

the PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MAY 2022



INNOVATION, DISCOVERY, AND CELEBRATION

Innovation and discovery are core values at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB). This is a place where we imagine and explore new and improved ways to accomplish our mission through education, research, clinical care, and service.

A culture of innovation and discovery means that we promote ingenuity. We think about what we *can* do with creative ideas and talented people. Well before much of the working world moved to Zoom and Webex meetings, UMB was using technology to reach underserved populations needing treatment for opioid use disorder.

In 2020 alone, more than 92,000 people died due to drug overdoses — and rural regions of the country are disproportionately impacted by the opioid epidemic. To help meet a critical need for health care, researchers from our School of Medicine reconfigured a recreational vehicle as a telemedicine mobile treatment unit and set out to evaluate and treat patients with opioid use disorder on the Eastern Shore. The first-of-its-kind mobile telemedicine unit was staffed with a substance abuse counselor, a nurse, a peer recovery specialist, and technology to connect to a physician via secure videoconferencing. The approach works — and is just one example of UMB's ingenuity and focus on innovation and discovery.

Another example comes from the School of Dentistry's Man-Kyo Chung, DMD, PhD, professor in the Department of Neural and Pain Sciences and new co-director of the University of Maryland Center to Advance Chronic Pain Research. His research is looking at how capsaicin, the active ingredient in chili peppers, can help alleviate chronic oral pain and perhaps even reverse it.

We also celebrate innovation and discovery when we commit to continuous improvement, learning from what didn't work so that we can have a more positive outcome the next time. We take thoughtful risks and pursue bold ideas. About 110,000 Americans are currently waiting for an organ transplant, and more than 6,000 patients die each year before getting one, according to the federal government's *organdonor.gov*. Bold ideas like the groundbreaking transplant of a genetically modified pig heart by School of Medicine surgeons move us closer to closing the gap for those waiting for organs.

A culture that understands innovation and discovery is intentional about collaboration. The Intellectual Property and

Entrepreneurship Clinic at the Francis King Carey School of Law helps Maryland entrepreneurs and startups. During academic year 2019-2020, the clinic assisted over 100 companies by filing 19 patent applications, 50 trademark applications, and five copyright registrations.

We also share knowledge and leverage insights from others. For instance, the School of Social Work's Institute for Innovation and Implementation is providing project management and evaluation for B'More Reconnects, a program that will help incarcerated and recently released parents prepare to be an involved mom or dad while reducing trauma for children. (*See story, page 15*)

This month, we look forward to celebrating our first in-person commencement since 2019. The Class of 2022 graduates know what it means to be innovative. From the first two years of the pandemic's remote instruction to our return to campus, our students have been creative and resilient, meeting the challenges of their education and succeeding. I know it has not been easy, but I also know that their resilience will make them better professionals.

I'm glad that in addition to celebrating the Class of 2022 at our commencement May 19, we will get to hear from someone else who cares deeply about innovation and discovery. Anthony Fauci, MD, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) and chief medical advisor to the president of the United States, will serve as our keynote speaker. Among his many accomplishments, Dr. Fauci started the AIDS program at NIAID, and the institute has played a major role in developing and testing most of the therapies that wound up saving literally millions of lives around the world. His leadership and commitment to service also have been unwavering throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Innovation and discovery are fundamental to who we are at UMB. As we celebrate the Class of 2022 this month, I hope we all remain committed to having a mindset of innovation and discovery.

Sincerely,

Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS

PRESIDENT

LAURELS

MAY 2022

UNIVERSITYWIDE



KARLA EVANS

Karla Evans, MS, manager, Human Resources Service Center, was selected as UMB's March Employee of the Month for her customer service skills, leadership abilities, and determination to resolve issues promptly and pleasantly.



ROSEMARY FERREIRA

Rosemary Ferreira, MEd, associate director, Intercultural Center, received the 2022 Mena Valdez Award for Outstanding New Professional from the

National Association of Student Personnel Administrators Latinx/a/o Knowledge Community.



DIANE FORBES BERTHOUD

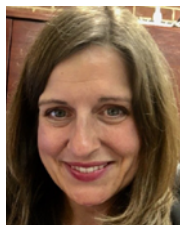
Diane Forbes Berthoud, PhD, MA, chief equity, diversity, and inclusion officer and vice president, was a panelist for *The Daily Record's* Diversity, Equity and

Inclusion Summit on March 23.

Erin Golembewski, PhD, senior associate dean, Graduate School, and **Jennifer Aumiller, MEd**, director, Pre- and Postdoctoral



ERIN GOLEMBEWSKI



JENNIFER AUMILLER

Career Development, School of Medicine, were among the co-authors of "Developing a State University System Model to Diversify Faculty in the Biomedical Sciences," which was published in *Frontiers in Psychology*.



LAURA KOZAK

Laura Kozak, MA, senior associate vice president, Office of Communications and Public Affairs, was selected to the Class of 2022 of Leadership

Maryland, a professional development program that brings together executives from the public and private sectors who meet from April to December to learn about the state's key issues.



JENNIFER B. LITCHMAN



DONNA L. PARKER

Jennifer B. Litchman, MA, senior vice president for external relations, UMB, and **Donna L. Parker, MD, FACP**, professor and senior associate

dean for undergraduate medical education, School of Medicine, were named to *The Daily Record's* list of Maryland's Top 100 Women, which recognizes outstanding professional accomplishments, community leadership, and mentoring.



EMILY GORMAN



EVERLY BROWN

Michele Nance, MS, reference associate; **Emily Gorman, MLIS**, research and education librarian; and **Everly Brown, MLIS**, head of information services, all from the Health Sciences and Human Services Library, co-authored the chapter "An Informed Consent Document Review Service," which was published in "Finding Your Seat at the Table: Roles for Librarians on Institutional Regulatory Boards and Committees."



VIRGINIA ROWTHORN

Virginia Rowthorn, JD, LLM, assistant vice president for global engagement and executive director, Center for Global Engagement, co-presented

"Rethinking the Why: Short Term International Service Learning" at the Harvard Kennedy School's Institute of Politics on March 24.

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LAURELS

MAY 2022

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

Dental hygiene students **Paige Christensen**, **Hee Yeon Kim**, and **Kristin Yates** received top honors in the Maryland Dental Hygiene Spring Scientific Research Presentation Sessions for “Assessing Postpartum Oral Health Literacy and Needs as Medicaid Expands.”



