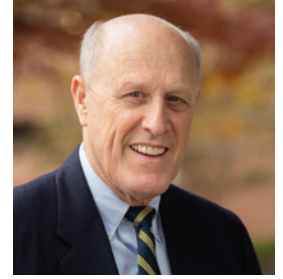


the PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MAY 2024



STUDENTS' HARD WORK PAYS OFF AT GRADUATION

For students, faculty, and families alike, graduation marks the culmination of years of hard work, dedication, and perseverance. It's a time to celebrate achievements, reflect on growth, and embrace the journey ahead.

This is a joyous time at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB). Our graduates' hard work has paid off, and they will soon have their degrees. This is a momentous accomplishment of which they should be very, very proud. I'm grateful to everyone who has helped get our graduates to this point including their friends and families, as well as the faculty and staff at UMB.

"As our graduates enter the professional world, we celebrate the incredible work they have completed so far and look forward to seeing what they do next."

Graduates, as you prepare to embark on the next stage of your lives, I want to remind you of the core values that have been instilled in you during your time at UMB. At our University, we are guided by our core values of Respect and Integrity, Well-Being and Sustainability, Equity and Justice, and Innovation and Discovery.

I hope that these core values will guide you as you leave UMB and embark upon the careers for which you have been prepared.

UMB is a special place where we share a commitment to improving the human condition and serving the public good. I hope that you take that mission with you as you leave UMB and keep it throughout your career. I know that you will change the world for the better.

Graduation marks an important end point, but it's also a new beginning. As our graduates enter the professional world, we celebrate the incredible work they have completed so far and look forward to seeing what they do next.

Congratulations to the Class of 2024!

Sincerely,

Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS
PRESIDENT



WELCOME TO UMB!

NEW HIRES: APRIL 2024

UMB

George Bahr, Staff
Matthew Cherrington, Staff
Marcus Clark, Staff
Tammie Counts, Staff
Monica Fulwood, Staff
Kevin Gayles, Staff
Destinee Knight, Staff
T. Richard Miller, Staff
Dylan Outten, Staff
Jennifer Readmond, Staff
Alyson Sandul, Staff
Robert Shivers, Staff
Caleb Summer, Staff
Megeen White, Staff
Schwonda White, Staff
Nia Williams, Staff

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

Halima Karim, Faculty

GRADUATE SCHOOL

Gina Brown, Staff
Sarah Ford, Staff
Gwendolyn Lucke, Staff

FRANCIS KING CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW

Ariannwyn Carver, Faculty
Joseph McManis, Staff

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Meghan Anderson, Staff
Andrew Bennett, Staff
Michael Berger, Faculty
Noah Bisbee, Staff
Carlien Brown, Staff
John Carbone, Staff
Alena Cowsette, Staff
Thomas Cusack, Faculty
Ava Davis-Vanya, Staff
Shilpa Dilip Kumar, Faculty
Fatimah Dixon, Staff

Latelia Edwards, Staff
Neha Eldho, Staff
Marcela Ferrada, Faculty
Octavia Griffin, Staff
Jiajia Gu, Trainee
Sri Harsha Kethanapalli, Staff
Meaghan Keville, Faculty
Taylor Kowansky, Staff
Pranav Kulkarni, Staff
Eric Ley, Faculty
Nadia Mattanah, Staff
Bradley Murphy, Staff
David Patterson, Staff
Kelly Richburg, Staff
Kristen Riley, Staff
Marni Robins, Faculty
Caryn Russman, Faculty
Anne Sawyer, Staff
Nicholas Schaffer, Staff
Mayurapriyan Somalinga, Staff
Christina Stennett, Faculty
Kunzah Syed, Faculty
Julia Tadros, Staff

Weiqing Tang, Faculty
Kelly Valceanu, Faculty
Carter Watts, Staff
Chunyu Wei, Trainee
Brenna Yaw, Staff
Yongdae Yun, Trainee

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Savannah Babino, Staff
Yvonne Douglas, Faculty
Molly McComiskey, Faculty
Hannah White, Staff

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

Susan Maskery, Staff
Ankit Nagar, Trainee

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Kelli Johnson, Staff

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



UMB STUDENT PANTRY 30-DAY MEAL KIT CHALLENGE

DID YOU KNOW?

UMB is now recognized as a Hunger-Free Campus due to its commitment to supporting students experiencing food insecurity.

WHAT IS THE 30-DAY MEAL KIT CHALLENGE?

Each spring, UMB's Division of Student Affairs and Office of Philanthropy partner to feature the UMB Student Pantry and collect monetary gifts to help sustain its meal kit program for the upcoming months.

This year's challenge kicked off **April 22 and ends on May 21.**

WHAT IS THE CHALLENGE GOAL?

Our goal is to secure funding for 300 meal kits (\$3,000) in 30 days. Each kit costs \$10 to create and provides four servings of food per student.



HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Scan the QR code or visit umaryland.edu/studentpantry/give and make your gift today.

LAURELS

MAY 2024

UNIVERSITYWIDE

Patty Alvarez, PhD, MS, chief student affairs officer and vice president, UMB, and adjunct faculty member, Graduate School, was selected to serve as a peer evaluator for the Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

Bill Crockett, MS, RCRSP, assistant vice president of student affairs, business and facility operations, was a panelist for “Policy and Legislative Concerns Impacting Collegiate Recreation Now and in the Future” at the Sport and Recreation Law Association Conference on Feb. 21.

