.



JENNIFER LOWTHER

**Jennifer Lowther, LCSW-C**, clinical and quality initiatives director, The Institute for Innovation and Implementation, was appointed to the American

# LAURELS

NOVEMBER 2020

Academy of Pediatrics Behavioral/Mental Health and Adolescent Health Subcommittees for its grant from the Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration's Maternal and Child Health Bureau.



JUDY POSTMUS

**Judy Postmus, PhD, MSW**, dean and professor, co-edited a special issue of the *Journal of Family Violence* focused on intimate partner stalking.

**Corey Shdaimah, PhD, LLM**, the Daniel Thursz Distinguished Professor of Social Justice, and **Debbie Gioia, PhD, MSSW**, associate professor, were

chosen as UMB Center for Global Engagement GLOBALtime Teaching Fellows. This academic year's cohort will focus on collaborative online learning.



COREY SHDAIMAH



MELISSA SMITH

**Melissa Smith, PhD, MSSW**, associate professor, co-authored "Is It Safe? Community Integration for Individuals with Serious Mental Illnesses," which was published in *Research on Social Work Practice*.



MICHELLE ZABEL

**Michelle Zabel, MSS**, assistant dean and director, The Institute for Innovation and Implementation, was appointed to the American Academy of Pediatrics

National Advisory Group for its grant from the Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration's Maternal and Child Health Bureau.

## THE UMBRELLA GROUP

UMB Roundtable on Empowerment in Leadership and Leveraging Aspirations

Empowering Women to Succeed

## VIRTUAL *Speaker Series*



### ANN COMPTON

Retired ABC News White House Correspondent

The UMBrella Group welcomes Ann Compton, who was ABC News White House correspondent from 1974 to 2014. A highly respected journalist, Compton offers a historical perspective on the presidency, the biggest stories of our time, and today's headline-making events.

**NOV. 10, 2020 | NOON TO 1:30 P.M.**

*Register to attend at [umaryland.edu/umbrella](http://umaryland.edu/umbrella)*

# FOUNDERSWEEK

NOVEMBER 2020

## VIRTUAL EVENTS HIGHLIGHT ANNUAL CELEBRATION

The University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) moved its Founders Week events online this year, highlighted by its annual Gala, which was titled *A Night of Stars* and served as a shining example of creativity and collaboration.

Streamed on YouTube, the Gala featured a mix of fun and philanthropy Oct. 10. The Saturday night stars included Broadway performers, a chef, a mixologist, UMB students, and award winners from the University's six professional schools and interdisciplinary Graduate School.

Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, presiding over his first Gala as UMB's president, was joined by emcee Denise Koch of WJZ-TV for the one-hour, 15-minute event. Jarrell noted the uniqueness of the event as he and Koch stood in front of a backdrop photo of the Hippodrome Theatre, where the Gala originally was scheduled to be held.

"This Gala is a celebration of our past, of the way we are now, and of the way we want to be in the future, and I'm just grateful every year to see how many donors support UMB. But it's especially meaningful this year because of the pandemic," Jarrell said.

"UMB is going the extra mile in terms of COVID-19. Our health care professionals are working overtime. Our researchers are looking for new cures. Our staff members, our social workers, and our legal experts are contributing to the fight. I'm optimistic that we'll find great medical and social cures for this disease.

"This is what UMB is all about. We rise to the occasion, and we take care of business. This is a resilient institution."

Jarrell noted that the virtual event was the "safest way possible" to celebrate during the pandemic. He also offered appreciation to the donors who've pushed the Catalyst Campaign fundraising initiative past \$575 million, more than 75 percent of the \$750 million goal. The Gala also featured fundraising appeals and five raffles, all of which combined to raise over \$200,000.

The University's David J. Ramsay Entrepreneur of the Year (Joseph R. Scalea, MD '07), Researcher of the Year (Jay S. Magaziner, PhD, MSHyg), Educator of the Year (Russell A. McClain, JD '95), and Public Servant of the Year (Maureen A. Sweeney, JD) were honored in a six-minute video, and Catalysts

for Excellence representing UMB's six professional schools were recognized for their philanthropic efforts.