EMILY CHU

Emily Chu, DDS, PhD, assistant professor, Department of General Dentistry, co-authored “Orthodontic Tooth Movement Alters Cementocyte Ultrastructure

and Cellular Cementum Proteome Signature,” which was published in *Bone*.



GARY D. HACK

Gary D. Hack, DDS, clinical associate professor, Department of Advanced Oral Sciences and Therapeutics, co-authored “Maturation and Growth of

the Myodural Bridge Within the Posterior Atlanto-Axial Interspace in the Rat,” which was published in the *Journal of Morphology*.



WILLIAM F. HOFFMAN JR.

William F. Hoffman Jr., MAS, research administrator, co-presented two discussions at the Society of Research Administrators International Northeast-Southern Section Meeting in Philadelphia:

“Same Goal, Different Paths: NIH and a Recipient Organization Talk about Grants” and “Human Resources Management and Best Practices for the Department Administrator.”



MARY ANNE MELO

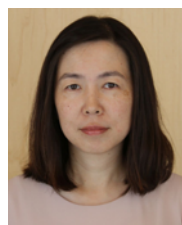


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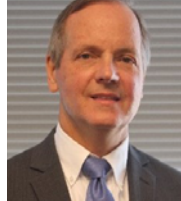
Mary Anne Melo, DDS, MSc, PhD, interim chair, Department of General Dentistry, and **Huakun Xu, MS, PhD, FADM**, professor and division chief, and **Michael Weir, PhD**, assistant professor, both from the Division of Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering, were among the co-authors of “Bifunctional Composites for Biofilms Modulation on Cervical Restorations,” which was published in the *Journal of Dental Research*.



OKSANA MISHLER



SE-LIM OH



THOMAS W. OATES

Oksana Mishler, RDH, MS, DHSc, clinical assistant professor, and **Se-Lim Oh, DMD, MS**, clinical associate professor, both from the Division of

Periodontics, Department of Advanced Oral Sciences and Therapeutics

(AOST), and **Thomas W. Oates, DMD, PhD**, professor and chair, AOST, co-authored “Senior Dental Students’ Perceptions of Evidence-Based Dentistry,” which was published in the *European Journal of Dental Education*.

GRADUATE SCHOOL



DONALD DONAHUE

Donald Donahue, DHEd, MBA, MSJ, professor, was appointed as the World Humanitarian Forum’s

representative to the G20 Health

Working Group, which develops a shared international agenda on issues such as strengthening health care systems, reducing malnutrition, health crisis management, and scaling up the fight against pandemics.



CARLOS FAERRON GUZMAN

Carlos Faerron Guzman, MD, MSc, assistant professor, delivered the Ben Saltzman Distinguished Lecture in Rural and Underserved Medicine at

the University of Arkansas.



SHANI FLEMING

Shani Fleming, MSHS, MPH, PA-C, associate professor and chief equity, diversity, and inclusion officer, had her Workforce Diversity and the Advancing

LAURELS

MAY 2022

Health Professional Academic Degree poster presentation proposal accepted for the National Conference on Race & Ethnicity in American Higher Education on May 31-June 4.



JIM KUCHER

Jim Kucher, DPA, MBA, associate professor and program director, MS in Health and Social Innovation, wrote the op-ed “Want Effective Stakeholder

Governance? Say Hello to Social Cooperatives,” which was published in *Nonprofit Quarterly*.



DIANE MARTIN

Diane Martin, PhD, associate professor and program director, Geriatrics and Gerontology Education and Research, was named president of

Sigma Phi Omega, the international honor society for gerontology.

CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW



CHAZ ARNETT

Chaz Arnett, JD, associate professor, presented his draft paper “Black Lives Monitored” as part of the Yale Information Society Project’s Speaker Series at Yale

Law School on March 9.



LEIGH GOODMARK

Leigh Goodmark, JD, professor and co-director, Clinical Law Program, co-authored “Opinion: Prosecuting Victims of Sex Trafficking

Doesn’t Make Baltimore Safer,” which was published in *Maryland Matters* on March 17.



MARK GRABER

Mark Graber, JD, professor, was quoted in “Claims of Partisan Gerrymandering in Md. Congressional Map Go to Trial,” which was published in

The Washington Post on March 15.

Paula Monopoli, JD, professor and founding director, Women, Leadership, and Equality Program, co-authored “Contemporary Trusts and Estates” (fourth edition, 2022).

Will Moon, JD, professor, presented “Anonymous Companies” at the University of Georgia Law School Faculty Workshop on March 16.



ROBERT PERCIVAL

Robert Percival, JD, professor and director, Environmental Law Program, co-authored “The U.S. Supreme Court and Environmental Law Update,”

which was published in *The Practical Lawyer* in April.



MANEKA SINHA

Maneka Sinha, JD, assistant professor, was quoted in “New DNA Testing Is Sought in Syed Case: Prosecutors, Defense Ask Judge to Order Analysis of

Evidence,” which was published in *The Baltimore Sun* on March 11.



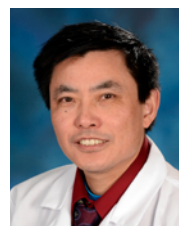
MATIANGAI SIRLEAF

Matiangai Sirleaf, JD, professor, was promoted to executive editor of the online forum *Just Security*.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

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

Laura Bontempo, MD, MEd, associate professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, received a Top Section Editor Award for 2021 from “CorePendium,” the online emergency medicine textbook.



QI CAO

Qi Cao, BM, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, was among the co-authors of “Liver Regeneration

and Ethanol Detoxification: A New Link in YAP Regulation of ALDH1A1 During Alcohol-Related

LAURELS

MAY 2022

Hepatocyte Damage,” which was published in *FASEB Journal* in April.



DIANA CARVAJAL

Diana Carvajal, MD, MPH, assistant professor, Department of Family and Community Medicine, received the Dean’s Faculty Award

for Diversity and Inclusion.

Vasken Dilsizian, MD, professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, presented “Imaging Cardiac Device Infections and Endocarditis” at the International Congress of the Egyptian Society of Cardiology. He also presented “Cardiac Device Infection Imaging: Left Ventricular Assist Device and Pacemaker/AICD” at the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging Mid-Winter Scientific Sessions.