Allison Keyes, student, School of Dentistry; **Alexander Wang**,

student, School of Social Work; **Rasul Wright**, student, Francis King Carey School of Law; and **Joanna Ye, DPT, PT**, alumna, School of Medicine, all writing consultants in the UMB Writing Center, presented “Mind-Body Magic: Promoting Physical Wellness in Writing Centers” at the Mid-Atlantic Writing Center Association Conference in Fairfax, Va., on March 23.

Melissa Morland, MS, MBA, executive director of facilities operations and maintenance administration, was selected to be an instructor in the Biorisk Management Advisor Development and Mentorship Twinning Program, which is funded by the U.S. Department of Defense’s Defense

Threat Reduction Agency/Biological Threat Reduction Program.



AMY RAMIREZ



VIRGINIA ROWTHORN

Amy Ramirez, MA, executive director of global learning and international services, and **Virginia Rowthorn, JD, LLM**, assistant vice president and executive director, both in the Center for Global Engagement, presented “Overcoming Key Structural Barriers to Equitable Global Health Clinical Education Exchanges” at the Consortium of Universities for Global Health Conference in Los Angeles on March 8.



FROM LEFT, ALLISON KEYES, JOANNA YE, ALEXANDER WANG, AND RASUL WRIGHT PRESENTED AT THE MID-ATLANTIC WRITING CENTER ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE ON MARCH 23 AT GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY.



FAITH STEELE

Faith Steele, MLS, AHIP, outreach and education librarian, and **Tiffany N. Chavis, MSW, MLIS**, health literacy librarian, Region 1 of the

Network of the National Library of Medicine, both in the Health Sciences and Human Services Library, and colleagues presented the poster “Teaching Telehealth to Libraries” at the Health Literacy Collaborative Summit in April.

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

LAURELS

MAY 2024

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY



ISADORA GARCIA

Isadora Garcia, DDS, MSc, PhD, clinical assistant professor, Department of Comprehensive Dentistry, received the 2024 Omicron Kappa Upsilon National

Dental Society Research Award, which recognizes individuals who have demonstrated remarkable achievements in dental research.



JEFFERY B. PRICE

Jeffery B. Price, DDS, MS, MAGD, FICD, FACD, clinical professor and director, Division of Oral Radiology, Department of Oncology and Diagnostic

Sciences, was among the co-authors of “Surveying the Landscape of Diagnostic Imaging in Dentistry’s Future: Four Emerging Technologies with Promise,” which was published in the *Journal of the American Dental Association* in March.

CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW



DEBORAH EISENBERG

Deborah Eisenberg, JD, professor and vice dean, delivered the keynote address “Mediation Clinics and Clinical Legal Education” for the 4th Annual

International Mediation Clinic Conference hosted by the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, on March 21.



LARRY GIBSON

Larry Gibson, JD, professor, was a guest on “A Life of Impact: Larry S. Gibson’s Journey Through Law, Advocacy, and History” on WEAA Radio’s “Two

Way Talk” program on April 4.



LEIGH GOODMARK

Leigh Goodmark, JD, professor and director, Clinical Law Program, discussed her book “Imperfect Victims” during “An Evening with Leigh

Goodmark” at Books & Books in Coral Gables, Fla., on March 19.

Mark Graber, JD, professor, wrote “Opinion: Trump’s Apologists Say It Doesn’t Matter If He’s Guilty of Insurrection. That’s Not True,” which was published in *The Guardian* on March 5.



LIZ GRAHAM

Liz Graham, MLIS, executive director, Thurgood Marshall Law Library, was featured in “Leader Profile: From Blockbuster Employee to

Executive Director of a Law Library,” which was published in the March/April edition of *AALL Spectrum*.



TOBY GUERIN

Toby Guerin, JD, clinical instructor and executive director, Center for Dispute Resolution, co-presented the workshop “Establishing and Maintaining

Mediation Clinics” at the 4th Annual International Mediation Clinic Conference hosted by University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, on March 21.



LESLIE MELTZER HENRY

Leslie Meltzer Henry, JD, professor, was quoted in “The Fight Over I.V.F. Is Only Beginning,” which was published in *The New Yorker* on March 3.



DIANE HOFFMANN

Diane Hoffmann, JD, professor and director, Law and Health Care Program, was among the co-authors of “The DTC Microbiome Testing Industry

Needs More Regulations,” which was published in *Science* on March 14.



KATHLEEN HOKE

Kathleen Hoke, JD, professor and director, Network for Public Health Law-Eastern Region, was quoted in “Federal Judge Plans to Send Child Victims

LAURELS

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Act Question to Maryland Supreme Court,” which was published in *The Baltimore Sun* on March 22.

Paula Monopoli, JD, professor and founding director, Women, Leadership, and Equality Program, presented “The Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution: The Woman Suffrage Amendment” to the National Constitution Center on March 20.



WILL MOON

Will Moon, JD, professor, was awarded a 2024 University System of Maryland (USM) Board of Regents Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching.

The awards are the highest faculty honor given by the USM Board.

Robert Percival, JD, professor and director, Environmental Law Program, presented “The U.S. Constitution and Climate Change” at the Climate Constitutionalism Conference at Pace University’s Elisabeth Haub School of Law on March 29.