The UMB Foundation gave its Distinguished Service Award to longtime benefactors Marco and Debbie Chacón for their continuing support of UMB and in particular the efforts of the Alicia and Yaya Foundation. Jarrell thanked all the award winners for their educational and philanthropic efforts and called his first Founders Week Gala as UMB president one to remember.



DR. JARRELL PRESIDED OVER HIS FIRST FOUNDERS WEEK GALA AS UMB PRESIDENT.

"I will remember how we were able to be flexible and pivot from an in-person Gala to a virtual one like this," Jarrell said. "I'll remember the incredible generosity and support you've shown to UMB through your donations tonight, and I think the message is that people remain so supportive of UMB in spite of all the difficulty surrounding us. And so I hope that you all stay safe and well at home, so that we might be able to party in person next year."

### *Read more about the Gala.*

The pandemic forced the cancellation of two Founders Week staples, the Staff Luncheon and the Student Cookout, but the Researcher of the Year and David J. Ramsay Entrepreneur of the Year presentations were delivered virtually.

On Oct. 12, Magaziner presented "Hip Fracture Recovery: Past Research and Directions for Future Research and Practice." Magaziner, professor and chair of the School of Medicine's (SOM) Department of Epidemiology and Public Health and a

*Continued from previous page*

leading scholar on the epidemiology of aging, had a message for those who have suffered a hip fracture: Don't lose hope.

"Hip fracture is not necessarily the beginning of the end," because many people do survive, said Magaziner, whose life's work has been to study how to improve functions and outcomes for those who have suffered a hip fracture.

Magaziner gave an overview of the work of the Baltimore Hip Studies, for which he is the founder and executive director. The studies, which identify, develop, and evaluate strategies to optimize recovery from hip fracture, have enrolled more than 4,000 patients and studied mortality, functional recovery, changes in bone and muscle, and effects on caregivers and the health care system.

***Read more about this event.***

On Oct. 13, Scalea held court online with his presentation "Rejecting the Status Quo: A Vision for the Future of Transplantation." Scalea, associate professor in SOM's Department of Surgery, discussed his roles as transplant surgeon, entrepreneur, innovator, and disrupter in his mission to improve the logistics of human organ transplant tracking and shipment.

"Innovation is a term thrown around a lot, but it has a definition, and that definition is important," Scalea said. "Innovation implies that the technology created has a contribution that has not already been realized. And when those innovations are so dramatic that they displace an existing market of industry, we call that disruption."

Scalea's disruptions have been transformative since he joined the UMSOM faculty in 2016. In that span, he has built the largest combined kidney-pancreas transplant program in the United States and co-founded three startups including MediGO and MissionGO, which were a focus of his presentation and where he serves as chief medical officer.

***Read more about this event.***

— UMB Staff



PHOTOS BY MATTHEW D'AGOSTINO  
JAY MAGAZINER, LEFT, AND JOSEPH SCALEA  
DISCUSSED THEIR WORK IN THEIR RESEARCHER  
OF THE YEAR AND DAVID J. RAMSAY  
ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR PRESENTATIONS,  
RESPECTIVELY.



BROADWAY PERFORMERS  
NIKKI RENÉE DANIELS  
AND NORM LEWIS SANG  
THE CLASSIC SONG  
"UNFORGETTABLE"  
DURING THE GALA.

## 'VIRTUAL FACE TO FACE' PUTS LEGAL LENS ON KILLING OF BREONNA TAYLOR

The University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) took an unflinching look at the Breonna Taylor case Oct. 1 during a special edition of *Virtual Face to Face with Dr. Bruce Jarrell* titled "The Legal Lens of Social Justice: Breonna Taylor and Beyond."



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: MANEKA SINHA, DAVID GRAY, AND MICHAEL PINARD DISCUSSED THE BREONNA TAYLOR CASE WITH UMB PRESIDENT BRUCE JARRELL.