JASON FALVEY

Jason Falvey, PT, DPT, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, was the lead author of “Association of Financial Strain

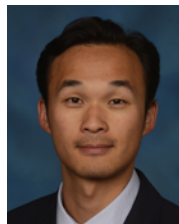
with Mortality Among Older US Adults Recovering from an Acute Myocardial Infarction,” which was published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association Internal Medicine*. He also co-authored “Emergency Department Care Transitions for Patients with Cognitive Impairment: A Scoping Review,” which was published in the *Journal of American Medical Directors Association*.



ROY FILM

Roy Film, PT, DPT, OCS, FAAOMPT, assistant professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, was promoted to one of three

lead accreditor positions for the Accreditation Council on Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapy Education.



SIMON HO

Simon Ho, PT, DPT, CCS, assistant professor; **Kelly Rock, PT, DPT, PCS**, PhD candidate; and **Victoria Marchese, PT, PhD**, professor and chair, all from

the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, won a Best Poster Award at the American Physical Therapy Association Combined Sections Meeting for “Reliability of Assessing Diaphragm Thickness Via B-Mode Ultrasound in Healthy Children and Adolescents.”

Gregory Jasani, MD, clinical instructor of emergency medicine, Baltimore Veterans Affairs Medical Center, was named to a two-year term as co-chair of the American Academy of Emergency Medicine Government and National Affairs Committee.



NIHARIKA KHANNA

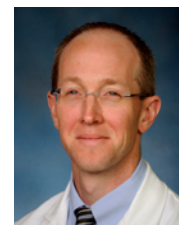
Niharika Khanna, MBBS, MD, DGO, professor, Department of Family and Community Medicine, received the Maryland Academy

of Family Physicians’ Maryland Lifetime Achievement Award.

Benjamin Lawner, DO, EMT-P, associate professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, presented “Challenges Associated with Accurate EMS Triage of Large Vessel Occlusion Stroke” at the National Collegiate EMS Foundation Conference.

Kathleen Neuzil, MD, MPH, FIDSA, the Myron M. Levine, MD, DTPH Professor of Vaccinology and director, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, presented “COVID-19 Vaccine: A Global Perspective” at the Malawi-Liverpool Wellcome Trust and “COVID-19 Vaccines: The Evolving Policy Questions” for an American Thoracic Society webinar series.

Lisa Susan Wieland, MPH, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Family and Community Medicine, presented a continuing medical education webinar to the Academic Consortium for Integrative Medicine and Health that provided an overview of the Cochrane approach to assessing risk of bias in randomized trials.



MICHAEL WINTERS

Michael Winters, MD, professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, presented “Recent Critical Care Articles You’ve Got to Know!”

to the Society of Emergency Medicine Physician Assistants. He also presented “Peri-Arrest Pearls for the Crashing Patient,” “The Crashing Obese Patient,” and “Deadly Allergies and Anaphylaxis” at the American Medical Seminars Conference: Emergency Medicine Practicing to the Evidence.

LAURELS

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SCHOOL OF NURSING

In the 2023 edition of *U.S. News and World Report's* "America's Best Graduate Schools," UMSON is among the top 10 public schools in the nation for its overall Doctor of Nursing Practice (No. 4) and Master of Science in Nursing (No. 9) programs.



MARISA ASTIZ-MARTINEZ



JENNIFER DALTON



AMY DANIELS



AMANDA HENSON



HANNAH MURPHY
BUC



REBECCA WESTON

Six UMSON faculty members were selected to serve as R3 Champions of the Resilient Nurses Initiative. R3 aims to "Renew, Retain, and Amplify the Resilience" of nurses in Maryland in all specialties and roles through a culture of ethical practice. The faculty members are **Marisa Astiz-Martinez,**

MS '13, RN; Jennifer Dalton, MSN, RN, CNE; Amy Daniels, PhD '18, MS '12, BSN '89, RN, CHSE-A; Amanda Henson, MS, RN, CNE, CHSE; Hannah Murphy Buc, MSN, RN, CNE; and Rebecca Weston, EdD, MSN, RN, CNE.

Students **Chelsea Diggs, Keandra Forte, Layne Price,** and **Tashima Ricks** attended the 2022 American Association of Colleges of Nursing Student Policy Summit in Washington, D.C.



JOAN CARPENTER

Joan Carpenter, PhD, CRNP, ACHPN, FPCN, assistant professor, appeared on the "GeriPal" podcast episode "Understanding the Variability in Care of Nursing Home Residents with Advanced Dementia."



STACEY CONRAD

Stacey Conrad, MBA, was named associate dean for development and alumni relations, tasked with leading the school's engagement efforts with donors and 23,000-plus alumni and overseeing major and planned gifts, annual giving, and stewardship.



CHRISTINE FROST

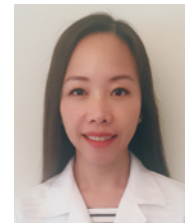
DNP student **Christine Frost, MS '04, MBA, RN, NEA-BC,** was named president-elect of the Maryland Organization of Nurse Leaders.



ROBYN GILDEN

Robyn Gilden, PhD '10, MS '01, RN, associate professor and program director, Environmental Health Certificate, co-authored "Toxic Substances

Control Act (TSCA) Implementation: New Ways to Promote Occupational Justice and Prevent Worker Exposures From Hazardous Chemicals," which was published in *Workplace Health & Safety*.



PAVARA KEENEY

DNP student **Pavara Keeney** won Best Poster for "Implementation of Glycemic Management Algorithm During the Perioperative Phase in

Orthopedic Surgery" during the Maryland Association of Nurse Anesthetists' spring webinar.



VERONICA P. NJIE-CARR

Veronica P. Njie-Carr, PhD, RN, ACNS-BC, FWACN, associate professor, received a five-year, \$1.18 million grant from

the National Institutes of Health Fogarty International Center for "Strengthening Capacity in Health Research Ethics and Methodology in The Gambia."

LAURELS

MAY 2022



ERNEST OPOKU-AGYEMANG

Ernest Opoku-Agyemang, PhD, MA, RN, assistant professor, co-authored “Patient Safety and Health Information Technology

Conceptual Framework,” which was published in *Knowledge Management & E-Learning*.



BARB VAN DE CASTLE

Barb Van De Castle, DNP '14, RN-BC, ACNS-BC, OCN, assistant professor, presented student examples during MindManager's Teamwork at Universities

webinar on March 24. The presentation featured themes of synchronous and asynchronous collaboration, information capture, and knowledge transfer.