Michael Pinard, JD, professor and faculty director, Gibson-Banks Center for Race and the Law, was a panelist for “Youth, Race and Wrongful Convictions: How the Adulthoodification of Children, School-to-Prison Pipeline, and Juvenile Court Practices Contribute to Wrongful Convictions” at the Innocence Network National Conference in New Orleans on March 22.



AMANDA PUSTILNIK

Amanda Pustilnik, JD, professor, was on the panel “Brain-Computer Interface: Bridging Technology and Healthcare” at the SXSW Conference at the University of Texas in Austin on March 8.



MANEKA SINHA

Maneka Sinha, JD, associate professor, wrote “The Automated Fourth Amendment,” which was published in the *Emory Law Journal*.



MATIANGAI SIRLEAF

Matiangai Sirleaf, JD, professor, co-authored “Reflecting on Race, Racism and Transitional Justice,” which was published in the

International Journal of Transitional Justice on March 28.



JEFF SOVERN

Jeff Sovern, JD, professor, was interviewed for “U.S. Service Members Sue Maryland in Federal Court,” which aired on WBAL-TV on April 3.

Max Stearns, JD, professor, wrote “America Should Embrace a Parliamentary Democracy,” which was published in *TIME* on March 20.



LIZA VERTINSKY

Liza Vertinsky, JD, professor, wrote “The More Things Change: In Memory of Dmitry Karshtedt,” which was published in the *Northwestern Journal*

of Technology and Intellectual Property in April.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



JOSHUA ABZUG

Joshua Abzug, MD, professor, Department of Orthopaedics, was awarded a 2024 University System of Maryland (USM) Board of Regents Faculty Award

for Excellence in Public Service. The awards are the highest faculty honor given by the USM Board.

Omer Awan, MD, MPH, professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, was the last author of “Mandatory Wellness Lectures and Exercises: Helpful or Harmful?” which was published in *Academic Radiology* in February.

LAURELS

MAY 2024

Soha Bazyar, MD, resident, and **Phuoc Tran, MD, PhD**, professor, both in the Department of Radiation Oncology, were among the co-authors of “Stereotactic Ablative Radiation Therapy in Metastatic Prostate Cancer,” which was published Feb. 15 online ahead of print in *Current Opinion in Oncology*.

Elizabeth Clayborne, MD, MA, adjunct assistant professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, was recognized in Maryland Gov. Wes Moore’s State of the State speech as the founder and CEO of NasaClip, which created a hands-free device to stop nosebleeds.



CINTHIA BESKOW
DRACHENBERG

Cynthia Beskow Drachenberg, MD, professor, Department of Pathology, and director, Electron Microscopy Laboratory, was promoted to Professor

Emerita, effective July 1.



GARY FISKUM

Gary Fiskum, PhD, the Matjasko Professor of Anesthesiology Research, received a one-year, \$167,000 grant for “The Effects of Long-Range Aeromedical

Evacuation on Military Relevant Complex Injuries” and a one-year, \$316,788 grant for “Genomics of Hypobaric Following Polytrauma,” both from the U.S. Air Force.



TODD D. GOULD

Todd D. Gould, MD, professor, is the lead inventor of “Crystal Forms and Methods of Synthesis of (2R, 6R)-Hydroxynorketamine and (2S, 6S)-Hydroxynor-

ketamine,” which was issued a Canadian patent on March 12.



JOSEPH P. KAO

Joseph P. Kao, PhD, professor, is the lead inventor, and **Christopher W. Ward, PhD**, professor, is the co-inventor of “Microtubule Polymerization Inhibitor

Prodrugs and Methods of Using the Same,” which was awarded European patents for France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom on March 20.



ANU KEWALRAMANI

Anu Kewalramani, MD, assistant professor, Department of Pediatrics, presented “Swallowed Steroids Are First Line Therapy

for Fibrostenotic Eosinophilic Esophagitis” at the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., on Feb. 22.

Carmen Mannella, PhD, adjunct professor, Department of Physiology, was among the co-authors of “PMF-seq: A Highly Scalable Screening

Strategy for Linking Genetics to Mitochondrial Bioenergetics,” which was published in *Nature Metabolism* on Feb. 27.



CARMEN MANNELLA



SARAH MCAVOY

Sarah McAvoy, MD, associate professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was among the co-authors of “Patient Education Practices and

Preferences of Radiation Oncologists and Interprofessional Radiation Therapy Care Teams: A Mixed Methods Study Exploring Strategies for Effective Patient Education Delivery,” which was published March 2 online ahead of print in the *International Journal of Radiation Oncology – Biology – Physics*.



MARGARET
MCCARTHY



HEATHER CULP

Margaret McCarthy, PhD, the James and Carolyn Frenkil Dean’s Professor and chair, Department of Pharmacology, and **Heather Culp, JD**, chief philanthropy officer, were named to *The Daily Record* Maryland’s Top 100 Women list.

LAURELS

MAY 2024



CHARINA REYES

Charina Reyes, MD, and Debbie Badawi, MD, both assistant professors, Department of Pediatrics, were among the co-authors of “Collaborative

Program to Support Parents of Black Children Awaiting a Developmental Evaluation,” which was published in *Pediatrics* on Jan. 9.