UMB President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, led a thoughtful discussion about the legal implications of the case, buoyed by the legal expertise of Francis King Carey School of Law faculty members David Gray, JD, PhD, Jacob A. France Professor of Law; Michael Pinard, JD, Francis & Harriet Iglehart Professor of Law and co-director, Clinical Law Program; and Maneka Sinha, JD, assistant professor.

The basic facts are well-known about the incident that happened just before 1 a.m. on March 13. Louisville police, under a knock-and-announce warrant, battered down the door and entered the apartment of Taylor, a 26-year-old emergency room technician.

They were looking for her ex-boyfriend and another man they believed used the apartment to receive packages of drugs.

Fearing a home invasion, Taylor's then-boyfriend, Kenneth Walker, says he fired one warning shot. Police fired back 32 times. They missed Walker, but Taylor was hit five times. After convening a grand jury, Kentucky Attorney General Daniel Cameron said the two officers whose bullets killed Taylor were justified in firing under state law because Walker fired at them first. A third officer was charged with three counts of wanton endangerment for recklessly firing into Taylor's apartment from outside.

Jarrell said the grand jury's decision to not criminally indict the three officers was "deeply disturbing," and vowed that he wanted to educate himself and the UMB community about the law. The conversation examined broader social issues at play as well as the substantive and procedural law, including no-knock warrants, the Fourth Amendment, and prosecutorial power, that led to Taylor's death and the lack of an indictment in her killing.

Racial disparities in the justice system figured prominently in the discussion. Sinha, a former supervising attorney for the Public Defender Service in Washington, D.C., is well aware of a double standard in dispensing justice to black and brown people.

"If one of my clients, who have been predominantly people of color, was shot at a single time and responded with the type of gunfire we saw in this case, I feel supremely confident that an indictment could have been returned with much greater charges than were in this case, and the prosecutors' choices play a role in that," she noted.

Gray agreed, saying racism is ingrained in America's criminal justice system. "It's no accident that we get these horrific disparate outcomes," he said.

Pinard asked the 400 virtual attendees to put themselves in Walker's shoes on March 13. "Imagine being asleep at midnight and all of a sudden you have three people who bust in your door" in plain clothes and with guns, he said. "When we talk about these no-knock warrants, we have to talk about the dangerous circumstances and, quite honestly, the predictable results."

Heeding Jarrell's call to determine what the UMB community can do to effect change, Gray encouraged attendees to reach out to lawmakers. "Your primary target should be your state representatives," he said.

— Laura Lee

*Watch the program at UMB News.*

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## PANEL TACKLES PANDEMIC'S DISPROPORTIONATE EFFECT ON LATINOS

Maryland's Latino population has been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic. There are many metrics to show this, but for Del. Joseline Peña-Melnyk, JD, one in particular hits close to home.

"The ZIP code in Maryland with the highest number of COVID-19 cases is 20783," says Peña-Melnyk, who represents District 21 spanning parts of Prince George's and Anne Arundel counties. "Who lives in 20783? Immigrants. Latinos. It's the towns of Hyattsville, Langley Park, Adelphi, and Chillum. And it's no surprise that black and brown people are being affected the most by COVID-19."

Peña-Melnyk discussed the challenges faced by Latinos as a panelist in the Oct. 13 virtual presentation "COVID-19 and Health Equity: Impact of the Pandemic in the Maryland Latinx Community," which was hosted by Latinos Unidos @ UMB, an affinity group of the University of Maryland, Baltimore's (UMB) Diversity Advisory Council.

The other panelists were UMB faculty members Magaly Rodriguez de Bittner, PharmD, BCPS, CDE, FAPhA, of the School of Pharmacy (SOP) and Milagritos Tapia, MD, of the School of Medicine's (SOM) Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health (CVD). Wendy Camelo Castillo, MD, MSc, PhD, of SOP was the moderator, and Sandra Quezada, MD, MS, of SOM moderated a Q&A session.