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

The following Peter Lamy Center on Drug Therapy and Aging members received the Howard Guterman Poster Award at the AMDA: The Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine Annual Meeting: **Barbara Zarowitz, PharmD; Paavani Jain, MBBS, MPH; Sarah Holmes, MSW, PhD; Danya Qato, PharmD, MPH, PhD; Aaron Carabajal-Johnson, PharmD; Sean Fleming,**

MSW; Nicole Brandt, PharmD, MBA; and Linda Wastila, PhD. Zarowitz received the Breaking Science Award at the same event.



NICOLE BRANDT

Nicole Brandt, PharmD, MBA, professor, Departments of Pharmacy Practice and Science and Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, received the

2022 Clinician of the Year Award from the Foundation for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine.

Andrew Coop, PhD, associate dean for academic affairs and professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was named chair-elect of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Graduate Education Special Interest Group.



MATHANGI GOPALAKRISHNAN

Mathangi Gopalakrishnan, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, received an 18-month, \$32,917

contract from George Washington University for “Intergenerational Transmission of Low-Calorie Sweeteners via the Breast Milk.”

Danté Johnson, PhD candidate, received UM Ventures' Graduate Translational Award for research that contributed to the development of an

innovative method for automated analyzation of the higher-order structure of proteins in biological models, allowing for complex *in vivo* drug design and modeling.



DANTÉ JOHNSON



JOEY MATTINGLY

Joey Mattingly, PharmD, MBA, PhD, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, received a one-year, \$1 million

cooperative agreement from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for “COMmunity Mistrust and Institutional Trustworthiness to Advance Health EQUity Research (COMMIT-EQ).”

C. Daniel Mullins, PhD, professor and chair, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, received a five-month, \$189,612 contract from Johns Hopkins University for “Community-Engagement Research Alliance Against COVID-19 in Disproportionately Affected Communities (CEAL)-Phase 2.”



C. DANIEL MULLINS

LAURELS

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Julia Slejko, PhD, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, received a two-year, \$392,300 contract from Genentech for “Inequality Aversion in the United States.”



AUDRA STINCHCOMB

Audra Stinchcomb, PhD, professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a one-year, \$349,333 grant from the U.S. Food and

Drug Administration through the Maryland Center of Excellence for Regulatory Science and Innovation for “Evaluating Quality Performance of Extemporaneously Compounded Estrogen Hormone Products.”



PATRICK WINTRODE

Patrick Wintrode, PhD, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a nine-month, \$43,798 contract from Johns Hopkins

University for “Toward Understanding the Chemistry and Biology of Microbial DXP Synthase.”

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



LEE WESTGATE



ANGELIQUE KANE

The First Annual J.E.D.I. Awards, recognizing UMSSW members for their commitment to justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion, were given to **Lee Westgate, MBA, MS** (Camara Jones Faculty Award); **Angelique Kane** (Judith Heumann Staff Award); **Edgar Fields** (Audre Lorde Student Award); **Mujahid Muhammad, MSW** (Whitney Young Alumni Award); DREAM: Disability Justice Group (Kimberlé Crenshaw Group Award); and B'more for Healthy Babies and Early Childhood Team (Shirley Chisholm Community Award).



RICHARD BARTH

Richard Barth, PhD, professor, was among the co-authors of “Partnering for Success Symptom Monitoring Outcomes: Cognitive Behavioral

Therapy Plus for Children and Youth in Child Welfare,” which was published in the *Journal of Child and Family Studies*.

John Cosgrove, MSW, senior research analyst, co-authored a chapter in the fourth edition of the “Social Workers’ Desk Reference” that offers



JOHN COSGROVE

a practitioner-oriented overview of the Functional Family Therapy intervention for youth behavioral challenges.

Jodi Frey, PhD, professor, co-authored “Health Savings Account Associations from a Social Work Perspective,” which was published in the *Journal of Evidence-Based Social Work*.



LAURIE GRAHAM

Laurie Graham, PhD, assistant professor, was among the co-authors of “Intimate Partner Violence Victimization and Perpetration as Precursors to Suicide,” which was published in *SSM Population Health*.



SHAWNA MURRAY-BROWNE

PhD candidate **Shawna Murray-Browne, LCWS**, delivered Bryn Mawr College’s Black History Month keynote address Feb. 24, titled “First, Reclaim Yourself: Lessons in Wellness from the Black Radical Tradition.”



JOIN US FOR UNIVERSITYWIDE COMMENCEMENT!

Commencement 2022

UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND, BALTIMORE

THURSDAY, MAY 19 | 9 A.M.
CHESAPEAKE EMPLOYERS INSURANCE ARENA
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE COUNTY CAMPUS

Celebrate the Class of 2022 with President Jarrell and special guests, including:

Keynote Speaker and Honorary Degree Recipient



Anthony Fauci, MD

*Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
Chief Medical Advisor to the President of the United States*

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

**Christine Grady, PhD,
MSN**

*Chief, Department of
Bioethics, National Institutes
of Health Clinical Center*

HONORARY MARSHALS

Karen Faraone
School of Dentistry

Katherine Fornili
School of Nursing

Deborah Gioia
School of Social Work

Anthony Lehman
School of Medicine

Francis Palumbo
*School of Pharmacy and
Francis King Carey
School of Law*

NATIONAL ANTHEM SINGER

Christina Fenwick
UMB Staff Senate President



umaryland.edu/commencement



#2022UMB

MAY 2022

WALLACE DISCUSSES MISINFORMATION, POLARIZATION

If you're wondering how to consume news and find the truth in an era of misinformation and political polarization, veteran journalist Chris Wallace has a method to share: triangulation.

"I don't think you should trust any one source for news," Wallace said April 7 as the guest on the University of Maryland, Baltimore's (UMB) President's Panel on Politics and Policy, a speaker series that has examined issues important to the UMB community since 2017. "But I always say 'triangulate.' In other words, I believe that everybody should read or consume one news source every day that as a routine matter challenges their views.

"If you watch Fox News, you should also read the front page of *The New York Times*. If you love *The Wall Street Journal's* editorial page, you should also consume MSNBC. If you're getting news from a variety of sources, there's a greater likelihood that you're going to come to an informed opinion and something closer to the truth than if you're just hearing from one side."