MILAGRITOS TAPIA

Milagritos Tapia, MD, professor, Department of Pediatrics, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, received the Dean’s Faculty Award

for Diversity and Inclusion at UMSOM’s 2024 Diversity Dinner and Celebration.

Briana Tate, PhD, postdoctoral research fellow, won a Spring 2024 UMB-sponsored Postdoc Professional Development Award.

Flaubert Tchantchou, MSc, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Anesthesiology, was among the co-authors of “Hippocampal Vulnerability to Hyperhomocysteinemia Worsens Pathological Outcomes of Mild Traumatic Brain Injury in Rats,” which was published in the *Journal of Central Nervous System Disorders* on March 6.



KELLY WESTLAKE

Kelly Westlake, PT, MSc, PhD, associate professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, presented “Reactive Balance Control and Training

in Parkinson’s Disease” at the Encompass Health 44th Annual Neurorehabilitation Conference on Jan. 20.



BYONG Y. YI

Byong Y. Yi, PhD, professor, is the lead inventor, and **Sina Mossahebi, PhD,** associate professor, and **Chaitanya Kalavagunta, PhD,** assistant professor, are

the co-inventors of “System and Method for Forming a Treatment Plan for Charged Particle Therapy Using Hydrogen Density,” which was issued a U.S. patent on March 19.



LUANA COLLOCA

Luana Colloca, MD, PHD, MS, professor and director, Placebo Beyond Opinions Center, was quoted in “Gene Therapy for Pain Treatment,” which was published on DiscoveryNews.com on March 20.



BILL GARDINER

Bill Gardiner, MBA, senior associate dean for administration and finance and chief operating officer, recently served as a Middle States Commission on

Higher Education peer evaluator, collaborating with a team of colleagues from other institutions to conduct an on-site visit of an institution under review.

Zoe Gbourne was promoted to academic support services specialist.



CASEY JACKSON

Casey Jackson, MS, CCRP, director of research quality improvement and compliance, was added to the UMB Workplace Mediation Service roster

of potential mediators supporting conflict resolution on campus.

Sorah Levy, MSN, RN, RAC-CT, PhD student, won the Best in

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Alisa Chard, BSN, RN, CEN; **Qingting Lin, BSN, RN, CMSRN, CCRN;** **Blanche Mayo, BSN, RN;** and **Rong Xiao, BSN, RN,** all Doctor of Nursing Practice-Family Nurse Practitioner students, presented posters at the University of California San Francisco 2024 Clinical Inquiry Conference in February.

LAURELS

MAY 2024

Category Award for her poster presentation “Nursing Home Profit Status and Pain Among Residents with Dementia” at the AMDA-The Society



SORAH LEVY

for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine PALTC24 Annual Conference in San Antonio in March.



RACHEL MCPHERSON

Rachel McPherson, PhD, postdoctoral fellow, was accepted into the Dementia Palliative Care Clinical Trials Training Program sponsored by

the Center for Aging and Serious Illness at Massachusetts General Hospital, a 10-month program for early- to mid-career researchers and health professionals to develop competence in the planning, design, and execution of randomized clinical trials in persons with Alzheimer’s disease or related dementias.



DAWN MUELLER-BURKE

Dawn Mueller-Burke, PhD, CRNP, NNP-BC, assistant professor and chair, *New Essentials* Curricular Revisions Taskforce, had the manuscript

“The AACN *Essentials*: An Intentional Framework for Successful Implementation” selected for publication in the *Journal of Professional Nursing*. Faculty



SUSAN L. BINDON



SHANNON K. IDZIK

members **Susan L. Bindon, DNP, RN, NPD-BC, CNE, CNE-cl, FAAN**, and **Shannon K. Idzik, DNP '10, MS '03, CRNP, FAANP, FAAN**, were contributing authors.

Elisha Baafi Oduro, BSN, RN, PhD student, received the Ho Chiang Scholarship to attend the Annual Assembly of Hospice and Palliative Care in Phoenix in March and present “Characteristics and Palliative Care Needs of People with versus without Dementia in Skilled Nursing Facility Care,” research that was co-authored by **Joan Carpenter, PhD, CRNP, ACHPN, FPCN**, assistant professor; **Merve Gurlu, MS**, statistician, and **Shujun Zhu, PhD, DrE**, professor.



KRISTEN RAWLETT

Kristen Rawlett, PhD '14, FNP-BC, FAANP, CNE, associate professor, was among the co-authors of “American Association of Nurse

Practitioners Research Agenda, 2023-2028,” which was published in the *Journal of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners*.

Rebecca N. Weston, EdD, MSN, RN, CNE, and **Ann Hoffman, DNP, RN, CPN, CNE**, assistant professors, presented “Pediatric



REBECCA N. WESTON



ANN HOFFMAN

Content Reviews Reimagined — Providing Learners with an Immersive Review Experience” at the Society of Pediatric Nursing 34th Annual Conference in Phoenix in April.

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY



NICOLE BRANDT

Nicole Brandt, PharmD, MBA, BCGP, FASCP, professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, and executive

director, Peter Lamy Center on Drug Therapy and Aging, received a four-year, \$828,265 contract from the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists for “Leveraging Pharmacists as Age Friendly 4M’s Medication Champions.”