Camelo Castillo led off by saying systemic racism has prevented under-represented minorities from having opportunities for satisfactory economic, physical, and mental health, and that COVID-19 has exacerbated the problem. She said Latinos account for about one-third of COVID-19 cases in the United States and have the second-highest hospitalization rate among people of color, pointing to the makeup of the workforce.

"Essential workers are disproportionately people of color, and only about 16 percent of Hispanics are able to work from home,"

Camelo Castillo said. "They often don't have access to paid sick leave and health insurance, and there's insufficient personal protective equipment available for essential workers who are not in the health care system. Housing instability, food insecurity, and homelessness are also significant concerns, and these inequities just mirror the disparities of a prior crisis."

Rodriguez de Bittner talked about a 25-year-old immigrant from Honduras who came to a health clinic complaining of a persistent cough. She said he is living in an apartment with 12 other

men who rotate sleeping arrangements based on work shifts, with three men using the same bed at different times of the day.

"This illustrates what we've talked about with COVID-19 and the social determinants of health," she said. "Many of these patients have diabetes, hypertension, or asthma,

things that put them at high risk for COVID. They're in crowded living conditions, employed in public-facing occupations, and use public transportation."

Tapia talked about recruiting participants for CVD's COVID-19 clinic trials and making sure that when vaccines are available, they are

effective for and accepted by under-represented populations. Part of that is assuring transparency and addressing the climate of mistrust, she said, where Latinos ask why they are suddenly being asked to participate in these trials.

"We have to confront those questions and say, 'No, we're not just coming to ask you to participate, we're asking everyone to participate,'" Tapia said. "And we've been able to get out positive messages to the community that participation in these studies is so important."

— Lou Cortina

*Read more about this event.*



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: SANDRA QUEZADA, WENDY CAMELO CASTILLO, JOSELINE PEÑA-MELNYK, MAGALY RODRIGUEZ DE BITTNER, AND MILAGRITOS TAPIA.

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

NOVEMBER 2020

## UMB, COMCAST TEAM UP TO EXPAND INTERNET ACCESS IN WEST BALTIMORE

In an effort to bridge the digital divide in the city, the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) has partnered with Comcast to provide one year of free internet service to up to 1,000 families from 14 partner schools in West Baltimore.

This initiative began in June 2020 when the UMB COVID-19 Recovery Task Force's community focus area petitioned President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, to bring internet access to students and neighbors in the surrounding West Baltimore communities. Jarrell was happy to approve the funds needed to provide this essential resource to up to 1,000 families using the Comcast Internet Essentials program as a means to deliver the internet.

"It's so important that the students have an appropriate level of internet access in their homes not just for their studies, but also to maintain a sense of normalcy," said Peter Murray, PhD, vice president and chief information officer at UMB.

Jane Shaab, MBA, associate vice president for economic development and co-chair of the UMB Community COVID Recovery Task Force, agrees.

"This need was driving all of us from the start because we knew without internet access many families in our community and their children would be left out," she says. "As an educational institution,

UMB cares deeply about how people learn and what they learn, so connecting our neighbors with this vital service is a priority."

Internet Essentials from Comcast brings affordable, high-speed internet, normally priced at \$9.95 per month, to low-income households. Through this program, UMB will cover the cost of the service for 12 months. And since Comcast is offering two months of free Internet Essentials service through the end of 2020, families that were not previously signed up for that program will enjoy 14 months of internet service.

About one-third of residents in Baltimore do not have access to broadband internet in their homes. This has become particularly problematic this year because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Virtual learning has made internet access a necessity for students to stay connected to their peers and continue their education.

UMB and Comcast have identified about 600 families in need of internet access and provided a self-installation kit, which allows the families to safely set up a router without having a Comcast representative enter their home. In addition, Comcast has a direct Internet Essentials customer service line that families in this program can call if they need assistance setting up their service.