Wallace has worked both sides of the cable news aisle, formerly as host of *Fox News Sunday* and as an anchor for CNN+, and reported for ABC, NBC, and CBS during his 50-year career. He discussed misinformation, mistrust of journalists, dysfunction on Capitol Hill, interviewing techniques, political echo chambers, and more during the hourlong virtual event, discussing the issues with UMB President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACs, and taking questions from online attendees.

Mistrust of the news media was a recurring theme among the questions. Wallace pointed out that two reasons for skepticism are business models that don't reward nonpartisan political discourse and outlets that let opinion seep into their news coverage.

"The difference between the editorial page and the front page sometimes is not as distinct as it used to be," he said. "You can put an emphasis on being straight down the middle and factual, but the market doesn't reward that. Frankly, one reason that more and more opinionated news outlets exist and succeed is because that's what people are craving. They want news and opinion that conforms with their view of the world."

Speaking about polarization, particularly on Capitol Hill, Wallace lamented that Republicans and Democrats in Congress generally have failed to find common ground to pass major legislation.

"When I first came to Washington in the 1970s, business got done," he said. "There was legislating. There were compromises on immigration reform, on tax reform. I can think of a whole host of major issues — budgets, tax cuts — where deals got done. But our politics became tribal starting in the early 2000s, and it's gotten gradually worse over the years."

Wallace credited the 2020 book by Ezra Klein, "Why We're Polarized," for detailing the tribalization of American politics and explaining that it involves much more than how you vote.

"The book says it's not just a matter of whether you're Republican or Democrat, or liberal or conservative, that you're in a tribe now," Wallace said. "And what tribe you're in says things not only about what you believe regarding politics and government, but also about where you live, what your view of faith is, whether you're a regular churchgoer or not, where you eat, where you consume the news, and who you associate with."



CHRIS WALLACE

Continued from previous page

“It’s quite extraordinary. In fact, a study that was done after the 2020 election showed that Joe Biden did much better than Donald Trump in counties that had a Starbucks. Conversely, Trump did much better than Biden in counties that had a Cracker Barrel. So it really does become a cultural, socioeconomic, political, and philosophical phenomenon.”

Wallace has gained a reputation as a fair, thoughtful, and incisive interviewer during his long career. He has moderated presidential debates, won three Emmy Awards, interviewed world leaders, and received numerous journalism honors. A secret to his success? He treats both sides the same.

“When Vince Lombardi was coach of the Green Bay Packers, somebody asked one of his linemen, ‘Does he discriminate? Does he play favorites?’ And the lineman said, ‘No, he treats us all like dogs.’ And that kind of is my attitude as a political reporter: treat them all like dogs,” Wallace said. “Don’t be disrespectful, but be challenging, be confrontational. People will come to an interview with a whole staff and a list of talking points. My attitude is: They’re going to tell their story, and I’m going to challenge it.”

“People will come to an interview with a whole staff and a list of talking points. My attitude is: They’re going to tell their story, and I’m going to challenge it.”

— Chris Wallace on his interviewing strategy

In closing, Wallace reiterated that the deep division in the United States is not healthy, comparing the acceptance of the polio vaccine in the 1950s as “a miracle drug” to the current level of COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy, but he added a dose of historical context and a dash of optimism.

“The idea that your political opinion should play any role on a basic matter of public health is disheartening,” he said. “But I wouldn’t get too discouraged about it, and I remain reasonably hopeful. The country has been through tough times before — Vietnam and Watergate are two examples — but we seem to muddle through. Ultimately, I have a reservoir of faith and trust in the long-term wisdom of the American people.”

— Lou Cortina

HUMAN
RESOURCES



If you have questions, please email childcaregrant@umaryland.edu.

UMB Child Care Grant Seeks to Ease Strain on Working Parents

An exciting child care grant is available to assist working parents at the University of Maryland, Baltimore. The UMB Child Care Grant will help eligible employees pay for qualifying, work-related child care and will be administered by the Office of Human Resources.

Applications are open May 9-29 with payments to start in July 2022.

To apply for the taxable, need-based grant or find more information, visit umaryland.edu/childcaregrant.

ATTRACT. ENGAGE. DEVELOP.

LEADERSHIP

MAY 2022

GLADWIN NAMED SCHOOL OF MEDICINE DEAN AFTER NATIONAL SEARCH

Mark T. Gladwin, MD, a leading heart, vascular, and lung physician-scientist, will be the next dean of the University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM) and vice president for medical affairs at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB).

UMB President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, announced the selection April 20 after a rigorous national search. Gladwin, the Jack D. Myers Distinguished Professor and chair of the Department of Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine (UPSOM), will begin his duties Aug. 1, 2022.

He will succeed E. Albert Reece, MD, PhD, MBA, who led UMSOM for 16 years and will return to the school's faculty as director of a new Center for Advanced Research, Training, and Innovation and co-director of UMSOM's Center for Birth Defects Research.

"I am confident that Dr. Gladwin will continue to enrich the legacy of our School of Medicine and position our world-class institution to meet the challenges of the future," Jarrell said.

Gladwin also serves as associate dean for physician-scientist mentoring and associate vice chancellor for science strategy, health sciences at UPSOM, and is the founder of the Pittsburgh Heart, Lung, Blood, and Vascular Medicine Institute.

"I am very honored to have been selected as dean of one of the most prestigious medical schools in the country," Gladwin said. "Everything I learned during my visit to UMB furthered my desire to join the University of Maryland School of Medicine. I look forward to listening to and learning from UMB faculty, staff, and students as we continue the crucial work of carrying the school's mission forward in Baltimore, around the state, and around the world."

Gladwin's appointment follows a comprehensive search led by a committee that included faculty, staff, and students. The committee sought the best candidates to lead the school in its academic and clinical missions, to work closely with the University of Maryland Medical System, and represent UMSOM

effectively with its many stakeholders, especially those in the Baltimore community.

"Dr. Gladwin is an exceptional choice," said search committee co-chair Claire M. Fraser, PhD, the Dean's Endowed Professor of Medicine and director of UMSOM's Institute for Genome Sciences. "The search committee was impressed by not only his experience, but also his vision for the future of medicine and the role of the medical school in today's society."

"Being the leader of the School of Medicine is a challenging, multifaceted job," said search committee co-chair Roger J. Ward, EdD, JD, MSL, MPA, provost and executive vice president at UMB and dean of the University of Maryland Graduate School. "With his wide range of experience, it was evident to the committee that Dr. Gladwin will excel in every aspect of what this job entails."

