Webster’s defines fundamental as “of or forming a foundation or basis; basic; essential.” That definition certainly applies to the fundamental elements found in the 2011-2016 University Strategic Plan.

When the cross-section of people from across the University created the strategic plan, in addition to its various goals and themes, they found four areas that were basic and essential, and named them fundamental elements. Today we’ll examine the four elements with their corresponding 2013 implementation tactics that are now under way.

**Faculty and staff training**
The goal of “providing a comprehensive development program that offers opportunities to enhance knowledge and develop the skills of all employees” will be pursued by establishing and supporting resources for the training and professional development of staff and, where appropriate, faculty.

This will entail measuring the University’s investment in training to ensure it is appropriately sized to our organization as well as include an annual survey of participants who have undergone training. Coaching and mentoring programs for faculty and staff will be supported and career tracks for staff, including training requirements, will be developed. “Providing a training and development website that is … user-friendly and all-inclusive” and “creating a culture that values continued education and promotes internal advancement” are two other goals.

**Information technology (IT)**
To achieve the goal of “enhancing Universitywide IT governance structure, infrastructure, and services in an appropriate and coordinated manner,” a formal structure to optimize IT service delivery and plan for its utilization and growth is being established with the help of IT steering and coordinating committees. Increasing the number of applications that support single sign-on via the UMID also is being sought for systems used by the University community.

**Enhanced two-way communication**
Goals include “improve the visibility and reputation of the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) brand,” “increase and enhance internal communications to foster more collaborative relationships and build an internal sense of community” and “develop a communications framework that supports people, programs, and partnerships.”

An external communications plan that incorporates media campaigns to highlight UMB interprofessional success stories, identifies target audiences for specific outreach initiatives, and provides media training for thought leaders to position them as experts in their fields is in process as well as a strategy for enhanced use of the Web and social media to raise the awareness of our University. Additionally, an internal communications plan will include creation of a mobile application, a common Universitywide events calendar, and the development of a campaign to highlight faculty, staff, and student successes.

**Government and external relations**
Goals include “identify, build, and strengthen the University’s relationships with elected and appointed officials at the federal level who will support achievement of the University’s mission” and “raise visibility of the University profile by providing expertise to federal, state, and local officials and key collaborators.”

Federal agency contacts with whom the University leadership has existing relationships will be identified, new relationships between University leadership and key federal officials will be created, outreach and educational events to engage identified officials will be expanded, as will a support network of alumni, corporate, and nonprofit contacts. In addition, the number of faculty and staff who serve on boards and offer testimony relevant to the University mission will be increased.

Of course, these just touch on some of the highlights of the strategic plan’s fundamental elements. For more in-depth information on the strategic plan leaders, funding, and implementation phase details, click [here](http://www.umaryland.edu).

Have any questions? Bring them to our group Q&A on April 16 at 11 a.m. at the School of Dentistry.

All the best,

Jay A. Perman, MD
President

www.umaryland.edu
Laurels

CAMPUSWIDE

“Stress and Quality of Life in Caregivers of Inner-City Minority Children With Poorly Controlled Asthma,” an article written by School of Social Work associate professor Melissa Bellin, PhD, MSW; Mary Beth Bollinger, DO, associate professor in the School of Medicine’s Department of Pediatrics; Mona Tsoukelas, PharmD, associate professor in the School of Pharmacy’s Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science; and others, was published in the Journal of Pediatric Health Care.

The Daily Record newspaper’s 2013 list of the top 100 women in Maryland includes Joana Carneiro da Silva, PhD, assistant professor in the School of Medicine’s Department of Microbiology and Immunology and Institute for Genome Sciences; Karen Kauffman, PhD, CRNP-BC, chair of the School of Nursing’s Department of Family and Community Health; Ann Mech, JD, RN, assistant professor in the Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health and coordinator of legal affairs at the School of Nursing; Barbara Resnick, PhD, RN, CRNP, FAAN, FAANP, Sonya Ziporkin Gershovitz Chair in Gerontology at the School of Nursing; and Lisa Rowen, DNSc, RN, FAAN, a member of the School of Nursing’s Board of Visitors and senior vice president of patient services and chief nursing officer at the University of Maryland Medical Center. Kauffman and Rowen are also inductees into the top 100 women Circle of Excellence for being on the list three times. All of the honorees will be recognized during a ceremony at the Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall in May.

Congratulations to the School of Medicine and the Francis King Carey School of Law for moving up in several categories in the recently released U.S. News & World Report rankings. U.S. News did not update rankings this year for disciplines affecting other schools at the University. The medical school, which retained its 37th research ranking, improved from 71st to 58th in primary care and its AIDS specialty rejoined the rankings at No. 15. The medical school also rose from seventh to sixth for Association of American Medical Colleges sponsored research among public schools. The law school saw its environmental law ranking rise from 11th to sixth in U.S. News and its part-time (evening) law program improve from ninth to sixth. Its health care law and clinical training specialties remained in the top five.

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

“Impaired Histatin-5 Level and Salivary Antimicrobial Activity Against C. Albicans in HIV-Infected Individuals,” a paper written by Mary Ann Jabra-Rizk, PhD, associate professor in the Department of Oncology and Diagnostic Sciences, has been accepted for publication in the Journal of AIDS & Clinical Research.

Li Mao, MD, associate dean of research and chair of the Department of Oncology and Diagnostic Sciences, was featured in the March edition of International Innovation for his research into a novel biomarker and therapeutic target of hepatoma-derived growth factor in treatment of advanced stage cancers.

David Seminowicz, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Neural and Pain Sciences, received a $3,399,841 grant from the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine for his project “MRI Outcomes of Mindfulness Meditation for Migraine.”

Mark Shirliff, PhD, associate professor in the Department of Microbial Pathogenesis, won a LIFE (Leading Innovative Faculty Entrepreneurs) award from the Maryland Biotechnology Center. He received the honor, which includes a $50,000 prize, for his presentation “Protective Vaccine Against Staphylococcus Aureus Biofilms and Other Antigens.”
FRANCIS KING CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW

Clinton Bamberger, JD, professor emeritus, was among the speakers during a memorial program for Arthur Chaskalson, former chief justice of the Constitutional Court of South Africa and distinguished visitor at the School. Chaskalson died late last year. The memorial program was held in March at the American University Washington College of Law.

Rebecca Bowman-Rivas, MSW, manager, Law and Social Work Services Program; Jerome Deise, JD, professor; and Michael Millemann, JD, director of the Leadership, Ethics, and Democracy Initiative, were presenters during Affirming the Past, Embracing the Present, Envisioning the Future—the National Alliance of Sentencing Advocates and Mitigation Specialists conference held in Baltimore in March.

“Special Kids, Special Parents, Special Education,” written by Karen Czapanskiy, JD, Francis and Harriet Iglehart Research Professor of Law, was accepted for publication by the Michigan Journal of Law Reform.

Student Laura Dunn was quoted in “College Sexual Assault Victim Advocates Hail VAWA Passage”—an article in The Huffington Post—and in several related articles.

“A Case Study in the Superiority of the Purposive Approach to Statutory Interpretation: Bruesewitz v. Wyeth,” written by Donald Gifford, JD, Edward M. Robertson Research Professor of Law; William Reynolds, JD, Jacob A. France Professor of Judicial Process; and alumnus Andrew Murad, JD ’12, was published in the South Carolina Law Review. Gifford also was among the presenters of “What’s on First: Organizing the Casebook and Molding the Mind” during a faculty workshop at the Villanova (Pa.) University School of Law in February.

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David Gray, JD, PhD, MA, associate professor, presented “A Technology-Centered Approach to Quantitative Privacy”—a paper he co-wrote with Danielle Citron, JD, Lois K. Macht Research Professor of Law—during the Location Tracking and Biometrics Conference at Yale Law School in March.

Michael Greenberger, JD, director of the Center for Health and Homeland Security, testified recently before state and federal legislative committees about derivatives and personal information protection.