Udim Damachi, BPharm, MS, graduate student, PhD in Pharmaceutical Health Services Research program, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, received a 2024 Value Assessment & Health Outcomes Research PhRMA Foundation Predoctoral Award.

LAURELS

MAY 2024



ALLISON DUNN

Allison Dunn, PharmD, MS, research assistant professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, received a

10-month, \$35,000 contract from MacroGenics, Inc., for “Proposal to Perform Services Related to Pharmacokinetics of MGD014.”

Hillary Edwards, MPH, director of methodological research and evaluation, PATIENTS Program, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, received a nine-month, \$100,000 contract from Novo Nordisk for “PATIENTS Professors Academy 2024.”



AZIZA FRANK

Aziza Frank, graduate student, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received the 2023 Victor E. and Dorothy M. McIntosh Award from the University

of Maryland, Baltimore County’s Meyerhoff Graduate Fellows Program.



MOJDEH HEAVNER

Mojdeh Heavner, PharmD, BCCCP, FCCM, FCCP, associate professor and vice chair for clinical services, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health

Outcomes Research, was named assistant dean for experiential learning.



EMILY HEIL

Emily Heil, PharmD, BCPS-AQ ID, professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, received a four-month,

\$141,936 contract from the Maryland Department of Health for “CTBCP Medication Management.”



JIMMY LEONARD

Jimmy Leonard, PharmD, DABAT, associate professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, and director of

clinical services, Maryland Poison Center, received an 18-month, \$70,000 contract from the Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission for “Characterization of Incidence of Cannabis Hyperemesis Syndrome and Cannabis Related Cyclic Vomiting in Maryland from 2016 to 2022.”



KAREN MORALES

Karen Morales, associate director of engagement, PATIENTS Program, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, received

the Outstanding Achievement in Academic Community Engagement by a Staff Member Award from UMB’s Interprofessional Program on Academic Community Engagement.

Nabin Poudel, PhD, postdoctoral fellow, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, received a 2024 Value Assessment & Health Outcomes Research PhRMA Foundation Postdoctoral Award.



SCOTT RILEY

Scott Riley, PhD, instructor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received the UMB Leaders in Education: Academy of Presidential Scholars Award for Excellence in Teaching.



MAGALY RODRIGUEZ DE BITTNER

Magaly Rodriguez de Bittner, PharmD, FAPhA, FNAP, the Gyi Endowed Memorial Professor in Entrepreneurship and associate dean for clinical services and practice transformation, was named to *The Daily Record* Maryland’s Top 100 Women list. She also received a three-year, \$766,516 contract from Maryland Primary Care Physicians for “Memorandum of Understanding.”

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Nikita Aggarwal, PhD candidate, and **Everett Smith Jr.**, PhD student, co-authored “Acculturative Stress and Psychological Distress During

LAURELS

MAY 2024

COVID-19 Among Racial-Ethnic Minority Immigrants in the US,” which was published in the *Journal of Ethnic & Cultural Diversity in Social Work*.



EVERETT SMITH JR.



KERRI EVANS

Kerri Evans, PhD, LCSW, assistant professor, was among the co-authors of “An Assessment of MSW Social Work Curricula: Semester-Long Courses

Specifically Related to Immigrants and Immigration,” which was published in the *Journal of Teaching in Social Work*.

Tural Mammadli, LMSW, PhD student, and **Darren L. Whitfield, PhD, MSW**, associate professor, were among the co-authors of “Understanding Harms Associated with Gender Identity Conversion Efforts Among Transgender and Nonbinary Individuals: The Role of Preexisting Mental Well-Being,” which was published in the *International Journal of Transgender Health*.



SARAH DABABNAH

Sarah Dababnah, PhD, MPH, MSW, served as a panelist on an advocacy forum for autism research in Washington, D.C., that included autism advocates, family

members, policymakers, researchers, clinicians, and other stakeholders.



JODI FREY

Jodi Frey, PhD, LCSW-C, professor, was appointed as a Mental Health First Aid Research Advisor.



FERNANDO WAGNER

Fernando Wagner, PhD, professor was selected as a Fulbright U.S. Scholar for the 2024-2025 program in Mexico.

Crafting Your Corporate Identity: A Comprehensive Guide to Ordering Business Essentials and Campus Maps at UMB

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You do not need to provide the printer with any templates. Recycled paper options are available.



STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY

MAY 2024

PRESIDENT JARRELL SHARES HIS VISION FOR CAMPUS VIBRANCY

During his State of the University address May 1 at the M&T Bank Exchange, University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, led the audience on a “tour” around West Baltimore and laid out his vision for a vibrant University and city.

First stop: the Hippodrome Theatre that adjoins the “jewel” of a building the 525 attendees were sitting in and was in a state of disrepair 40 years ago, now restored with the help of UMB. Jarrell took the audience down a few blocks to the remodeled CFG Bank Arena, where he recently attended a sold-out concert on a Tuesday night.

developers to convert the Lexington Street area into housing, stores, and research space for UMB students, faculty, staff, and others. UMB has created a development plan with consultants.

“We’d like to see this develop into an area that resembles a ‘College Town USA’ kind of atmosphere, an exciting place to be,” he said. “And we think we will be successful.”

Nearby sits Metro West, a building on Saratoga Street that has been vacant for 10 years.

“We’re very pleased that the Maryland Department of Health just next year is going to be moving into the Metro West building. That’s 1,200 people working there,” Jarrell said. “You can imagine how all of the people working there will flood Lexington Market, will give vibrancy to our campus.”

UMB will be constructing a new School of Social Work building, expected to open in 2027, at West Lexington and North Greene streets. Emphasizing the University’s commitment to sustainability, the building will include solar panels, geothermal energy, and green space.

“The important part about this area of development is that not only the School of Social Work but all of our schools will be immediately adjoining the Maryland Department of Health,” he said. “This will add to UMB’s vibrancy.”

Next stop: the UMB BioPark and the nearly completed 4MLK building that will house the largest cluster of bioscience companies in the Greater Baltimore region.

“This building changes the landscape in a very dramatic way,” Jarrell said of 4MLK.

He acknowledged that some people may be doubtful that the Lexington and Saratoga street areas can be transformed, but he pointed out that this type of vision has come to fruition at the BioPark.



PHOTO BY MATTHEW D'AGOSTINO

UMB PRESIDENT BRUCE JARRELL DELIVERS HIS STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY ADDRESS FROM THE STAGE AT THE M&T BANK EXCHANGE ON MAY 1.

“It ended at 10:30 and let out about the same time as the Hippodrome. You couldn’t walk, the streets were crowded, people were excited,” he said. “Maybe something good is happening around here.”

Jarrell envisions this same vibrancy — a place with culture, activity, and engagement — for the Lexington Street area of UMB’s campus. He announced that UMB is engaging private

Continued from previous page

“There were a lot of people who said that nobody or no business would move across MLK Boulevard into the BioPark,” Jarrell said. “And now just look around. It’s become an essential part of this University, a West Campus, if you will. And it has been the enabler, the anchor for other programs that have enriched the local community.

“Now I know there will be doubters that we can do this. They’ll say nobody will invest in this location. I disagree with them. I’m betting that people will. I’m sure that they will see the potential of this and the connection to our University.”

FACE TO FACE WITH AI

Before the “tour,” Jarrell opened his speech with an often-humorous conversation with “Aisha,” a Chatbot GPT, highlighting the work that UMB is doing but showing some of the limitations of artificial intelligence (AI). Jarrell recalled hearing a speech by science fiction author Isaac Asimov and a quote that stuck with him that is applicable today to AI: “Science gathers knowledge faster than society gathers wisdom.”

“We should not be afraid of technology, of new discoveries,” Jarrell said. “Instead, we should embrace them and make sure that we control them, not they control us. She made me think, ‘Are we evolving fast enough as a university? Are we keeping up with Aisha and her kind? What is our strategy? How does she fit into our mission to improve the human condition?’ ”

UMB has started using AI in several programs including the University of Maryland Institute for Health Computing, a collaboration among the School of Medicine, the University of Maryland Medical System, and the University of Maryland, College Park that uses AI to analyze clinical data to improve human health care.

He pointed out that two UMB schools — the Francis King Carey School of Law and the School of Social Work — have deep expertise in protecting people’s rights and privacy and social scientists to help develop wisdom in using AI.

“Who better to help us guide our use of AI to benefit society, especially underserved communities, especially Baltimore? That makes UMB a perfect location, a perfect University to ask important social and legal questions as it applies to AI, how to responsibly use it. We just have to be strategic.”



PHOTO BY MATTHEW D'AGOSTINO

THE OPENING SEGMENT OF THE STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY ADDRESS FEATURED A CONVERSATION BETWEEN PRESIDENT JARRELL AND “AISHA,” A CHATBOT GPT.

‘BEEHIVE OF ACTIVITY’

Aisha asked Jarrell about the recent Supreme Court decision on affirmative action.

“Just as we at UMB have persisted in our mission, we will persist in our commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion,” he said. “That work is more important now than it ever has been.”

Jarrell highlighted numerous achievements throughout the schools: the two xenotransplantations done by School of Medicine faculty; the School of Social Work’s B’more for Healthy Babies program; the School of Nursing’s program to boost social inclusion and combat isolation in West Baltimore; and the School of Pharmacy’s first-of-its-kind medical cannabis program.

Jarrell began his speech by asking Aisha what makes UMB great. She recited statistics such as how many students and employees the University has and told him she would not do his job for him, bringing laughter from the audience. Jarrell interjected with his perspective.

“UMB is great because of the people,” he said. “Everywhere I look at this University, I see a beehive of activity. People are committed to excellence in clinical care, in client care, in scholarly activity, teaching, service. It’s a phenomenal place.”

— Jen Badie

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

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

MAY 2024

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK'S CANAPP NAMED 2023 UMB EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Jen Canapp is affectionately known to many students as the “PhD mom” of the University of Maryland School of Social Work (UMSSW). On April 15, she received another title, this one from the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB): 2023 Cecil S. Kelly Memorial Employee of the Year.

Canapp, academic services specialist for the PhD program at UMSSW, was honored during UMB’s Employee Recognition and Service Awards Luncheon at Westminster Hall. The annual event also recognizes the James T. Hill Scholarship recipient, Community Service Award winner, and longtime employees who in 2023 reached service milestones in five-year increments between 20 and 50 years.

Canapp was chosen Employee of the Year from a group of 12 nominees who were selected as Employees of the Month in 2023. UMB President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, announced Canapp as the winner, then Malika S. Monger, MPA, PHR, chief human resources officer and associate vice president, read quotes from UMSSW colleagues about her, including:

- *“Jen is consistently reliable, collegial, and helpful. Countless PhD students have told me that Jen was the reason they have made it through the PhD program.”*
- *“Jen responds to everyone — our students, staff, visitors, dignitaries, faculty, etc. — with kindness, caring, grace, respect, empathy, and positivity.”*
- *“She routinely goes above and beyond the limits of her job description to make sure that everyone is doing OK.”*

Canapp has picked up international students at the airport, helped them navigate the Social Security Administration office, and even made them sweets and goodies when they had to quarantine after a flight because of the COVID-19 pandemic. She supports about 40 PhD students, helping them from the time they apply to the program to the time they graduate.

“I am shocked but very touched to be named Employee of the Year,” said Canapp, who will receive a \$1,500 bonus as Employee of the Year. “It meant a lot to hear the reasons why I was nominated, and it means a lot to me because I love my job.

To know that the people I work with and the people that I work for appreciate me, it just makes me feel wonderful.”

JAMES T. HILL SCHOLARSHIP

Ashley Davis, MSN, CARN-AP, FNP-C, nurse practitioner, Research Initiative for Infectious Diseases and Substance Use (RIIS), Institute of Human Virology, University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM), received the James T. Hill Scholarship.



PHOTO BY MATTHEW D'AGOSTINO
JEN CANAPP SHOWS HER SURPRISE AFTER IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT SHE WAS THE 2023 UMB CECIL S. KELLY MEMORIAL EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR.

The \$2,000 scholarship was established to support UMB’s commitment to staff development in recognition of Hill’s long and outstanding service to the University as well as his personal commitment to the professional development of fellow employees until he retired in 2009. Jarrell took time to talk about Hill, who died in March at age 81, remembering him as a “champion of UMB and certainly a champion of our employees.”

Davis has worked for nearly five years on the RIIS team, whose primary research objective is to explore the intersection

Continued from previous page

of infectious diseases and substance use in marginalized populations with the goal of eliminating health disparities.

“As a RIIS nurse practitioner, I explore these high-risk populations and barriers to care, while assessing and implementing patient-centered interventions to improve delivery of care and facilitate translational research in conjunction with clinical work,” Davis said.

During her time at UMB, Davis has worked to continue her professional development to improve the care she provides to patients. She has received Certified Addictions Registered Advanced Practice certification and become credentialed as an HIV specialist through the American Academy of HIV Medicine.

In addition to working at UMB, Davis is a student in the Doctor of Nursing Practice Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner specialty at the University of Maryland School of Nursing.

“Obtaining a doctoral degree is not easy, it’s not cheap, and I feel fortunate that my team at UMB has supported me,” Davis said. “To have this additional recognition that also comes with money to go toward tuition, I just feel really grateful.”

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Jerome Robinson, maintenance mechanic lead, Parking and Transportation Services, received the Community Service Award, which recognizes a UMB employee who is active in local community service organizations or has a long history of service on the local, national, or international levels.

Robinson, a 23-year UMB employee, “goes above and beyond most employees by providing community service to the surrounding neighborhoods,” said Robert Milner, MS, CAPP, executive director, Auxiliary Services. “He has made feeding and clothing the homeless in the Baltimore region a priority for the last four years.”

In addition to food drives, Robinson has helped organize annual school supply drives for local students, clothing drives, and a toy drive in December.

Said Robinson: “I’ve been in downtown Baltimore for 47 years and on this campus for a long time, so I see the homeless who need help and that there are many people in need. I just try to help out where I can.”



PHOTO BY MATTHEW D'AGOSTINO

ASHLEY DAVIS (SECOND FROM RIGHT), WHO RECEIVED THE \$2,000 JAMES T. HILL SCHOLARSHIP, POSES WITH (FROM LEFT) UMB CHIEF HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER MALIKA MONGER, SCHOOL OF MEDICINE DEAN MARK GLADWIN, AND UMB PRESIDENT BRUCE JARRELL.

LONG-TERM SERVICE

Monger introduced the service milestone employee groups and noted that the 97 honorees had a combined 2,460 years of working at the University. That list included one employee, Cyndi Rice of Academic Affairs, who was celebrating 45 years at UMB, and well as two 50-year employees, Lu Ann Marshall of the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law and Bruce Steffe of UMB Administration and Finance.

Jarrell thanked all the honorees for their service, noting that there is great value in the deep institutional knowledge they provide to the University.

“It’s a remarkable accomplishment to serve UMB for so long, but it’s also a statement about what it really means to be committed to our mission,” he said. “And this event gives me a chance to say how important it is that you’ve stayed here and that you’ve lent your expertise, your talent, and your skills to make UMB operate so well.”

— Lou Cortina and Jen Badie

See a photo gallery from the event [at this link](#).

Watch a video about the event [at this link](#).

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FUTURE OF WORK

MAY 2024

TASK FORCE UNVEILS RECOMMENDATIONS

In March, the University of Maryland, Baltimore's (UMB) Future of Work Task Force held a series of town halls to present recommendations on how the University should support its existing workforce and plan for the future. Spearheaded by Roger J. Ward, EdD, JD, MSL, MPA, provost and executive vice president, and Dawn M. Rhodes, DBA, chief business and finance officer and senior vice president, the events marked a culmination of efforts by the task force, which was established in July 2022.

As Ward welcomed participants during the series' final town hall March 28, he stressed the importance of meeting the needs of staff and faculty along with the University's overarching goals. "At UMB, we have a distinctive set of core values. We have a mission we are deeply committed to. But we also want to be responsive," he said. "It's trying to balance individual needs with the greater needs of the University and making sure that we are, in the end, able to execute our mission."

The event began with a brief overview of the task force's charge and scope — which included work flexibility, employee value proposition, and employee well-being — by one of the task force's co-chairs, Malika Monger, MPA, PHR, chief human resources officer and associate vice president. Monger also outlined the group's extensive research efforts, noting the task force worked with a consultant, reviewed best practices, studied similar work by other universities, held listening sessions at UMB, and conducted surveys.

The result of their work was a comprehensive report spanning over 160 pages with 14 major recommendations and 58 sub-recommendations for UMB leadership to consider.

The co-chairs of the task force's Work Flexibility Committee, Carin Cardella, MA, MS, public information officer for UMB's Department of Police and Public Safety, and Liz Graham, MLIS, executive director of the Thurgood Marshall Law Library at the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law, outlined the task force's 14 major recommendations.

Those recommendations were grouped within six themes:

- Theme 1: Maintaining flexible work successes at UMB
- Theme 2: Building an infrastructure to support lasting change
- Theme 3: Strengthening employee well-being to improve the human condition



PHOTO BY MATTHEW D'AGOSTINO

UMB LEADERS ROGER WARD (RIGHT) AND MALIKA MONGER ADDRESSED THE HYBRID AUDIENCE AT ONE OF THE FUTURE OF WORK TOWN HALLS IN MARCH.

- Theme 4: Maximizing University resources
- Theme 5: Enhancing workplace culture
- Theme 6: Employing innovative strategies to recruit and retain talent

All recommendations were presented to UMB leadership, including President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, and deans and vice presidents, who responded with a report indicating their response to each of the 58 sub-recommendations. Those responses included: already supporting, supports, more research needed, and do not support.

Continued from previous page

Beginning with Theme 1, Graham acknowledged that many employees are currently engaged in remote work and said that recommendations within that theme advised UMB to continue providing flexible work schedule options and for the University to formally evaluate all positions to identify remote work potential. She noted the task force identified three “buckets” of employees — those who work on-site full time due to their functional responsibilities, those who work remotely full time, and those who maintain hybrid schedules.

“There are many variables that factor into whether it’s appropriate to work remotely and how often — not just the fact that you can, but is it appropriate?”
— Dawn Rhodes, chief business and finance officer and senior vice president

“The key word here is equitable, not equal,” Graham explained while highlighting the diversity of roles and responsibilities among staff and faculty. “We also heard that there was a lot of frustration that there were these blanket policies, and that people were being told things without adequate justification.”

Another recommendation, which fell under Theme 2, advised the creation of a full-time position focused on evolving work trends and a President’s Council on the Future of Work. Strengthening employee well-being emerged as a cornerstone of Theme 3, with recommendations aimed at promoting a culture of care; supporting effective, equitable, and sustainable parking and transportation systems; and providing alternate services and subsidies to support fully on-site employees.

In discussing the Theme 3 recommendations, Cardella emphasized the ongoing topic of equitable treatment of all employees.

“Many of those who don’t have the opportunity to work flexibly are among the lowest-paid employees here at UMB. Those are security officers, environmental services staff, facility staff, parking staff, and more,” she said. “It’s really important to me and to our entire committee that we look at these employees and engage with them to better understand their needs and find a way to provide services and subsidies that can

help to bridge the gap between fully on-site employees and those who are remote or hybrid.”

Themes 4 and 5 focused on maximizing University resources and enhancing workplace culture, respectively, with recommendations ranging from conducting space analysis and fostering effective space allocation to supporting healthy work habits. Innovative strategies to recruit and retain talent took center stage in Theme 6, with recommendations aimed at refining hiring practices and facilitating employee transitions.

Rhodes, who discussed leadership’s responses to the recommendations during the town hall, said that decisions about flexible work options would be made at the school or unit level, and emphasized that it was essential to balance individual needs with maintaining University operations and a sense of community.

“It’s important to know that there are many variables that factor into whether it’s appropriate to work remotely and how often — not just the fact that you can, but is it appropriate?” she said. “Those variables include vibrancy, a sense of community and belonging, and the operations of the units and what time of year, etc. So, deans, vice presidents, and your supervisors are charged with taking these variables into consideration when reaching decisions to permit hybrid.”

After the presentation, audience members in person and online had time to ask questions about the recommendations and the administration’s response. One attendee expressed concerns about employees being told to return to the office despite the success of remote work during the COVID-19 pandemic. Concerns also were raised about compensating employees who take on additional responsibilities due to inadequate staffing levels.

In closing out the town hall, Rhodes said, “I’d just like to say that this has been a very collaborative process, and I appreciate the engagement of the campus on this topic.”

She added that more work needs to be done, saying, “We have, as a leadership team, a responsibility for developing an action plan. There are going to be many more conversations and many more actions behind this.”

— Lorri Angeloz

Download the task force’s report [at this link](#). ↗

Download the deans’ and vice presidents’ report [at this link](#). ↗