Selection committee member Aishwarya Iyer, an MD/PhD student at UMSOM and president of the University Student Government Association, agreed. "I thought his research portfolio was phenomenal," she said. "He comes from a really strong institution and has a lot of experience managing his position very well and very efficiently. I am excited to welcome this new dean."



MARK GLADWIN WILL ASSUME HIS NEW DUTIES AUG. 1.

As dean, Gladwin will be responsible for sustaining a culture that embodies UMB's core values and promoting and enhancing diversity, equity, and inclusion at UMSOM while leading advances and innovation in the areas of education, research, and clinical care.

His predecessor, Reece, said he was delighted to welcome Gladwin to UMB.

"I extend heartiest congratulations to Dr. Gladwin on his appointment," Reece said. "I'm most pleased to pass the baton to him and look forward to his leadership in the years to come."

— UMB Staff

Read more about Gladwin [at this link](#). 

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

MAY 2022

EMPLOYEES HONORED FOR EXCELLENCE, LONGEVITY

It has been three years since University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) employees gathered in person for the annual Employee Recognition and Service Awards celebration, with the event being held virtually since 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

During the 2022 virtual celebration April 1, the pandemic and UMB employees' efforts and response during the unprecedented health crisis were central to two of the three awards handed out: the Cecil S. Kelly Employee of the Year Award and the Community Service Award for 2021.

Patrick Williams, postal services supervisor, Health Sciences and Human Services Library (HSHSL), was named Employee of the Year for going above and beyond the call of duty while receiving deliveries at the library during the pandemic. Madison Haas, MSW, economic inclusion specialist, Office of Community Engagement, won the Community Service Award for her role in attracting Baltimore-area Latinos to UMB's COVID-19 vaccination clinic at the SMC Campus Center.

"It's a great honor to recognize our dedicated staff who have served UMB faithfully," said UMB President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, who presided over the ceremony along with Mike Noll, MS, acting director of organization and employee development, Human Resource Services. "Our University is so fortunate to have a staff with such dedication, energy, and drive. And I'm so proud of the creativity and resilience of our staff."

"I hope you know that your work matters, and I thank you for your dedication to our vitally important work. Thank you for believing that all of us can make a difference in this city, in this state, and in this world. And thank you for coming to work, whether on campus or off, prepared to do your best every day."

The event featured videotaped congratulations from UMB leaders, reflections from longtime employees, a game of Kahoot trivia, and recognition of Williams, Haas, and Elyshia Menkin, MPH, of the University of Maryland School of Nursing (UMSON), who won the James T. Hill Scholarship. The University also honored 153 employees who celebrated service milestones of 20, 25, 30, 35, or 40 years in 2021, with their combined service to UMB totaling 3,660 years.

CECIL S. KELLY MEMORIAL EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARD

When FedEx or UPS was delivering equipment such as computers to UMB, Williams, who was working on campus but under modified hours while the library was closed because of the pandemic, gave drivers his personal cellphone number so he could make sure he was at the library to receive the deliveries.



FROM LEFT, PATRICK WILLIAMS WAS NAMED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR; MADISON HAAS WON THE COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD; AND ELYSHIA MENKIN RECEIVED THE JAMES T. HILL SCHOLARSHIP.

"I might have missed that first week in March 2020, but we had shipments that were already coming down the pike," Williams said. "I was basically coming in daily and coordinating deliveries, coordinating with UPS and FedEx."

Williams' supervisor, Aphrodite M. Bodycomb, MSM, MBA, associate director, administration and operations, HSHSL, praised Williams for his "can-do" attitude at the outset of the pandemic and as it stretched into 2021 and 2022.

"Patrick is willing to take on anything that comes his way," Bodycomb said, pointing out that he also took responsibility for accepting packages for other units, including receiving student transcripts. "Patrick was the only person in the building most times during the beginning of the pandemic, just securing our property."

As postal services supervisor, Williams' main duty is to coordinate deliveries, shipping books to other universities in the University System of Maryland and nationwide. During the

Continued from previous page

pandemic, he rearranged his workspace and mailroom as well as mail processes to make them safe for everyone who entered.

He also helps library staff and other departments on HSHSL's second floor such as registration, financial aid, accounting, and the Center for Information Technology Services with mailing questions or problems.

"Customer service is very important to me," Williams said. "My goal is to make everyone that I help happy. It's very important that the people that I deal with see that me helping them helps me. I just love to help people."

The Employee of the Year award, which comes with a \$1,500 bonus, is presented to an employee who exemplifies the qualities of service, humanity, and commitment that Kelly exhibited during his career on UMB's facilities staff from 1966 to 1989.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Haas worked with two nonprofits, the Esperanza Center and CASA de Maryland, to encourage Latinos to receive COVID-19 shots at the SMC Campus Center vaccination site. She also reached out to the University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM) to recruit Spanish-speaking students, faculty, and staff to serve as interpreters.

"Madison went above and beyond to help the Latino community of Baltimore get COVID-19 vaccinations," said Sandra Quezada, MD, MS, associate professor in the Department of Medicine, associate dean for admissions, and associate dean for faculty diversity and inclusion at UMSOM. "She arranged for weekly Saturday clinics throughout the spring of 2021 that were specifically tailored to provide vaccine access to individuals referred from Esperanza and CASA.

"Madison's empathy and thoughtful attention to detail were inspiring. She advocated for creating and further enhancing Spanish language signage throughout the clinic to help Spanish-speaking patients navigate the large space, and she recognized the need for linguistically appropriate services to make it a welcoming and effective experience."

UMB's Community Service Award recognizes employees who are active in local community service organizations or who have a long history of service on the local, national, and international levels. Ashley Valis, MSW, former executive director of community engagement and strategic initiatives, said Haas is a deserving recipient.

"Madison was committed to ensuring that all who came to UMB during such a perilous time in our history were welcomed and supported and had the best vaccination experience possible," Valis said.

JAMES T. HILL SCHOLARSHIP

This \$2,000 scholarship was established to support UMB's commitment to staff development in recognition of James T. Hill's long and outstanding service to the University as well as his personal commitment to the professional development of UMB employees.

Menkin has consistently shown the type of passion for self-improvement and professional development that Hill was known for, says her former supervisor, Michele Ondra, MBA, MS, school administrator, University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law.