The internet service has made a difference for families. Not only do students have readily available access to their schoolwork, but their parents also gain access to telework capabilities, electronic bills, job applications, and more.

Robert Jackson, whose 8-year-old son Raquan is a student at James McHenry Elementary/Middle School, used the internet access to help his son stay connected with his teachers and even secure a new job for himself.

"Before this, I was using the hotspot on my phone or I was taking Raquan somewhere else with Wi-Fi to do his schoolwork," Jackson says. "Now that we have internet access, I was actually able to fill out a couple of job applications and I had a few interviews. Then finally, I did find a new job as the supervisor for housekeeping at FutureCare. It feels great."

— Jena Frick

*Read more about the partnership.*





# RESEARCH

NOVEMBER 2020

## UMB AWARDED \$2.3 MILLION TO FUND FOUR PROFESSORSHIPS

The University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) has received \$2.3 million in awards to fund four research professorships among three of its schools through the Maryland E-Innovation Initiative Fund (MEIF), a state program created to spur basic and applied research in scientific and technical fields at Maryland colleges and universities.

The funding can be used to pay the salaries of newly endowed department chairs, staff, and support personnel in designated scientific and technical fields of study; fund related research fellowships for graduate and undergraduate students; and purchase lab equipment and other basic infrastructure and materials.

UMB raised private funds for each chair, with the Maryland Department of Commerce approving matching grants to support the endowments.

“Attracting and retaining the most creative and innovative research minds is a powerful investment in scientific advancement and economic development in Maryland,” UMB President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, said after the Department of Commerce announced the awards Oct. 20. “At the same time, our academic environment at UMB will be enriched by the groundbreaking discoveries they will achieve.”

### **DR. PAUL AND MRS. JEAN CORCORAN ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIP**

This professorship at the School of Dentistry (SOD) will support the work of Robert K. Ernst, PhD, professor and vice chair of the Department of Microbial Pathogenesis. Ernst’s work focuses on the interplay between a bacterial pathogen and the host defense mechanism, and his research has led to the development of a diagnostic test to more rapidly identify bacteria- and fungi-caused infections. Ernst, the UMB Researcher of the Year in 2017 and Entrepreneur of the Year in 2019, is the co-founder of Pataigin, a company working to develop a method to quickly identify disease-producing agents.

### **DR. RICHARD AND KATHRYN TAYLOR PROFESSORSHIP IN NEUROLOGY**

Peter B. Crino, MD, PhD, who chairs the School of Medicine’s (SOM) Department of Neurology, was being recruited by numerous academic medical institutions, and the endowed professorship will allow the medical school to retain him. This will give Crino dedicated time to foster innovation and discovery

in the field of translational neurosciences, with a focus on new applications toward clinical use and potential commercialization to bring new intellectual capital to the state of Maryland.

### **CHARLES GORDON SMITH ENDOWED PROFESSOR FOR HIV RESEARCH**

Lishan Su, PhD, was recruited from the University of North Carolina School of Medicine to SOM’s Institute of Human Virology for this professorship. He will become director of IHV’s Division of Virology, Pathogenesis, and Cancer, and has an appointment in UMSOM’s Department of Pharmacology. Su will lead basic and applied research on HIV/AIDS and other virally linked diseases as well as vaccine development.



PHOTO BY MATTHEW D’AGOSTINO  
TWO OF THE PROFESSORSHIPS WILL SUPPORT THE WORK OF THE SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY’S ROBERT ERNST, LEFT, AND THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE’S PETER CRINO.

### **RICHARD P. BARTH PROFESSORSHIP IN CHILDREN’S SERVICES RESEARCH**

This professorship at the School of Social Work (SSW) will work to accelerate the development of new treatments for clients in Maryland and beyond; provide mentorship to the school’s graduate students, postdocs, trainees, and faculty; and increase the commercialization and establishment of new interventions, clinical technologies, and services. The professorship is named after Richard P. Barth, PhD, MSW, who stepped down as SSW dean this summer after 14 years at the helm.

— Charles Schelle

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