Dean Phoebe A. Haddon, JD, LLM, presented “Bridging the Justice Gap” as the featured speaker during the recent Lawyer’s Roundtable in Baltimore. She was also a panelist during “Presumed Incompetent: The Intersections of Race and Class for Women in Academia,” held in Berkeley, Calif., and the moderator of an academic panel during the Second Biennial Henrietta Lacks Symposium, held at the University of Maryland, Baltimore.

“Series LLCs: What Happens When One Series Fails? Key Considerations and Issues,” written by Michelle Harner, JD, associate dean for academic programs; fellow Jennifer Ivey-Crickenberger; and student Tae Kim, was published in the February issue of Business Law Today.

Federal Habeas Corpus: Executive Detention and Post-Conviction Litigation, a book co-written by Lee Kovarsky, JD, assistant professor, was recently published.
Robert Percival, JD, MA, director of the Environmental Law Program, is among the writers of “Environmental and Occupational Interventions for Primary Prevention of Cancer: A Cross-Sectorial Policy Framework,” recently published in the journal *Environmental Health Perspectives*.

Garrett Power, LLM, professor emeritus, presented “Justice Scalia’s Requiem for the Planned Society” during the Seventh International Conference of the International Academic Association on Planning, Law, and Property Rights, held in Portland, Ore., in February.

Shruti Rana, JD, MSc, associate professor, presented “China’s New Copyright Reforms: A Comparative Perspective” during the 20th anniversary Conference of Asian Pacific American Law Faculty, held in February at the University of California Hastings College of the Law.

“On Duopoly and Compensation Games in the Credit Rating Industry,” written by Robert Rhee, JD, MBA, co-director of the Business Law Program, will be published in the November issue of the *Northwestern University Law Review*.

“Narrowing the Gender Pay Gap by Providing Equal Opportunities: The Need for Tenured Female Professors in Higher STEM Institutions in Efforts to Recast Gender Norms,” written by student Claire Roller and advisor Paula Monopoli, JD, founding director of the Women, Leadership, and Equality Program, will be published in the *UCLA (University of California, Los Angeles) Women's Law Journal*.

“Keeping Up With the Joneses: Making Sure Your History Is Just as Wrong as Everyone Else’s,” written by Brian Sawers, JD, visiting assistant professor, was published by *First Impressions*, an online publication of the *Michigan Law Review*.

Student Jessica Woods was chosen by the American College of Bankruptcy as its Distinguished Law Student for the 4th Judicial Circuit Court. Woods was selected for her outstanding academic credentials and an interest in bankruptcy law.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Richard Eckert, PhD, chair of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, was chosen president-elect of the Association of Medical and Graduate Departments of Biochemistry during the organization’s annual meeting in Quito, Ecuador, in January. Eckert will be president of the organization next year.

Joyce Frye, DO, MBA, MSCE, clinical assistant professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine, was quoted in “How to Lose Weight and Detox With Ginger,” an article in *Health* magazine.

John LaMattina, MD, assistant professor in the Department of Surgery at the School and director of living donor liver transplantation at the University of Maryland Medical Center, was awarded a $50,000 research grant by the Living Legacy Foundation for his research on liver decellularization.

Michelle Pearce, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine and the Center for Integrative Medicine, wrote the chapter “Addressing Religion and Spirituality in Healthcare Systems” in Volume 2 of the *APA (American Psychological Association) Handbook of Psychology, Religion, and Spirituality*. Pearce also co-wrote the chapter “Self-Control and Spiritually-Oriented Treatments for Addiction” in the book *Religion, Spirituality, and Positive Psychology: Understanding the Psychological Fruits of Faith*.
Y. Veronica Pei, MD, MPH, MEd, director of the international medicine fellowship in the Department of Emergency Medicine, is the co-principal investigator for the grant “Improving Pre-Hospital Care in China Through the Development of a Model Provincial Pre-Hospital Care Training Program,” funded by the China Medical Board. Pei is collaborating on this project with physicians at Xiangya Hospital at Central South University in China’s Hunan Province.

Charlene Quinn, PhD, RN, associate professor in the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, was featured in a spotlight video on the National Institutes of Health Director’s Blog for her research on evaluating mobile health approaches to managing diabetes.

Jacques Ravel, PhD, MSc, associate director at the Institute for Genome Sciences, was elected a fellow in the American Academy of Microbiology, the American Society for Microbiology’s honorific leadership group. Ravel will be recognized during the society’s annual general meeting, to be held in Denver in May.

Eduardo Rodriguez, MD, DDS, professor in the Department of Surgery and chief of plastic and reconstructive surgery at the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center, received honorable mention in The Baltimore Sun’s 2012 Marylander of the Year feature. Rodriguez was recognized for leading the team that performed the world’s most extensive full-face transplant last year at the University of Maryland Medical Center.

Eric Shepard, MD, FCCM, assistant professor in the Department of Anesthesiology, received a Presidential Citation from the Society of Critical Care Medicine for outstanding contributions to the organization in 2012.

Scott Strome, MD, FACS, chair of the Department of Otorhinolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery, and Dan Schulze, PhD, associate professor in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, have been issued a Mexican patent and an exclusive license for the invention “Immunoglobulin Constant Receptor Fc Receptor Binding Agents.”

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Marian Grant, DNP, RN, ACHPN, CRNP, assistant professor in the Department of Family and Community Health, wrote the chapter “Communication” for the second edition of the book Core Curriculum for the Advanced Practice Hospice and Palliative Registered Nurse, published by the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association.

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

Student Jamie Elsner received the American Pharmacists Association Foundation’s Boyle Family Scholarship.

Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD, CPE, vice chair for education in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, has been chosen to receive the Robert K. Chalmers Distinguished Pharmacy Educator Award from the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.
The School’s chapter of Phi Lambda Sigma, the pharmacy leadership society, received second place in the society’s national Chapter of the Year competition.

Thiyagu Rajakannan, PhD, a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, received the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America Foundation's Young Investigator Postdoctoral Fellow Award.

Deanna Tran, PharmD, assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, has received a 10 Under 10 New Practitioners Award from the Virginia Pharmacists Association Academy of New Practitioners.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
The School was ranked the ninth best social work program in the U.S. by graduateprograms.com, an online guide of graduate schools for prospective students. The ranking, based on student ratings and reviews, was released in March.

“It Takes A Village: Community Practice, Social Work, and Aging-in-Place,” written by Joan Davitt, PhD, MSW, associate professor, and former student Katie McDonough, MSW, is among the most read articles in the Journal of Gerontological Social Work. An abridged version of the article was recently published in Social Work Today magazine.

Diane DePanfilis, PhD, MSW, associate dean for research, was the kickoff speaker during a recent child welfare lecture series at the Rutgers School of Social Work. DePanfilis delivered the presentation “Back to the Future: Using Social Work Research to Improve Child Welfare Practice.”

“The Intersection of Health Beliefs and Religion Among Somali Refugees: A Qualitative Study,” co-written by research assistant professor Pamela Clarkson Freeman, PhD, MSW, was published recently in the Journal of Religion & Spirituality in Social Work: Social Thought.

Michael Reisch, PhD, MSW, MA, Daniel Thursz Distinguished Professor of Social Justice, delivered the keynote presentation and led a doctoral seminar during the Stony Brook School of Social Welfare’s Advocacy Day 2013 event. Reisch also has been named to the national advisory board of the newly established Center for Civic Literacy at Indiana University’s School of Public and Environmental Affairs.
Have a specific question you would like to ask the University president but never had the opportunity? Or would you just like to know more about what is happening around the campus?

Please join me as I answer questions from students, staff, and faculty. In this Q&A, we will spend the first portion updating you on the strategic plan. Then we will open the floor to discuss topics of your choice. Everyone at the University is welcome to attend.

To submit an anonymous question anytime, visit my website at www.umaryland.edu/president/feedback.