"Elyshia participated in many of the law school's training sessions and strived to improve her already robust skill set or learn new tips or tricks," Ondra said of Menkin, who now works as an administrative manager in the Office of the Academic Deans at UMSOM. "She especially enjoyed attending 'Tech Tip Tuesdays' hosted by the law school's instructional technology department.

"Elyshia's drive and desire for professional development make her an incredible employee — and an astute learner."


Menkin has participated in three UMB programs dedicated to professional development: the UMBrella Coaching Program, Management Essentials, and the Emerging Leaders Program.

"These programs and particularly the mentorship and practical guidance that they provided exceeded my expectations," Menkin said. "These programs helped me as I transitioned from an individual contributor to a manager, and I am confident the knowledge I've gained from them will continue to help me in my career."

Menkin earned a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Baltimore in 2020 and is a student in Maryland Carey Law's Part-Time Evening Program.

"To pursue a law degree is a dream come true and something that felt out of reach years ago but is now possible with UMB's tuition remission benefit," she said. "I've enjoyed taking advantage of the many other opportunities for professional development that are available around the University."

— Lou Cortina and Jen Badie

Read more and watch a video of the event [at this link](#). 

NEW PROGRAM SUPPORTS PARENTING DURING, AFTER INCARCERATION

As Faith Leach puts it: Children can be the collateral damage of incarceration.

The city of Baltimore's deputy mayor of equity, health, and human services was one of those children, with both of her parents being incarcerated for most of her childhood.

Her father died while behind bars. Her mother, Katie Leach, was in and out of prisons until Faith was 16. Despite the challenges, her mother remained connected to her children beyond visiting hours.

"She called, she wrote, and she sent photos when my siblings visited, all to maintain the familial bond," said Faith Leach, who also is the interim executive director of the Baltimore City Mayor's Office of Children & Family Success.

Re-entry programs helped Katie Leach, who later worked for the same program. In 2019, she earned her master's degree in social work.



PHOTO BY CHARLES SCHELLE

FROM LEFT, BRANDON SCOTT, MARGO CANDELARIA, KIMBERLY HAVEN, AND FAITH LEACH WERE AMONG THE SPEAKERS WHO ANNOUNCED THE B'MORE RECONNECTS PROGRAM DURING AN APRIL 6 NEWS CONFERENCE.

While Katie Leach's maternal instinct and a bond were there to support her daughter, it may not be as easy for all incarcerated parents. A new Baltimore City program hopes to change that.

B'More Reconnects will help incarcerated and recently released parents prepare to be an involved mom or dad while reducing trauma for children, thanks to a three-year, \$1.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Justice through the 2008 Second

Chance Act to reduce recidivism. About 400 parents will receive research-based parenting education in Baltimore City detention centers as well as upon re-entry.

"After my mom was released, we began to rebuild our relationship. We began to reconnect," Faith Leach said during an April 6 news conference to announce the program. "Today she is not only my mother, she is my friend and the most inspirational human in my entire life."

The Institute for Innovation and Implementation (The Institute) at the University of Maryland School of Social Work (UMSSW) will provide project management and evaluation.

"We are very excited to work on a project that will make a difference in the lives of children and families in Baltimore City," said Margo Candelaria, PhD, MSW, research associate professor at UMSSW and co-director of the Parent, Infant, and Early Childhood Program at The Institute.

Kate Sweeney, MSW, co-director of Parent, Infant, and Early Childhood at The Institute, will serve as project director for B'More Reconnects.

B'More Reconnects will provide parenting skill development for parents to address the needs of their children and training for correctional officers to respond to the needs of parents, children, and families during visitation. It also will examine visitation policies at Baltimore City correctional facilities and support community-based services to meet the needs of parents and the whole family upon re-entry.

"This program will prepare families after incarceration by investing in the coordination of services for these parents upon re-entry including educational and vocational support, health care, housing, and parental support," Baltimore Mayor Brandon M. Scott said.

Within Baltimore, an estimated 20,000 children have a parent who is incarcerated or on parole/probation. Nationally, more than half of women in prisons are parents, and 80 percent of women in local jails are mothers, according to the federal Bureau of Justice Statistics. The program will initially be focused on assisting incarcerated mothers and mothers on parole or probation, and work to expand the program to fathers.

B'More Reconnects focuses on providing services to parents six months before release and continues when they return home.

Continued from previous page

“By working with parents in the months before community re-entry and as they’re re-entering their community, B’More Reconnects will prepare them to have improved relationships with their children, which helps our cities’ children,” Candelaria said. “Incarcerated adults are often parents, and if we support them to be successful citizens, we need to acknowledge that they’re also parents.”

The Baltimore City Mayor’s Office of Children and Family Success is the lead agency, and partner organizations include the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, which will identify and facilitate training for caregivers and correctional officers; PIVOT, which will conduct parenting intervention groups for incarcerated parents and to caregivers within the community; and the Baltimore City Health Department, which will provide trauma-informed training for correctional officers to improve visitation policies and practices.

Kimberly Haven, executive director of Reproductive Justice Inside, will provide subject matter expertise on visitation policy and its impact on children. Haven was an incarcerated parent of a child.


“Just because somebody is incarcerated does not mean they don’t want to be a good parent,” Haven said. “It does not mean that they leave their parenting responsibilities, their anxiousness about what’s going on with their children when they’re behind the fence.”

She has seen mothers skip dinner just to get to the telephone to help their children with homework or read a bedtime story.

One opportunity to improve the experience is to help parents be truthful with their children, she said, and have authentic interactions. Haven has heard mothers explain to their kids that they went to college or into the Army when they were incarcerated.

“Let’s prepare people to be parents when they come home to their children. Prison is not normal. It’s not supposed to be normal,” Haven said. “How do we take an abnormal situation, and how do we put the supports in place so that moms are reading to their kids, dads are reading to their kids? That we’re also engaging authentically about what we tell our children?”

— Charles Schelle

Watch the news conference [at this link](#). 



This season, “The UMB Pulse” podcast’s theme is “Change Makers,” featuring stories about how the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) is taking creative action to overcome barriers and solve social problems.

Be sure to tune in — new episodes drop on the **FIRST FRIDAY** of the month.

MAY EPISODE

National SOGIE Center

GUESTS: Marlene Matarese, PhD, MSW, principal investigator, and Angela Weeks, DBA, MPA, director, both from National SOGIE Center

Matarese and Weeks of the School of Social Work’s Institute for Innovation and Implementation talk about the SOGIE Center, which offers resources and support for youth with diverse sexual orientation and gender identity and expression (SOGIE) who are involved across systems that address child welfare, juvenile justice, mental health, substance use, and housing and homelessness.

