

# the PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

APRIL 2024



## LIVING OUR CORE VALUES YEAR-ROUND

This year, UMB's inaugural core values program director, Stacey Rose, EdD, MEd, MSW, doesn't want to celebrate Core Values Month in April. Why, you ask? Because Dr. Rose believes that we need to live our core values 12 months a year, not just once a year.

Dr. Rose joined UMB in October, after almost four years at the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, N.Y., where she was the acting lead sexual assault response coordinator and alternate SHARP (sexual harassment/assault, response and prevention) program manager. Her goal was to implement educational programs designed to increase cadet knowledge and skills within the areas of bystander intervention, healthy relationship skills, and establishing positive norms about gender and sexuality.

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***“Living our core values requires action and certain behaviors by every person at UMB. We each play an important part in creating UMB's culture.”***

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Before that, she was education and training manager for Planned Parenthood of Delaware. Among her many achievements, she has been the recipient of the Civilian Service Commendation Medal in 2023 and the Army's recipient of the Department of Defense Promoting Excellence in Prevention Award in 2022. Dr. Rose holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in religious studies from Wells College, a Master of Education in human sexuality and a Master of Social Work from Widener University, and a Doctor of Education in leadership and innovation from New York University.

As the core values leader at UMB, Dr. Rose's job is to help the UMB community integrate our core values into our everyday lives. Those values are:

**Respect and Integrity:** We value each other and hold ourselves accountable for acting ethically and transparently using compassion and empathy.

**Well-Being and Sustainability:** We care about the welfare of our people, planet, communities, and University.

**Equity and Justice:** We embrace and are committed to diversity, and we value inclusive and just communities. We oppose racism and oppression in all their forms.

**Innovation and Discovery:** We imagine and explore new and improved ways to accomplish our mission of education, research, clinical care, and service.

Since joining UMB, Dr. Rose has been meeting with and listening to lots of folks across the University. She's working on a plan that further embeds UMB's core values into everything we do at UMB, including redesigning the core values website with a new look and feel. It will include a way to acknowledge the many ways that the UMB community is exemplifying our core values and where there is room for growth. Starting in the fall, we'll focus on each of the core values sets.

Living our core values requires action and certain behaviors by every person at UMB. We each play an important part in creating UMB's culture.

I want UMB to be a place where everyone feels welcome, has a sense of belonging, and is supported to succeed. By acting on our core values, using them to guide our everyday interactions, we can make that a reality.

Sincerely,

Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS  
PRESIDENT

# WELCOME TO UMB!

## NEW HIRES: MARCH 2024

### UMB

Vincent Boyack, Staff  
Zachary Brown, Staff  
Manuel Cambronero Vargas, Staff  
Jerron Cox, Staff  
Alison Fricks, Staff  
Kanye Holder, Staff  
Kimberly Iacobellis, Staff  
Lishayne King, Staff  
Dionne McConkey, Staff  
Antonieka Nance, Staff  
Shiya Shah, Staff  
Joshua Williams, Staff  
Mariyette Williams, Staff

### SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

Keyu Chen, Staff  
Vedangi Hayatnagarkar, Trainee  
William Jacobson, Faculty  
Heejae Kim, Staff  
Mahadi Shahed, Trainee

### GRADUATE SCHOOL

Robert Durgin, Staff  
Kinicki Hughes, Staff

Debra Stoll, Staff  
Peter Wilkes, Staff

### FRANCIS KING CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW

James Valentine, Faculty

### SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Muhammad Awais, Trainee  
Leena Bhoite, Staff  
Jill Byer, Staff  
JaLesia Byes, Staff  
Martina Damenti, Trainee  
Jaden Dawson, Staff  
Habte Erana, Staff  
Crystal Favorito, Trainee  
Marcela Ferrada, Faculty  
Kharey Gayle, Staff  
Jeffrey Gerbino, Faculty  
Steven Holsten, Faculty  
Chuan-Sheng Huang, Trainee  
Fereshteh Khorshidi, Trainee  
Elizabeth Konadu, Faculty  
Shawn Kwatra, Faculty  
Anna Lee, Staff

Eric Ley, Faculty  
Zongpan Li, Trainee  
Corinne Lovett, Staff  
Douglas Martz, Faculty  
Aliza Menick, Staff  
Sally Michaels, Staff  
Asia Moore, Staff  
Dzeaye Ngah Veranyuy, Trainee  
Damilohun Opeaye, Staff  
Bo Peng, Trainee  
Jazlyn Pereira, Staff  
Randy Perez, Staff  
Yolanda Powell, Staff  
Kendel Quirk, Staff  
Polly Robarts, Staff  
Samsuzzaman Samsuzzaman, Trainee  
John Schmitz, Faculty  
Ayesha Shahbaz, Trainee  
Ravishankar Shivashankar, Faculty  
Eliot Siegel, Faculty  
Christina Stennett, Faculty  
Laurie Timberlake, Staff  
John Vaeth, Faculty  
Kavita Vats, Trainee

Rebecca Welsh, Staff  
Fengshan Yu, Faculty

### SCHOOL OF NURSING

Katelyn Folberth, Staff  
Christopher Gibson, Staff  
Afsaneh Golban, Faculty  
Eric Huston, Faculty  
Ashley Johnson, Staff  
Heather Anne Jones, Faculty  
Julia Klavans, Staff  
Isaac Obeng-Gyasi, Staff  
Gina Robinson, Faculty  
Sharon Thomas, Faculty  
Victoria Vykol, Faculty  
Mary Wallace, Faculty

### SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Monique Knight, Staff  
David Oriko, Staff  
Prism Shilling, Staff  
Shanea Thomas, Faculty

THIS LISTING OF NEW HIRES IS PROVIDED BY UMB HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES. TRAINEES INCLUDE CLINICAL FELLOWS, POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS, RESEARCH FELLOWS, AND RESIDENT GI FELLOWS.

## REGISTRATION OPEN

# STATE *of the* UNIVERSITY ADDRESS *by*

**BRUCE E. JARRELL,  
MD, FACS**

PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE

**WEDNESDAY,  
MAY 1, 2024  
4 P.M.**

**M&T BANK EXCHANGE  
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**[umaryland.edu/sotu](https://umaryland.edu/sotu)**



# LAURELS

APRIL 2024

## UNIVERSITYWIDE



PATTY ALVAREZ

**Patty Alvarez, PhD, MS**, chief student affairs officer and vice president, was appointed to serve a two-year term on the Advisory Steering Committee

of the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators-Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education.



BILL CROCKETT

**Bill Crockett, MS, RCRSP**, assistant vice president of student affairs, business and facility operations, was named the 2024 recipient of the National

Intramural-Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA) Honor Award, which recognizes an NIRSA member for outstanding achievements in the campus recreation profession and exemplary service to the association.



JULIET DICKERSON

**Juliet Dickerson, MS**, project functional lead for Human Resources, Quantum Human Capital Management (HCM) Project, presented “The Road to Oracle

Cloud HCM: The Importance of Discovery and Pre-Implementation Activities” at the Higher Education Users Group Alliance Conference in Phoenix on March 5.



MICHELE EVANS



AYANA THOMPSON

**Michele Evans, CPA**, assistant vice president, Change Management and Advisory Services, and change management advisor, Quantum Human Capital Management (HCM) Project, and **Ayana Thompson, MSL**, business training specialist and Oracle guided learning lead, Quantum HCM Project, presented “Using Data to Drive Change at UMB” at the Higher Education Users Group Alliance Conference in Phoenix on March 6.



ROSEMARY FERREIRA

**Rosemary Ferreira, MEd**, associate director, Intercultural Center, presented “Landlord University: How Higher Education is Gentrifying Cities” at

the 2024 National Association of Student Personnel Administrators Conference in Seattle on March 12.



THOMAS LEONE

**Thomas Leone, MSL**, assistant vice president for public safety and chief of police, was named a Higher Education/Healthcare Campus Safety Director of the

Year finalist for the second year in a row by *Campus Safety* magazine.



SARAH PORTER

**Sarah Porter, MSW '20**, associate director of community programs, Office of Community Engagement, was named the University's January

Employee of the Month for responding to community feedback in developing programming such as family nights and the Community Engagement Center's makerspace.



CYNDI RICE

**Cyndi Rice**, director of student development and leadership, Division of Student Affairs, was selected to receive the Baltimore

Collegietown Network's 25th Anniversary Staff Award.

## SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY



LISA BRESS



DEBORAH JONES

**Lisa Bress, RDH, MS**, division chief and clinical associate professor, Dental Hygiene Program, and **Deborah Jones, DDS**, director of program development and clinical assistant professor, Dental Hygiene Program

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# LAURELS

APRIL 2024

and Periodontics, received \$39,400 from the UMB Institute for Clinical and Translational Research to build a statewide coalition to address gaps in oral health care delivery.



FLAVIO COPELLO

**Flavio Copello, DDS, MS, PhD**, clinical assistant professor, Department of Orthodontics and Pediatric Dentistry, was among the co-authors of

“Three-Dimensional Evaluation of the Carriere Motion 3D Appliance in Treatment of Class II Malocclusion,” which was published as the cover story in the December issue of the *American Journal of Orthodontics & Dentofacial Orthopedics*.



VINEET DHAR

**Vineet Dhar, BDS, MDS, PhD**, clinical professor and chair, Department of Orthodontics and Pediatric Dentistry, was among the co-authors of

“Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Guideline for the Pharmacologic Management of Acute Dental Pain in Children” and “Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Guideline for the Pharmacologic Management of Acute Dental Pain in Adolescents, Adults, and Older Adults,” which were published in the *Journal of the American Dental Association*.

**Robert K. Ernst, PhD**, the Dr. Paul and Mrs. Jean Corcoran Endowed Professor and chair, Department of Microbial Pathogenesis, and UMB

Distinguished University Professor, was elected to a fellowship in the American Academy of Microbiology, which recognizes individuals based on their records of scientific achievement and original contributions that have advanced the field of microbiology.



ROBERT K. ERNST



ELEANOR FLEMING

**Eleanor Fleming, PhD, DDS, MPH**, assistant dean for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, was among the co-authors of “The Relations Between Systems

of Oppression and Oral Care Access in the United States,” which won the International Association for Dental Research Judith Albino Award for Outstanding Research in Health Equity.



MARY ANNE MELO

**Mary Anne Melo, DDS, MSc, PhD, FADM, FACD**, clinical professor and chair, Department of Comprehensive Dentistry, wrote “The Future of Faculty

Recruitment: Inspiring Students into an Academic Career,” which was published in the *Journal of Dental Education*.

## GRADUATE SCHOOL



VIOLET KULO



KAREN GORDES

**Violet Kulo, EdD, MS, MA**, associate professor and program director, Health Professions Education, and **Karen Gordes, PhD, PT, DScPT**, associate professor and program director, MS in Health Professions Education, presented “Effective Practices for Designing Assessments in Online Learning Environments” at the Transforming the Teaching & Learning Environment Virtual Conference in February.

## CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW

**Jennifer Chapman, JD**, research and faculty services librarian, wrote “Teaching Critical Use of Legal Research Technology,” which was published in *Legal Writing: The Journal of the Legal Writing Institute* on Feb. 15.

**Doug Colbert, JD**, professor, was quoted in the article “Accused of Multiple Lies, Marilyn Mosby’s Jury Convicted Her of Just One. What Helped and Hurt Her Case?” which was published in *The Baltimore Sun* on Feb. 9.

**Larry Gibson, JD**, professor, was honored in the article “An AFRO Salute to Larry Gibson: Celebrating

# LAURELS

APRIL 2024

50 Years at UM Law,” which was published in the *AFRO* on Feb. 16.



MARK GRABER

**Mark Graber, JD**, professor, wrote “Of Course Presidents Are Officers of the United States,” which was published in *The Atlantic* on Feb. 15.



DOUGLAS NAZARIAN

**Douglas Nazarian, JD**, senior adjunct professor and judge, Appellate Court of Maryland, was quoted in the article “New Website

Will Let Law Clerks Judge Their Judges,” which was published in *The Washington Post* on Feb. 25.

**Robert Percival, JD**, professor and director, Environmental Law Program, wrote “The Capture of the Court,” which was published in *The Environmental Forum*.



ROBERT PERCIVAL



MICHAEL PINARD

**Michael Pinard, JD**, professor, was a panelist at the Death of Innocence Youth Justice Forum at Loyola University Maryland on Feb. 1.



NATALIE RAM

**Natalie Ram, JD**, professor, was among the co-authors of “Certificate of Confidentiality: Privileging Research Data,” which was published

in the *Journal of Law and Biosciences* on Feb. 25.

**Matiangai Sirleaf, JD**, professor, presented “The Impact of the International Criminal Court on the Ground” at the University of Texas School of Law’s *Texas International Law Journal* Symposium on the Current Challenges and the Effectiveness and Future of the International Criminal Court on Feb. 24.



MAX STEARNS

**Max Stearns, JD**, professor, presented an overview of his book “Parliamentary America: The Least Radical Means of Radically Reforming Our

Broken Democracy” at the Maryland Carey Law Constitutional Law and Economics Conference on Feb. 1.

## SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

**Omer Awan, MD, MPH**, professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, won the Alliance of Clinician-Educators in Radiology’s (ACER) 2024 Achievement Award, which honors a leader in radiology education who displays significant contributions to ACER, education, and academic radiology.



ROBERT BLOCH

**Robert Bloch, PhD**, professor, Department of Physiology, presented the virtual lecture “Xenografts of Skeletal Muscle to Study Muscular Dystrophies”

to students at University College in London on Feb. 8.



ANDREA BUCHWALD



MIRIAM K. LAUFER

**Andrea Buchwald, PhD**, research associate, and **Miriam K. Laufer, MD**, professor, both with the Department of Pediatrics and the Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, were among the co-authors of “Prevalence and Risk Factors of Detectable HIV Viral Load Among Pregnant Women with HIV Infection Seeking Antenatal Care in Southern Malawi,” which was published in *AIDS Care* on Jan. 7.



LINDA CHANG

**Linda Chang, MD, MS**, professor; **Christine Cloak, PhD**, assistant professor; **Eric Cunningham**, senior research analyst; and **Thomas Ernst, PhD**, professor, all in the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, were among the co-authors

# LAURELS

APRIL 2024

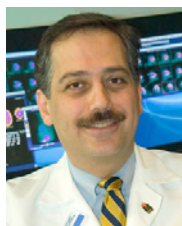
of “Glutamate Measurements Using Edited MRS,” which was published online ahead of print Dec. 3 by *Magnetic Resonance in Medicine*.



JOSEPH CHEER

**Joseph Cheer, PhD**, professor, Department of Neurobiology, was elected as a fellow of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology.

**Hua-Ren R. Cherg, MD**, medical resident, and **Mark Mishra, MD**, professor, both in the Department of Radiation Oncology, were among the co-authors of “Evaluating the Sensitivity of EQ-5D-5L in Patients with Brain Metastases: A Secondary Analysis of NRG CC001,” which was published online ahead of print Jan. 27 by the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*.



VASKEN DILSIZIAN

**Vasken Dilsizian, MD**, professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, was selected to receive the 2024 Mario Verani Memorial Lecture

Award, one of the highest honors bestowed by the American Society of Nuclear Cardiology, recognizing his outstanding contributions in research, teaching, and patient care.



MARTIN FLAJNIK

**Martin Flajnik, PhD**, professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, was the senior author of “The Immunoglobulin J Chain Is

an Evolutionarily Co-Opted Chemokine,” which was published in *PNAS* on Jan. 16.



DEANNA FRIEDMAN-KLABANOFF

**DeAnna Friedman-Klabanoff, MD, MS**, assistant professor, Department of Pediatrics, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health,

was the first author of “Malaria Prevention in Children: An Update,” which was published in *Current Opinion I Pediatrics* on Jan. 23.



DONYE THOMAS

**Donye Thomas**, information technology support specialist, Office of Information Services, was honored as UMB’s February Employee of the Month for going

above and beyond in providing desktop support to users and approaching his tasks with a pleasant personality.



PHUOC TRAN

**Phuoc Tran, MD, PhD**, professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was among the co-authors of “Prognostic Value of PSMA-Extracellular

Vesicles in Oligometastatic Castration-Sensitive Prostate Cancer Treated with Stereotactic Ablative Radiotherapy: A Multi-Center Observational Study,” which was presented Feb. 14 at the American Society for Clinical Oncology Genitourinary Cancers Symposium in San Francisco.

**Emerson Wickwire, PhD**, professor, Department of Psychiatry, was appointed to a three-year term as associate editor of the journal *Research Directions: Sleep Psychology*.



EMERSON WICKWIRE



MICHAEL ZARRO

**Michael Zarro, PT, DPT**, assistant professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, was among the co-authors of “Resistance

Training: Put the Physical Into PT for Older Adults,” which was published in the January issue of *Geriatrics*.

## SCHOOL OF NURSING

**Luana Colloca, MD, PHD, MS**, professor and director, Placebo Beyond Opinions Center, was quoted in three articles published in February: “The Neuroscientist Harnessing the Placebo Effect to Help Soothe Pain,” *New Scientist*; “Harnessing the Power of the Mind: A New Frontier in Rheumatology Treatment,” *BNNBreaking.com*; and “Exploring the Power of Their Mind: Data May Offer Clues to Harnessing the Placebo Effect,” *Healio.com*.

**Yvette Conyers, DNP, MS, RN, FNP-C, CTN-B, CFCN, CFCS, CNE**, assistant professor and associate dean for equity, diversity, and inclusion, co-delivered the podium presentation “Enhancing Academic

# LAURELS

APRIL 2024

and Professional Development for Minority Nursing Students' Success Using a Culturally Responsive Mentorship Program" at the American Association College of Nursing's 2024 Diversity Symposium in New Orleans in February.



JOHNNY GAYDEN

**Johnny Gayden, DNP, MS '14, BSN '10, CRNA,** assistant professor, was featured in the article " 'Dream and Achieve': Trailblazing WilmU Nursing Grad Inspires Others," which was published on the *News at WilmU* website on Feb. 22.



BRIDGITTE GOURLEY

**Bridgitte Gourley, DNP '08, FNP-BC,** assistant professor; director, Family Nurse Practitioner specialty; and co-director, UMB Center for Interprofessional

Education, received the Dr. Peg E. Daw Nurse Faculty Recognition Award from the Maryland Higher Education Commission in recognition of excellence, innovation, and leadership.



VERONICA GUTCHELL

**Veronica Gutchell, DNP '13, RN, CNS, CRNP,** was appointed chair of the Department of Partnerships, Professional Education, and Practice.



SAMANTHA HOFFMAN

**Samantha Hoffman, DNP '23, MS '16, CPNP-PC,** assistant professor, presented "Wired Differently: Managing Neurodiversity in Pediatric Primary Care" at the 45th National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners National Conference in Denver.



MELISSA MCCLEAN

**Melissa McClean, MSN, ANP-BC, NP-C, ACHPN,** clinical instructor, was selected to serve on the Job Analysis Committee by the Certification Board for Professionals in Patient Safety.



KATIE MCELROY

**Katie McElroy, PhD '16, MS '10, BSN '98, RN, CNE,** associate professor, was named associate dean for the baccalaureate program.

**Kim Mooney-Doyle, PhD, RN, CPNP-AC,** assistant professor, was featured in the article "UMSON Assistant Professor Awarded \$460K for Pediatric Illness Study," which was published in *The Maryland Daily Record* on Feb. 12.

**Eun-Shim Nahm, PhD '03, RN, FAAN, FGSA,** professor and associate dean for the PhD program, and **Cory Stephens, DNP, MSN, RN, NI-BC, CPHIMS, FHIMSS,** assistant professor, co-authored "Nature-Based Virtual Reality (VR) Intervention to Manage Stress in



EUN-SHIM NAHM



CORY STEPHENS

Family Caregivers of Allogeneic Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant Recipients: A Two-Phase Pilot Study Protocol," which was accepted for publication by *Frontiers in Psychiatry*.

**Beverly Robinson** was promoted to senior program specialist.



BEVERLY ROBINSON



JANET SELWAY

**Janet Selway, DNSc, MS '88, AGNP-C, CPNP-PC, FAANP,** associate professor and director, DNP Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner specialty, was quoted in "Maryland Lawmakers Consider Two Bills to Improve Healthcare Workforce Numbers," which aired on WYPR on Feb. 6.



NICOLE E. SMITH

**Nicole E. Smith, PhD, MS '14, RN, CNE, CHSE, CNE-cl,** assistant professor, was named co-director of the entry Bachelor of Science in Nursing program.

# LAURELS

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## SCHOOL OF PHARMACY



NICK CAPRIO



JOANNA SHAJU

**Nick Caprio** and **Joanna Shaju**, both fourth-year student pharmacists, were chosen for AstraZeneca-University of Maryland Early Clinical Development Fellowships.



ANDREW COOP

**Andrew Coop, PhD**, professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was appointed associate dean for graduate programs.



HILLARY EDWARDS

**Hillary Edwards, MPH**, director of methodological research and evaluation, PATIENTS Program, Department of Practice, Sciences, and

Health Outcomes Research, received a three-year, \$149,751 grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality for “ASTARISQ: Addressing Systemic and Structural Racism to Improve Safety, Quality, and Trustworthiness in Health Delivery Systems.”



AGNES ANN FEEMSTER

**Agnes Ann Feemster, PharmD, BCPS**, associate professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, was appointed associate dean for academic affairs.



JOGA GOBBURU

**Joga Gobburu, PhD, MBA**, professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, and director, Center for

Translational Medicine, received a three-month, \$120,000 contract from Padagis US, LLC, for “Leuprolide Injection Project.”



SARAH L.J. MICHEL

**Sarah L.J. Michel, PhD**, dean and professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was named an Innovation Fellow by the Universities at Shady Grove

as part of its new Joann Boughman Innovations Fellow Program.

**Jannat Saini**, student, PhD in Pharmaceutical Health Services Research program, received a one-year, \$38,012 grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality for “Towards a Better Understanding of Access Factors Associated with Treatment and Outcomes Among Medicaid Enrollees with Opioid Use Disorder and Depression.”

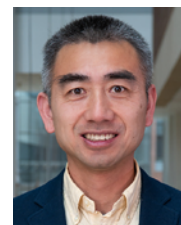
**Abdou Senghor, PhD**, postdoctoral fellow, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, received a one-year, \$50,000 contract from Johns Hopkins University for “Using an Ethical Deliberation Approach to Address the Ethical Challenges Related to the Enrollment of African Americans with Chronic Kidney Disease in U.S. Health Registries.”



FADIA SHAYA

**Fadia Shaya, PhD, MPH**, professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research; executive director, Behavioral

Health Resources Program; and UMB Distinguished University Professor, received a one-year, \$18,114 grant from the UMB Institute for Clinical and Translation Research’s Accelerated Translational Incubator Pilot grant program for “Preparing and Demonstrating Readiness for Machine Learning with the Electronic Medical Record (EMR) Data from a Community Drug Treatment Center.”



FENGTIAN XUE

**Fengtian Xue, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a one-year, \$100,000 contract from the Maryland

Industrial Partnerships Institute for “Creating a Small Molecule Carbon Monoxide Antidote.”



# LAURELS

APRIL 2024

## SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



NIKITA AGGARWAL

**Nikita Aggarwal, MSW, PhD** candidate, received UMB Center for Global Engagement Scholars funding to support the community fieldwork and data

analysis of her dissertation, “Exploring the Role of Work and Immigration-Related Risk Factors on the Behavioral Health of Immigrant Restaurant Workers: A Mixed-Methods Study.”

**Tural Mammadli, LMSW, PhD** student, and **Darren L. Whitfield, PhD, MSW**, associate professor, were among the co-authors of “Gender Identity Conversion Efforts as a Source of Minority Stress Among Transgender and Nonbinary Persons Living in the U.S.: Correlation with Wellbeing and Proximal



TURAL MAMMADLI



DARREN L. WHITFIELD

Stressors,” which was published in *Sexuality Research and Social Policy*.



LYNN MURPHY MICHALOPOULOS

**Lynn Murphy Michalopoulos, PhD**, associate professor and director of global initiatives, was among the co-authors of “Associations Between Different

Forms of Intimate Partner Violence and Posttraumatic Stress Among Women Who Use Drugs and Alcohol in Kyrgyzstan,” which was published in the *Journal of Traumatic Stress*.

**Morgan Pardue-Kim, MSW**, PhD candidate, received UMB Center for Global Engagement Scholars funding to support the community-based methods of her dissertation, “Former Unaccompanied Refugee Minors’ Experiences as Parents: A Constructivist Grounded Theory and Participatory Approach.”



MORGAN PARDUE-KIM



DANIELLE R. PHILLIPS

**Danielle R. Phillips, MSW**, PhD candidate, co-presented a webinar on LGBTQIA2S+ ethical considerations and advocacy efforts to the

Hawaii State Rural Health Association via Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes).

## APRIL EPISODE

### ***Innovating Medicine: The Journey Toward Artificial Blood***

**GUEST:** Allan Doctor, MD, professor, Department of Pediatrics, University of Maryland School of Medicine

In this episode, UMB’s 2022 David J. Ramsay Entrepreneur of the Year discusses his artificial blood research and outlines the imperative need for an easily transportable and universally usable blood substitute for scenarios such as accidents or battlefield injuries, where immediate blood replacement can make the difference between life and death.

*Episode drops April 5.*

Learn more at [umaryland.edu/pulse](http://umaryland.edu/pulse).



# THE UMBRELLA GROUP

*UMB Roundtable on Empowerment in Leadership  
and Leveraging Aspirations*

APRIL 2024

## UMBRELLA SYMPOSIUM HAILS POSSIBILITIES OF COURAGE, BOLD MOVES

“To some, it was impossible, but to you, it was completely possible,” said Tisha Edwards, JD ’01, MSW ’00, praising Dawn Flythe Moore, first lady of Maryland, for her yearslong dedication to her ideals, her family, and people across the state.

Her comment came during the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) Women’s History Month Symposium, “Reimagine the Possibilities,” sponsored by the UMBrella Group: UMB Roundtable on Empowerment in Leadership and Leveraging Aspirations.

The March 6 event, which featured Edwards in conversation with Moore during a morning keynote address, was kicked off by UMB President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, who welcomed nearly 200 participants to the annual symposium.

“February was Black History Month. March is Women’s History Month. We get to celebrate both,” Jarrell said before highlighting the accomplishments of the morning’s speakers, including Moore’s roles as philanthropist, campaign strategist, and the first Black first lady of Maryland, as well as Edwards’ academic connections to the University and her position as Gov. Wes Moore’s secretary of appointments.

Following Jarrell’s remarks, Edwards opened the keynote discussion by touching on her almost decadelong friendship with

the first family before asking Moore to recount her path from private citizen to state’s first lady.

Moore shared insights into her background, describing her journey from New York to Maryland, where she attended the University of Maryland, College Park, and her initial foray into state government, when she worked for then-Maryland Secretary of State John Willis. As she spoke about her current role as first lady, Moore expressed gratitude for the opportunity

to serve alongside her husband. She also acknowledged the fears and uncertainties she encountered during the gubernatorial campaign but added that the decision to run for office was a joint one.

“I married a public servant. And I believe in relationships, you have to let people do what they desire to do,” she said. “We decided that together, we would make this run for office. And here we are.”

Moore touched on her roles in campaigns for former Gov. Martin O’Malley and Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, as well as her time as chief of staff for Anthony Brown during his stint as lieutenant governor. The experience gave her unique insight into how a campaign for governor would impact her life as well as those of her husband and children, which is why she called upon the support of what Moore called “a whole family of troops,” including her mother, mother-in-law, and other relatives.



PHOTO BY MATTHEW D'AGOSTINO

DAWN MOORE, THE FIRST LADY OF MARYLAND, SPEAKS DURING HER MORNING CONVERSATION WITH TISHA EDWARDS, WHO IS GOV. WES MOORE'S SECRETARY OF APPOINTMENTS, AT THE WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH SYMPOSIUM.

*Continued from previous page*



PHOTO BY MATTHEW D'AGOSTINO

JENNIFER LITCHMAN (LEFT), UMB'S SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND FOUNDER AND CHAIR OF THE UMBRELLA GROUP, LED A DISCUSSION WITH SHANNON HOCKING, FOUNDER AND CEO OF HOCKING LEADERSHIP, LLC, DURING THE WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH SYMPOSIUM.

During the conversation, Edwards broached the subject of self-doubt with the first lady, noting, "We talked about your strength, your courage, your leadership. I want to talk about being vulnerable. And as women, I think we all know, there are moments when we're in the room, and we're questioning ourselves, our preparedness."

Moore pointed to imposter syndrome, remarking that everyone in the audience had experienced it in some manner, and she connected the feeling to her journey in politics.

"I'm used to being a staff person. I'm used to being an advisor. But sometimes I sit at the table, and I'm like, 'God, everybody's looking at me,'" Moore said, and she acknowledged the importance of Governor Moore's encouragement during such moments.

"You are where you are supposed to be, and you are in the room because that's where you belong. This is not some social experiment. This is not an act of benevolence," she recounted, reflecting on her husband's words of support. "This is because you really have something to offer."

## 2024 UMBRELLA AWARD WINNERS

The UMBrella Award winners were announced during this year's Women's History Month Symposium, recognizing the contributions made by individuals who espouse the UMBrella Group's mission and goals:

### PERSON OF THE YEAR — ON THE RISE

**Christina Manoto, MBA**

*Management Advisory Analyst,  
Administration and Finance, UMB*

### PERSON OF THE YEAR — LEADING THE WAY

**Neijma Celestine-Donnor, JD, MSW**

*Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and  
Clinical Assistant Professor, School of Social Work*

### CHAMPION OF THE YEAR

**Donna Parker, MD, FACP**

*Senior Associate Dean for Undergraduate Medical Education  
and Professor, Department of Medicine, School of Medicine*

Read about the winners [at this link](#).



PHOTO BY MATTHEW D'AGOSTINO

FROM LEFT, UMBRELLA AWARD WINNERS DONNA PARKER, NEIJMA CELESTINE-DONNOR, AND CHRISTINA MANOTO WERE HONORED AT THE WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH SYMPOSIUM.

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Jennifer B. Litchman, MA, UMB senior vice president for external relations and founder and chair of UMBrella, hosted the symposium's afternoon event, a fireside chat with Shanna Hocking, founder and CEO of Hocking Leadership, LLC, and author of "One Bold Move a Day: Meaningful Actions Women Can Take to Fulfill Their Leadership and Career Potential."

Hocking, who spent 20 years raising hundreds of millions of dollars and leading teams at organizations from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania to Duke University, opened the chat saying she discovered her passion for university fundraising at age 18.

She went on to describe how the COVID-19 pandemic prompted her to make two bold moves — launching a leadership development company and completing her book. Despite starting with no clients and being her family's primary breadwinner, she said her conviction in her mission propelled her, as it had her entire career. It was what led her to persevere in submitting her book proposal despite being rejected by 30 literary agents.

"The thing about a superpower — and everyone has a superpower — it is the thing that makes you uniquely you. It is your strength, it comes so naturally to you, you might not even know what your superpower is until you do a little deeper reflection. Mine is resilience and determination," she explained, and stressed, "I just will not let other people deter me from reaching my goals. I will find another way to do this. Because in my heart, I know that I am meant for something more."

Hocking then delved more deeply into the concept of bold moves and how they contribute to personal and professional growth. She said that such moves are not always monumental actions but can also be small, courageous steps taken in everyday life.

"A bold move can be something that you shout to your friend from the rooftops, but the reality is, a bold move isn't always going to be something as significant as moving to a new city or taking a new job. Your one bold move might be asking for the server to bring you mustard you wanted instead of quietly wishing that they had," she said. "It might be speaking up in a meeting, even when your voice shakes, disagreeing with someone more senior than you are, negotiating your salary to get paid what you're worth."

— Lorri Angelloz

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



## UMBRELLA GROUP WINS AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION AWARD

The American Council on Education (ACE) announced March 13 that the University of Maryland, Baltimore's (UMB) UMBrella Group was the 2024 recipient of its State Network Leadership Award. The honor recognizes an extraordinary and innovative program sponsored by an ACE State Network or higher education institution that helps elevate or support women or women's issues in higher education.

Founded in 2014, UMBrella (UMB Roundtable on Empowerment in Leadership and Leveraging Aspirations) helps women who work at UMB build community and provides resources that facilitate enhanced leadership skills, self-advocacy, and personal and professional success.

Jennifer B. Litchman, MA, senior vice president for external relations and founder and chair of UMBrella, accepted the award at the Women's Network Leadership Conference on March 20 in Washington, D.C.

"I'm ecstatic that UMBrella has been recognized with the 2024 ACE State Network Leadership Award," Litchman said. "When we founded UMBrella in 2014, our goal was to provide value to the University and build a community of support for women within the institution. Ten years later, it's very gratifying and humbling to be recognized nationally for our work in empowering women to succeed."

Kim Lee, ACE's director of community strategy and engagement, said, "UMBrella provides women with indispensable resources that help them unlock their potential. This program's comprehensive approach has made it easier than ever for women to envision a future in higher education leadership."

*Read more about the award [at this link](#). ↗*

# INNOVATION AND DISCOVERY

APRIL 2024

## INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH COMPUTING IS UP AND RUNNING

“This is really, really exciting,” Maryland Lt. Gov. Aruna Miller told a gathering of 50 scientists and policy leaders at the University of Maryland Institute for Health Computing (UM-IHC) in North Bethesda on March 8. “Please know that this state is a partner with every one of you. Whatever we can do, to be able to succeed here in Montgomery County means we succeed over the entire state of Maryland.”

UM-IHC is a strategic initiative that aims to improve the health and well-being of those living in Maryland and beyond using advanced computing tools like artificial intelligence, machine learning, and network medicine to create a premier learning health care system. It merges top-tier computational expertise and biomedical research with a vast clinical care network that is diverse socioeconomically and geographically. This network includes access to clinical trial data and de-identified electronic health records from 2 million patients in the University of Maryland Medical System.

“We see this as the East Coast Silicon Valley for health computing,” said University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM) Dean Mark T. Gladwin, MD. The center’s location also brings significant benefits, he added. “Why here? We’re on the Red Line. Montgomery County has more than 320 companies. We’re here by NIH, FDA, multiple biomedical partners, and research facilities. ... And again, we’re a triangle between UMB, College Park, and this incredible, vibrant location. So, we’re looking to build the economy through partnerships, and the development of new commercial entities in the space of artificial intelligence.”

The institute’s staff has only very recently moved into its new headquarters. The team has already generated results from its first analyses and anticipates scaling up its analytical operation in the next few months, which will be fueled by the activation of the institute’s high-performance computing center.

The 10-year sublease comprises more than 27,000 square feet of state-of-the-art technology and office space that will serve as IHC’s home until a planned \$200 million facility is completed at the North Bethesda Metro Station.

Both UM-IHC’s current temporary and future locations include space for federal science partners to improve collaboration within the bioscience community.

“The FDA has already signed a memorandum of understanding with us, and they are looking forward to expanding the machine



PHOTO BY MATTHEW D'AGOSTINO

UMB PRESIDENT BRUCE JARRELL LOOKS ON AS LT. GOV. ARUNA MILLER (LEFT) SHAKES HANDS WITH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE DEAN MARK GLADWIN OUTSIDE THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH COMPUTING IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD.

learning and AI group in very close partnership with the Institute for Health Computing,” said Amitabh Varshney, PhD, dean of the College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP). “So, we see this as a partnership that reinvigorates and revitalizes the fantastic opportunities between the federal government, industry, and the universities right here in Montgomery County and in the state of Maryland.”

Gladwin noted that UM-IHC has already received its first of what are expected to be many grants to perform medical studies. Rozalina McCoy, MD, MS, associate professor of medicine at UMSOM, will use big datasets to determine if new weight-loss drugs are as effective or more effective than bariatric surgery.

“Every step we take is looking to advance clinical outcomes, particularly focusing on health equity,” said Bradley A. Maron, MD, professor of medicine at UMSOM and co-director of UM-IHC.

To illustrate the power of data science, Maron showed the group an analysis of the smoke infiltration from the Canadian wildfires last June, which increased by fivefold the amount of

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harmful chemicals in the air over communities all over the East Coast.

“We then determined that this event was associated with a 40 percent rise in the need for people to see a heart or lung doctor just in that period of time,” Maron said. “This enables us to predict these events in the future and be prepared to deploy resources to affected or at-risk populations all across the region, regardless of their location or regardless of their risks that we know today.”

The key to any useful analysis of medical data is the size and quality of the dataset, said Warren D’Souza, MD, MBA, chief innovation officer at the University of Maryland Medical System (UMMS) and adjunct professor of radiation oncology at UMSOM. UMMS is a 12-hospital system headquartered in Baltimore that serves all citizens of Maryland, delivering approximately 25 percent of the hospital-based care in the state, which means the ability to access the de-identified electronic health records from UMMS patients will be invaluable for answering urgent public health questions.

“As Dr. Maron alluded to, we serve very diverse communities in urban, suburban, and rural areas in the state of Maryland,” D’Souza said. “We believe that the technological and computational advances at the IHC and the clinical trials that we conduct through the IHC will have an incredible impact on the patients we serve, and the citizens of Maryland.”

Another speaker, Esa Davis, MD, MPH, associate vice president for community health and director of health equity at UM-IHC, explained that UM-IHC hopes to develop new measures and ways of understanding the root causes of health inequities, including social drivers of health, and bias.

Funding support for UM-IHC comes from strategic partner Montgomery County, Md., and the University of Maryland Strategic Partnership: *MPowering the State (MPower)*,



PHOTO BY MATTHEW D'AGOSTINO

**UMB PRESIDENT BRUCE JARRELL SAID OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH COMPUTING: “I EXPECT TO HAVE [UMB] STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND STAFF HERE. ... AND I ALSO EXPECT US TO REALLY BECOME A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH IN THIS RICH CORPORATE AND FEDERAL AGENCY LOCATION.”**

the structured collaboration between UMB and UMCP. Montgomery County has committed \$40 million to the project over five years, followed by a \$30 million commitment from UMB and UMCP. Last year, the Maryland congressional delegation provided an initial \$3 million for equipment. The terms of the bill under consideration by the Maryland General Assembly would provide an additional \$1.5 million through *MPower* in Fiscal Year 2026, increasing to \$6 million each year, beginning in Fiscal Year 2029.

“This is a partnership that’s hard to come by, and we hope that the partnership will expand rapidly to include other [University System of Maryland] schools and students from all parts of Maryland,” said UMB President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS. “I expect to have students, faculty, and staff here. I expect us to be involved in economic development and workforce development in this county and the state. And I also expect us to really become a force to be reckoned with in this rich corporate and federal agency location.”

— Alex Likowski

## YES CHEF! AT UMB ELEVATES ON-CAMPUS DINING EXPERIENCE

The University of Maryland, Baltimore's (UMB) newest breakfast and lunch option — Yes Chef! at UMB — has opened on the first floor of the SMC Campus Center, in what was previously known as The Market at UMB.

Yes Chef! at UMB aims to be a local marketplace for the University community, offering healthy and affordable snacks, coffee, smoothies, and meals such as specialty salads, hot paninis, sandwiches, and wraps. The marketplace also has partnered with local vendors such as Taharka Brothers Ice Cream and Pfefferkorn's Coffee to bring a diverse selection of products to UMB.



PHOTO BY ANGELA JACKSON

YES CHEF! AT UMB OPENED FEB. 27 ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE SMC CAMPUS CENTER.

At the grand opening Feb. 27, the Yes Chef! team welcomed crowds with free soup and chili samples, free cookies, and their varied menu. Students, faculty, and staff noted the eatery's fresh ingredients, speedy service, and friendly staff. "It's great to have a place where I can get healthy food between classes, without going off-campus," one student said.

Yes Chef! at UMB is open Monday to Thursday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Friday from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The opening of Yes Chef! at UMB marks a significant milestone in the Campus Center's plan to reimagine the dining and catering experience within the building.

In March 2023, the building's retail food service and catering agreement with the previous vendor ended. While the transition expanded catering options for events held in the Campus Center, the subsequent closure of The Market at UMB left the Campus Center without a dining option in the building.

"We know that a lot of UMB community members rely on the Campus Center to purchase meals and snacks," said Patty Alvarez, PhD, MS, chief student affairs officer and vice president. "As we searched for a permanent dining option, it was important that we provide alternative food options to minimize the impact of not having in-house dining, especially for students."

As a temporary solution, the Campus Center introduced vending machines, including Farmer's Fridge, which offers fresh and healthy vending choices. Additionally, UMB Student Affairs formed a dedicated advisory group to explore the future of dining and catering services in the Campus Center.

The advisory group brought together students, faculty, and staff from across the campus to draft recommendations for dining and catering within the building. After ensuring that their recommendations represented the diverse needs and expectations of the UMB community, the group's leaders shared their recommendations with UMB Student Affairs leadership.

According to Bill Crockett, MS, RCRSP, assistant vice president, UMB Student Affairs, the decision to partner with Yes Chef! aligns with the advisory group's recommendations.

"As a local, woman-owned business that emphasizes sustainability and whose principles align with UMB's core values, Yes Chef! emerged as the ideal choice to enhance the campus dining experience," Crockett said.

The owners, husband-and-wife Clint Roze and Jodi Roze, are former higher education practitioners who understand the unique needs of a university community and bring that expertise to Yes Chef! at UMB.

Yes Chef! began in 2019 as a prepared meal service before expanding to a commercial kitchen and retail marketplace. Yes Chef! at UMB is its second brick-and-mortar location, with the first located at McHenry Row in Locust Point.

— Angela Jackson