Learn more at umaryland.edu/pulse.



HELLO, POE: UMBPD WELCOMES NEW COMFORT K9

There's a new top dog in town. The University of Maryland, Baltimore Police Department (UMBPD) welcomed comfort K9 Poe in early April. The 2-year-old Great Dane mix is a ball of energy.

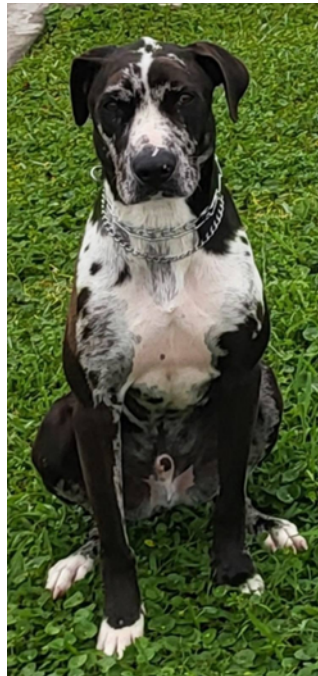
"He has a wonderful temperament," said PFC Anthony Summers, who has worked with UMBPD since October 2016 and was selected to join its Community Outreach and Support Team (COAST) as the department's new comfort K9 handler.

In March, Summers traveled to Paws and Stripes College, which is run by the Brevard County (Fla.) Sheriff's Office. The program pairs prospective therapy dogs with inmates for eight weeks of basic obedience training. UMBPD has gotten its three comfort K9s — Lexi, Archie, and Poe — through this program.

"Training with Poe at Paws and Stripes was educational and exciting," Summers said. "We played catch with tennis balls and went over the commands he's learned so far. He's well-trained at sit, stay, and lay down. We will be working together to increase the commands that he knows."

As Poe's handler, Summers takes care of the dog full time, bringing Poe to the vet and groomer, training with him, and attending community events together. Poe even lives with Summers and his family.

Poe's name was chosen by the UMB community, winning out over Eddie, Balto, and Davey. The pup has floppy brown ears with short brown-and-white fur. He wags his tail excitedly when he meets new friends. Poe was born in Cocoa Beach, Fla., and enjoyed running along the beach. He now loves playing in the backyard with Summers' two young children.



POE, A 2-YEAR-OLD GREAT DANE MIX, "HAS A WONDERFUL TEMPERAMENT," SAYS HIS HANDLER, PFC ANTHONY SUMMERS.

Comfort K9s — sometimes called therapy dogs — are trained to provide stress relief and affection to people dealing with anxiety, depression, trauma, or mental illness. As UMBPD's comfort K9, Poe provides many important services: visiting students experiencing exam stress, faculty and staff who need a break, community members who are coping with tragedy or trauma, and much more. Comfort K9s also help build positive relationships with communities who may be unfamiliar or uncomfortable with police officers.

As Poe gets to know UMB, community members should ask Summers before petting the dog or feeding him snacks. "Poe has an easygoing personality, but he can get excited and playful," Summers said. "It's my job to make Poe as comfortable as possible during the transition. I'll make sure he has plenty of breaks so he can adjust at his own speed."

Summers said he's also limiting Poe's snacks to ensure the dog doesn't have food allergies.

UMBPD was the third university police department in the nation with a comfort K9 program, which started in June 2019 when Lexi joined the department. After three years of service, Lexi is retiring from the department. Archie, who was UMB's second comfort K9, remained with his handler, former UMBPD Chief Alice Cary, when she joined the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2020.

"We want to thank Lexi for her service to our UMB community," said Chief Thomas Leone, MSL. "Lexi was a huge part of COAST and helped pave the way for comfort K9 programs nationwide. Now we're excited to welcome Poe, who will step into those 'paws' and continue Lexi's legacy."

— Carin Morrell

SUPER PLUNGE, TERRIFIC CAUSE

Thomas Leone, MSL, chief of the University of Maryland, Baltimore Police Department (UMBPD), participated in the Maryland State Police's 2022 Polar Bear Plunge at Sandy Point State Park in March.

Rather than taking the traditional one-and-done charity plunge into the Chesapeake Bay, Leone did it 24 times during a 24-hour span as a "super plunger," often wearing different costumes for a variety of themed plunges.

Leone ran into the chilly bay waters near Annapolis from 10 a.m. March 18 to 9 a.m. the next day, raising \$10,869 to benefit Special Olympics Maryland. His UMBPD colleague, Lt. Matthew Johnson, joined Leone for several of the plunges and raised \$3,512.

Plunge organizers released themes for each hour of the plunge. To help raise money, Leone held a costume contest. Four winners helped choose costumes and props for Leone to use during the superhero, Hawaiian, crazy hat, and inflatable themes.

"The Office of Sustainability really had fun with their superhero costume," Leone said. "I got a recycling bin costume, complete with actual recyclables. I had a mask and a cape that said 'Waste Warrior.' It was very creative."

Leone's routine: Take a frosty dip into the bay; hang his wet clothes on a drying rack; put his wet shoes next to the heater to dry; gather the costume for the next plunge; take a few minutes to rest, talk, or grab a bite to eat; and head back outside for another dip in the bay.

A DJ played music inside a large tent with round tables where super plungers and their supporters spent time between plunges. As the sun went down and the temperatures plummeted, plungers tried to grab quick naps on cots set up in separate men's and women's tents. Not Leone.

"I'm up!" he said. "I might as well just keep going."

For the final plunge, Leone donned a polar bear hat — the mascot of the Polar Bear Plunge — and jogged into the water. As he came out for the last time, he raised his hands in triumph.

Overall, Leone and police plungers from around the state helped to raise \$530,000 for Special Olympics Maryland.

"It meant the world to me to see our UMB community come together to support this great cause," Leone said. "Whether it was a few bucks or a big chunk of change, I am thankful for every donation. I'm proud of what we accomplished."

— UMB Staff



PHOTO BY CARIN MORRELL

UMBPD CHIEF THOMAS LEONE DRESSED UP AS A RECYCLING BIN DURING ONE OF THE EVENT'S THEMED PLUNGES. THE COSTUME WAS PROVIDED BY UMB'S OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY.