Since my friend William “Brit” Kirwan announced he is stepping down as chancellor, I have been thinking about the University System of Maryland (USM) and the role UMB plays in it. We have much to be proud of in that regard, and our future as a system partner looks bright.

In my inauguration speech in November 2010, I discussed our sister institutions in the system and said “we must reach out to each other and fulfill the opportunities that have been given us by our system leaders to create new knowledge and improve the human condition through collaboration.”

Three and a half years later, UMB can proudly say we’ve done our part to be a good collaborative citizen in the system community. MPowering the State, our structured alliance with the University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP), gets most of the attention, and deservedly so, but we’ve become much more engaged with the system in numerous other ways.

Our people are serving on various systemwide task forces and committees. In another example of collaboration, we shared the 2013-14 White Paper on a systemwide model for interprofessional education (IPE) with the system provosts, presidents, the Board of Regents Committee on Education Policy and Student Life, as well as with the chancellor. This framework for a systemwide IPE model with UMB as the hub has been well-received, and elements of the model are currently in effect at the Universities at Shady Grove (USG).

I was pleased to represent the system in addressing the General Assembly in February. UMB worked closely with the USM State Relations Council to advocate for improvements to the state’s higher education system as well as opposing bills that would hurt USM programs. I was proud to testify on the University’s FY15 budget before subcommittees in the House and Senate and express support for Chancellor Kirwan’s and Governor O’Malley’s budget requests, telling the legislators “not only the future of Maryland higher education, but the health of Marylanders is at stake.”

We also are helping the system accomplish the five goals in its 2020 Strategic Plan: achieve a 55 percent college degree completion rate; advance Maryland’s competitiveness in the innovation economy; transform the academic model with course redesign strategies; identify new ways to build on more than $200 million in direct cost savings; achieve and sustain national eminence.

MPowering the State alone is helping meet many of these goals by using the resources of our University and UMCP to better serve students, attract exceptional faculty and researchers, improve efficiency, and boost research, technology transfer, and commercialization of our discoveries.

UM Ventures, an MPowering initiative that ensures that the scientific discoveries we make benefit the public we serve, has overseen a 35 percent increase in the last two years in the number of inventions our scientists have identified for potential patenting. We have increased licenses by 47 percent, and revenue from these activities by 35 percent. New startups have more than doubled and the UM BioPark is thriving with 100 percent of its available space occupied by 35 tenants and 600-plus employees.

Looking ahead to see how UMB can be an even more productive system partner is exciting as well.

Geographically, we’re reaching out statewide. The Agricultural Law Education Initiative expands our support for Maryland’s rural communities in Southern Maryland by teaming Carey School of Law faculty with College Park faculty and by capitalizing on the deep connections University of Maryland Extension and University of Maryland, Eastern Shore faculty have with the farming community. University Regional Partnerships, under Executive Director Natalie D. Eddington, dean of our School of Pharmacy, will coordinate the expansion of UMB’s academic and research programs in Montgomery and Prince George’s counties, including at USG. Our Graduate School has partnered with Anne Arundel Community College to launch a Master of Science in Health Sciences degree program for physician assistant students.
Closer to home, other joint programs are growing with our system sister institutions. Our School of Nursing has entered in a collaborative partnership with the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) where 30 UMBC students each year join the School of Nursing program at the Baltimore and Shady Grove campuses. Other academic transformations include a course in Global Issues in Women’s and Children’s Health (involving UMB schools and the University of Maryland University College graduate school), several nursing leadership courses, and redesigned pharmacy courses to move students from “knowing” to “doing.” These academic transformations were proposed in support of the USM Enhancement Funding initiative.

And we have further invested in our faculty’s team-based science through joint seed funding programs with College Park and UMBC. Collaborating with new partners on other campuses is exciting.

Looking ahead, the following systemwide improvements are essential:

**Affordability**: Ensuring our nation’s economic prosperity means opening the doors of higher education to a wider variety of people. We must see to it that students of all ethnicities and all economic levels can afford to attend UMB and its sister institutions in the system.

**Community**: As I said in my State of the University Address, I have a vision of UMB as a vibrant urban university surrounded by a redeveloped and revitalized Baltimore City. Toward that end, Community Promise is an initiative that will coordinate and build our presence in the community. Read about Ashley Valis, our new executive director of community initiatives and engagement, on page 14.

**IPE**: UMB continues to build on the work begun by the Committee on Collaboration on Interprofessional & Interdisciplinary Educational Strategies (CIPES), a Shady Grove committee led by UMB faculty that is promoting IPE health sciences education among the system institutions at USG. Salisbury, Towson, UMBC, and UMCP are among the universities joining representatives of various UMB schools at CIPES events.

In closing, UMB stands proud as a system partner. I will be sorry to see Chancellor Kirwan step down, but I think he is leaving the system in extraordinary shape, which will benefit all its collaborative partners in the years to come.

Jay A. Perman, MD
President
The Orioles are on a **HOT** streak! Buy tickets NOW for best seat selection.

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UNIVERSITYWIDE

GGEAR, the Office of Academic Affairs’ Geriatrics and Gerontology Education and Research program, honored the following students who demonstrated exceptional expertise in the field of aging: Cheryl Augenstein (School of Medicine), Allison Carew (School of Nursing), Kirsten Logsdon, (School of Dentistry), Lina Mezei (School of Medicine), Kelly Sulek (School of Medicine), Hsiao-Ting Wang (School of Pharmacy), and Kaila Williams (School of Social Work).

Bohyun Kim, MA, MSLIS, associate director for library applications and knowledge systems at the Health Sciences and Human Services Library, was elected to the board of directors of the Library Information Technology Association, a division of the American Library Association.

“Improving Medical Education in Kenya: An International Collaboration,” written by Alexa Mayo, MLS, AHIP, associate director for services at the Health Sciences and Human Services Library, was published in the Journal of the Medical Library Association.

As co-chair of the Higher Education Information Security Council, Peter J. Murray, PhD, chief information officer and vice president, convened and led the council’s annual EDUCAUSE Security Professionals Conference, held in St. Louis in May.

Nancy Patterson, MLS, community outreach coordinator, Southeastern/Atlantic Region of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, presented “Health Literacy: Challenges and Solutions” and “Health Outreach: Funding and Resources” during a conference held by the West Virginia chapter of the National Association of Social Workers.

Maria Pinkas, MLS, metadata management librarian at the Health Sciences and Human Services Library, was appointed chair of the Continuing Education Committee of the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services, a division of the American Library Association.

The poster “Factors Associated With Drowsy Driving in Hospital Nurses,” written by Knar Sagherian, MSN, RN, student at the School of Nursing; Clark Lee, JD ’06, senior law and policy analyst at the Center for Health and Homeland Security at the Francis King Carey School of Law; and Jeanne Geiger-Brown, PhD, RN, FAAN, associate professor in the Department of Family and Community Health at the School of Nursing, was presented during the Public Health Research@Maryland Day event at the University of Maryland, College Park. Lee also co-wrote a policy brief on the benefits of later school start times for the Education Commission of the States.

Patricia Scott, assistant vice president in the Office of Student Financial Assistance and Education, has been named to the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators Task Force on Public Service Loan Forgiveness.

Frederick Smith, MS, information security officer at the Center for Information Technology Services, was accepted as a member of the Research and Education Networking Information Sharing and Analysis Center, which supports cybersecurity operational protection and response in higher education and research.
The UMB Staff Senate welcomes its new members:

2014-16 exempt seats: Amanda Azuma (School of Social Work), Colette Beaulieu (Health Sciences and Human Services Library), Craig Boegner (Academic Affairs), Colleen Day (School of Pharmacy), Carl Jackson (School of Social Work), Carol McKissick (School of Medicine), Kevin Watson (School of Medicine)

2014-15 non-exempt seats: Sandra Rollins (School of Medicine), Lois Warner (Development and Alumni Relations)

Alternates: Kiscia Cannon (School of Medicine), Cynthia Hollis (School of Dentistry), Rachel Holmes (School of Medicine), Janet Nance-Richardson (Carey School of Law), Nakiya Schurman (School of Social Work)

“Centralizing Distributed Resources and Making Them Searchable,” written by Kimberly Yang, JD, MLS, research, education, and outreach librarian at the Health Sciences and Human Services Library, was published in Best Practices for Government Libraries 2013: Managing Evolving Resources: Strategies, Capabilities, and Alternatives.

Andrew Youngkin, MLIS, AHIP, emerging technologies/evaluation coordinator, Southeastern/Atlantic Region of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, presented “Exploring mHealth Devices for Health Technology Instruction” during the annual meeting of the Florida Health Sciences Library Association.

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

Ivan Fried, DDS, associate professor in the Department of Endodontics, Prosthodontics and Operative Dentistry, received the Frank J. Sinnreich Jr. Award for Excellence in Teaching during the school’s honors convocation in May.

M. Lamar Hicks, DDS, MS, clinical professor in the Department of Endodontics, Prosthodontics and Operative Dentistry, received the I.B. Bender Lifetime Educator Award from the American Association of Endodontists.

The article “Altered Structure and Function in Hippocampus and Medical Prefrontal Cortex in Patients With Burning Mouth Syndrome,” written by student Shariq Khan; Michael Keaser, senior research analyst in the Department of Neural and Pain Sciences; Timothy Meiller, DDS, PhD, professor in the Department of Oncology and Diagnostic Sciences; and David Seminowicz, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Neural and Pain Sciences, was published in the journal Pain.

Stuart Prymas, DDS, associate professor and director of predoctoral prosthodontics in the Department of Endodontics, Prosthodontics and Operative Dentistry, received the Russell A. Gigliotti Memorial Award during the school’s honors convocation in May. The annual award recognizes an exceptional faculty member as chosen by the graduating dental class.

Mark A. Reynolds, DDS, PhD, MA, was appointed dean after a national search. Reynolds, a 1986 graduate of the school, had been serving as interim dean since July 15, 2013. Read more about Dean Reynolds.

University President Jay A. Perman, MD, presented Katherine Scharf, accounting associate in the Department of Endodontics, Prosthodontics and Operative Surgery, with the University’s Employee of the Month Award for April.

MaryAnn Schneiderman, MS, RDH, assistant professor and senior clinical coordinator in the Division of Dental Hygiene, was named Teacher of the Year by the dental hygiene Class of 2014.

“In Vivo Biofilm Infection Diagnosis and Treatment,” co-invented by Mark Shirliff, PhD, associate professor in the Department of Microbial Pathogenesis, was issued a U.S. patent.
Sheryl Ernest Syme, MS, RDH, associate professor and director of dental hygiene curriculum management and the degree completion dental hygiene program in the Division of Dental Hygiene, co-wrote the chapter “Abuse and Neglect” in the book Dental Hygiene Theory and Practice.

Norman Tinanoff, DDS ’71, MS, professor and chief of the Division of Pediatric Dentistry, was named the 2014 Mentor of the Year by the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry.

“Novel Dental Adhesive Containing Antibacterial Agents and Calcium Phosphate Nanoparticles,” co-written by Haukun Xu, PhD, MS, professor and director of the Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering Division, was the 10th most popular online article of 2013 in the Journal of Biomedical Materials Research. There were 488 downloads of the article.

Avery Blank, JD ’12, law and policy analyst at the Center for Health and Homeland Security, received a 20 in Their Twenties Award from The Daily Record newspaper.

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

Neil Dilloff, JD, adjunct faculty member, is the recipient of the 2014 Burton Distinguished Legal Writing Award for his article “Law School Training: Bridging the Gap Between Legal Education and the Practice of Law,” which was published in the Stanford Law & Policy Review. The award, which honors clear, concise, and comprehensive legal writing, was presented during a ceremony at the Library of Congress in June.


Phoebe A. Haddon, JD, LLM, dean and professor, delivered the address “Too Many Lawyers? Too Few Jobs? Bridging the Justice Gap” during the annual meeting of the American Law Institute, held in May in Washington, D.C. Other speakers at the event included Supreme Court justices Stephen Breyer and Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and Chief Justice John Roberts Jr.

“You Can’t Handle the Truth! Trial Juries and Credibility,” written by Renée Hutchins, JD, associate professor, was published in the Seton Hall Law Review.
Sherri Lee Keene, JD, assistant professor and acting director of the Legal Writing Program, was named to the editorial board for the Legal Writing Institute newsletter The Second Draft. Keene also was appointed co-chair of the institute’s Outreach Committee, and was inducted in the Hall of Honor of Fairborn City Schools in Ohio.

Amy Major, JD ’07, and Megan Timmins, JD ’07, associate directors at the Center for Health and Homeland Security, were among the developers and presenters of the American Bar Association online seminar “Surviving a Disaster, From the Ordinary to the Extraordinary: Is Your Law Firm Prepared?” Timmins was also a panelist for the workshop “A Primer on Using Pro Bono for Disaster Response and Preparedness” during the American Bar Association Equal Justice Conference, held in Austin, Texas.

Frank Pasquale, JD, MPhil, professor, participated in a panel of academics called to the Executive Office of the President to provide advice on big data policy. Pasquale was cited in the subsequent White House report “Big Data: Seizing Opportunities, Preserving Values.” “Automating the Automators,” an article written by Pasquale, was accepted for publication in Triple Canopy magazine.

“Argument Preview: Law School Clinic Seeks to Preserve Day in Court for Victims of Polluted Well Water,” written by Robert Percival, JD, MA, Robert F. Stanton Professor of Law and director of the Environmental Law Program, was published on the U.S. Supreme Court’s online SCOTUSblog. Percival also presented the lecture “The Globalization of Environmental Law” at the American University of Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates.

“Incentivizing Credit Rating Agencies Through a Mandatory Compensation Competition,” written by Robert Rhee, JD, MBA, professor, was published in the Banking and Financial Services Policy Report.

The Drama of DNA: Narrative Genomics, a book co-written by Karen Rothenberg, JD, MPA, Marjorie Cook Professor of Law, was published. Rothenberg also co-wrote “Finding Fault? Exploring Legal Duties to Return Incidental Findings in Genomics Research,” which was published in the Georgetown Law Journal. “Setting the Stage: Enhancing Understanding of Bioethical Challenges With Theatre,” written by Rothenberg, was published in the Indiana Health Law Review.

Maxwell Stearns, JD, Marbury Research Professor and associate dean for research and faculty development, presented “A Gentle Madness: Social Choice and Public Law” during the Workshop on Social Choice and Law, held at the University of California, Irvine’s Institute for Mathematical Behavioral Sciences.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Ameer Abutaleb, MD ’14, received an American Gastroenterological Association Student Research Fellowship Award while he was a student.

Robert Bloch, PhD, professor in the Department of Physiology, received a five-year, $1,688,500 grant from the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases for his research “Role of Dysferlin in T-Tubules of Skeletal Muscle.”

Jonathan Bromberg, MD, PhD, professor in the Department of Surgery and chief of the Division of Transplant Surgery, was named clinical sciences editor of Transplantation, the journal of the Transplantation Society.
Emilie Calvello, MD, MPH, clinical assistant professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine, was appointed extraordinary associate professor at Stellenbosch University in South Africa, and Robert Rogers, MD, FACEP, FAAEM, FACP, associate professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine and director of undergraduate medical education in the Department of Medicine, was named extraordinary senior lecturer. The appointments recognize the contributions Calvello and Rogers have made to the development of emergency medicine as a specialty in South Africa.

Carnell Cooper, MD, clinical associate professor in the Department of Surgery, won a Hometown Hero Award from the Chesapeake Region of the American Red Cross. Cooper was recognized for his work with the Violence Intervention Program at the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center.

Christopher D’Adamo, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine and director of research at the Center for Integrative Medicine, was quoted extensively in the article “Yes, Turmeric Is the Spice of the Moment (Here’s Why),” published on the Food Network’s Healthy Eats website.

Britta Hahn, PhD, MSc, assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry, was awarded a five-year, $2 million grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse for “Mechanisms Mediating the Attention-Enhancing Effects of Nicotinic Receptor Agents.”

Jon Mark Hirshon, MD, PhD, MPH, associate professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine, testified before a subcommittee of the House of Representatives’ Energy and Commerce Committee during a hearing on the nationwide shortage of hospital beds for psychiatric patients. Hirshon presented data from the “2014 National Report Card on Emergency Care,” which was compiled by a task force that he chaired.

“What Really Killed William Henry Harrison?” — an article co-written by Philip Mackowiak, MD, MBA, MACP, the school’s Carolyn Frenkil and Selvin Passen History of Medicine Scholar-in-Residence — was published in The New York Times.

“Using the Systematic Review Data Repository for Systematic Reviews of Complementary Medicine,” co-written by Eric Manheimer, PhD, research associate in the Department of Family and Community Medicine and the Center for Integrative Medicine, was published in the Journal of Alternative Complementary Medicine.

Linda Martin, MD, MPH, assistant professor in the Department of Surgery, was named director of the lung cancer screening program at the University of Maryland Upper Chesapeake Medical Center in Bel Air. Martin also was named vice chair of the Thoracic Surgery Group for the Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology.

Leonid Medved, ScD, PhD, professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; Sergiy Yakovlev, PhD, research associate in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; and Li Zhang, PhD, associate professor in the Department of Physiology, were issued a U.S. patent for “Compositions and Methods Utilizing Fibrin Beta Chain Fragments,” an invention regarding reduction of inflammation and treatment for ischemia.
“Traditional Chinese Medicine: Potential for Clinical Treatment of Rheumatoid Arthritis,” written by Kamal Moudgil, MD, PhD, professor in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, and Brian Berman, MD, professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine and director of the Center for Integrative Medicine, was published in the May issue of Expert Review of Clinical Immunology. Berman also co-wrote the abstract “Acupuncture and Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction Among Female Child Abuse Survivors: A Randomized Waitlist-Controlled Pilot Study,” which was published in the Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine and presented as a poster during the 2014 International Research Congress on Integrative Medicine and Health, held in Miami in May. Berman also moderated the panel presentation “Big Data and Machine Learning” during the congress.

Glenn Ostir, PhD, professor in the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, was appointed director of the interdisciplinary Program for Aging, Trauma, and Emergency Care, which involves all seven UMB schools and faculty from the University of Maryland, College Park and the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

Keshava Rajagopal, MD, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Surgery, was awarded the Norman E. Shumway Career Development Award from the International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation.

The $160,000 award supports basic, clinical, or translational research.

E. Albert Reece, MD, PhD, MBA, University vice president for medical affairs, and the John Z. and Akiko K. Bowers Distinguished Professor and dean of the school, was elected to the board of directors of Research!America, an alliance for discoveries in health.

Frank Robb, PhD, professor in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, is among the inventors of “Heterologous Expression of Extremophile Heat Shock Proteins and Chaperones in Microorganisms to Increase Tolerance to Toxic Compounds,” which was issued a U.S. patent.

On behalf of the Society for Neuroscience, Emma Rose, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry; student Elyse Sullivan; and Scott Thompson, PhD, professor and chair of the Department of Physiology, met with staff for Maryland legislators in Congress regarding funding for the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation.

A U.S. patent was issued for Robert Schwarcz, PhD, professor in the Department of Psychiatry, for the invention “Small Molecule Inhibitors of Kynurenine-3-Monoxygenase.” The invention, jointly owned by the University of California, is a therapeutic approach for treating neurologic diseases.

Sharon Stephan, PhD, associate professor in the Department of Psychiatry and co-director of the Center for School Mental Health, was awarded a four-year, $1.3 million award from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (as a subcontract from American Institutes for Research) to provide technical assistance for part of the National Resource Center for Mental Health Promotion and Youth Violence Prevention. Stephan and colleagues at the Center for School Mental Health will provide support to Safe Schools/Healthy Students grantees across the United States.

“Immunoglobulin Constant Receptor Fc Receptor Binding Agents,” invented by Scott Strome, MD, FACS, professor and chair of the Department of Otorhinolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery, and Dan Schulze, PhD, associate professor in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, was issued a U.S. patent. The invention involves candidate intravenous immune globulin replacement compounds being screened in vitro to assess efficacy.
Zeljko Vujaskovic, MD, PhD, professor and director of the Division of Translational Radiation Sciences in the Department of Radiation Oncology, was awarded $2,186,000 through a contract with Aeolus Pharmaceuticals, Inc., for the study “Therapeutic Efficacy Screening of AEOL10150 in a Murine Model: Determining Duration, Timing, Natural History, and Mechanism of Action.”

Larry Weiss, MD, JD, professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine, is the recipient of the 2014 David K. Wagner Award from the American Academy of Emergency Medicine (AAEM). The award recognizes impact on the field of emergency medicine and contributions to meeting the academy’s goals and objectives. Weiss is a former AAEM president.

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Catherine Haut, DNP ’10, MS ’93, RN, CRNP, PNP, assistant professor in the Department of Family and Community Health, was elected president of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (PNP). Haut is the first acute care PNP to be president of the 40-year-old organization.

Jennifer Haynes-Klosteridis, MS, director of the Student Success Center, received an 18-month, $200,000 grant from the Maryland Healthcare Education Institute’s Who Will Care? Fund for Nurse Education. The grant supports services to enhance learning for School of Nursing students for whom English is not their first language.

Megan Lynn, PhD, MS ’08, MBA, BSN ’04, RN, assistant professor in the Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health, received the University of Maryland Medical Center’s Faculty Colleague Award during ceremonies in May. Lynn, who works in the medical center’s Adult Emergency Department, was honored for professionalism and skills in interacting with colleagues.

Patricia McLaine, DrPH, MH, RN, assistant professor in the Department of Family and Community Health and director of the community/public health nursing master’s specialty, was named a member of the Nominating Committee of the Association of Community Health Nursing Educators.

Sandra McLeskey, PhD, RN, professor in the Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health, was honored by the school during a reception marking her retirement this summer after 14 years of service.

Joseph Pellegrini, PhD, CRNA, associate professor in the Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health and director of the nurse anesthesia master’s specialty, was appointed to the Council on Patient Safety in Women’s Health Care.

Sandra Picot, PhD ’92, RN, CLNC, FAAN, FGSA, associate professor in the Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health, was named a member of the American Nurses Association’s Nursing Scope and Standards Work Group.
SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

Barbara Resnick, PhD '96, RN, CRNP, FAAN, FAANP, professor in the Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health and the Sonya Ziporkin Gershowitz Chair in Gerontology, received an honorary Doctor of Sciences degree from Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, N.Y. Her multidisciplinary work in geriatrics has been used as a model for programming at the university.

Rebecca Wiseman, PhD '93, MSN, RN, assistant professor in the Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health and assistant dean of the school's program at the Universities at Shady Grove (USG), is the winner of a USG Board of Advisors Kendall Service Award. Wiseman won the Program Director of the Year Award.

Robert Beardsley, PhD, MS, professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, received a 2014 Icons of Pharmacy Award from the Oregon State University College of Pharmacy. The honor recognizes dedication to the college and career-long contributions to pharmacy.

Andrew Coop, PhD, professor and chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, is the winner of the inaugural Dr. James E. Wynn Memorial Award from the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy’s Chemistry Section. The award is named after an accomplished professor, university administrator, and researcher who died in 2012.

Bethany DiPaula, PharmD, associate professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science and director of the pharmacy practice residency program, is the recipient of the Cardinal Health Generation RX Champions Award from the Maryland Pharmacists Association. The honor recognizes a pharmacist for outstanding commitment to raising awareness of the dangers of prescription drug abuse.

Thomas Dowling, PharmD, PhD, professor and vice chair for scholarship and research in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, received a four-month, $293,521 contract from optical diagnostic company MediBeacon for “MediBeacon ORFM-1B Drug Study.”

Steven Fletcher, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences (PSC); Kathleen Pincus, PharmD, assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science; and C.S. Raman, PhD, associate professor in PSC, were each chosen by school faculty as a 2014 American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Teacher of the Year.

Student Geoffrey Heinzl received a 2014 predoctoral fellowship from the American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education.

Maureen Kane, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and co-director of the Mass Spectrometry Center, received a one-year, $143,331 contract from the University of Kansas Center for Research for “Molecular Determinants of Retinoid Metabolism in Embryonic Tissues.”
Cherokee Layson-Wolf, PharmD, CGP, BCACP, FAPhA, associate professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science and associate dean of student affairs, was named a trustee of the Maryland Pharmacists Association.

Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD, BCPS, CPE, professor and vice chair for education in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, is the winner of the Seidman Distinguished Achievement Award from the Maryland Pharmacists Association. The award recognizes major contributions to the association and to pharmacy.

Ebere Onukwugha, PhD, MS, assistant professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, received the Dr. Patricia Sokolove Outstanding Mentor Award from the Graduate Student Association. The award was presented during the Graduate School’s doctoral hooding ceremony in May.

Leah Sera, PharmD, assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, was elected vice president of the school’s Faculty Assembly.

Michele Suit, research coordinator in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, received the University’s Employee of the Month Award for May. President Jay A. Perman, MD, presented the award.

Leah Sera

Kristin Watson, PharmD, associate professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, was named the Class of 2014 Teacher of the Year.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Dean Richard P. Barth, PhD, MSW, presented “Progress on the Grand Challenges for Social Work Initiative” during the conference “Social Innovation and Engagement: Social Challenges, Policy Practice, and Professional Training of Social Workers,” held at Washington University in St. Louis. Barth also delivered a keynote address about initiatives to help children with chronic adversity during an event held by the Future of Children program, and he was the featured speaker at the Hope Under the Stars benefit presented by the Maryland Foster Youth Resource Center.

Student Leah Bartley was named a 2014 Doris Duke Fellow for the Promotion of Child Well-Being by Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.

Leah Bartley
Banghwa Casado, PhD, MSW, associate professor, was awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality to study “Help-Seeking Intentions for Alzheimer’s Among Korean Americans.”

Kathryn Collins, PhD, MSW, associate professor, is the winner of the 2014 Exemplary Faculty Award from the school’s Student Government Association.

Llewellyn Cornelius, PhD, LCSW, professor, was recognized as among the most cited African-American scholars in social work in an analysis published in the journal Research on Social Work Practice. Cornelius’ book, Designing and Conducting Health Surveys: A Comprehensive Guide, has been cited almost 1,200 times. In addition, the book A Social Justice Approach to Survey Design and Analysis, written by Cornelius and Donna Harrington, PhD, professor and associate dean for doctoral and postdoctoral education, was published.

Diane DePanfilis, PhD, professor and director of the Ruth H. Young Center for Families and Children; Geetha Gopalan, PhD, MSSW, MPSW, assistant professor; Leslie Rozef, MSSW, director of the Child Welfare Academy (a partnership between the School of Social Work, the Maryland Department of Human Resources, and the department’s Social Services Administration); Susan Loyson, LCSW-C, of the Child Welfare Academy; and Dean Richard P. Barth, PhD, MSW, made a presentation during the National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, held in New Orleans.

Michael Reisch, PhD, MSW, MA, Daniel Thursz Distinguished Professor of Social Justice, published The Routledge International Handbook of Social Justice, which includes four essays written by Reisch.

“The Neighborhood Assessment of Prostitution as a Pressing Social Problem and Appropriate Responses: Results From a Community Survey,” the writers of which include Corey Shdaimah, PhD, LLM, LLB, associate professor and academic coordinator for the MSW/JD dual-degree program, and Charlotte Bright, PhD, MSW, assistant professor, was published in Criminal Justice Policy Review. Also the book In Our Hands: The Struggle for U.S. Child Care Policy, co-written by Shdaimah, was published.

The chapter “The Whole-Person Services Model and the Second Half of Life,” written by Kelley Macmillan, PhD, clinical associate professor and chair of the aging specialization, was published in the book Jung and Aging. Also an article co-written by Macmillan was published in the journal Qualitative Social Work.

A report by assistant professors Philip Osteen, PhD, MSW, and Tanya Sharpe, PhD, MSW, and by Jodi Jacobson Frey, PhD, MSW, associate professor, about their work on suicide prevention training among social work students was published in the Journal of Social Work Education.
Q&A WITH ASHLEY VALIS
JUNE-JULY 2014

Ashley Valis, MSW, was named UMB’s first executive director of community initiatives and engagement in May. Here she sits down with Chris Zang of Communications and Public Affairs to discuss her new role.

WHAT WAS IT ABOUT THE POSITION THAT ATTRACTED YOU?

Actually, I wanted this job before it existed. I had worked in the West Baltimore schools when I was a student here at the School of Social Work, and I thought we as an institution could be doing more in West Baltimore. I also lived in the neighborhood, Ridgely’s Delight, and I thought we should really care about the neighborhoods surrounding the campus in terms of students living off-campus, offering faculty and staff “live near your work,” or other ways to help the area grow with more students, faculty, and staff engagement. I still live in the neighborhood today, so that also drives part of why this position was interesting to me. After traveling so much in my previous job, the opportunity to do wonderful work right in my own backyard was appealing.

WAS IT HARD TO CUT THE CORD IN ANNAPOLIS AFTER EIGHT YEARS OF SERVING GOVERNOR O’MALLEY AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS AND THEN ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF?

I was definitely sad to leave. But everyone needs to leave in the next six months because there is going to be a new administration. So I didn’t feel like I was abandoning anything I had started. The governor has been extremely supportive of me, and this was a fabulous fit for me, being a graduate of the school, and in the neighborhood, and having a lot of connections in Baltimore through working for him for the last eight years. It all kind of aligned.

AND NOW THE COMMUTE IS MUCH EASIER?

The commute is amazing. I walk every day. It takes me about 15 minutes, including waiting for the elevator.

WHEN YOU GRADUATED FROM OUR SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK IN 2006, DID YOU SEE YOURSELF COMING BACK? WHAT’S IT BEEN LIKE BEING BACK ON CAMPUS?

Yes, I did see myself coming back, actually, in this exact role. More recently, I knew I wanted to do something where I could take what I gained in my previous job — which is really a huge Rolodex of contacts, in the philanthropic sector, in the business community, state government, local government — and be able to use that network to my advantage, but to do something good with it. So having an impact in the city and dealing with a lot of external stakeholders in this way is really the perfect fit.

Being back on campus has been great, but it’s not like I ever really left. I had gone back to the School of Social Work for different events through the years, serving on alumni panels and the like. I hosted SSW student groups in Annapolis. Then I was asked to join the SWCOS [Social Work Community Outreach Service] advisory board, which brought me back here on a more regular basis. I’ve definitely reached out to some of my former professors who have mentored me. It’s comforting to have them just two blocks away.

LET’S TALK ABOUT COMMUNITY PROMISE, OUR INITIATIVE TO BRING MEANINGFUL IMPROVEMENT TO THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN WEST BALTIMORE. DR. PERMAN IS ON THE RECORD AS SAYING “ANYONE WHO THINKS THAT WE CAN BE AN ISLAND — GETTING OUR WORK DONE ON THIS CAMPUS WITH OUR BACKS TO DOWNTOWN AND WEST BALTIMORE — IS IN MY ESTIMATION SORELY MISTAKEN. IF WE DON’T MAKE THE COMMUNITY AROUND US BETTER, THIS UNIVERSITY WILL SUFFER.” YOU AGREE?

I would agree with that, and I think anchor institutions nationally agree with that now. If you don’t see how helping the community around you, as an anchor, helps you as an institution to thrive, you’re living in the stone ages. Fortunately, Dr. Perman not only understands this, but is leading other anchors in Baltimore in his vocal support for
anchors to do more. That’s again why this position was so attractive. People are ready, willing, and able to engage with UMB on these types of projects because Dr. Perman is so well-respected among the civic leadership in the city.

**IT’S TOO EARLY TO ASK YOU TO DULGUE ALL YOUR PLANS FOR COMMUNITY PROMISE. BUT IN PRINCIPLE, WHAT ARE A FEW THINGS UMB CAN DO SO IT DOESN’T DUPLICATE EFFORTS WITH ITS MANY COMMUNITY PROJECTS?**

I would say in terms of the number of city public schools that we are engaged with, we need to take a hard look at where those placements are, and if having a bigger impact in fewer schools is appropriate. Maybe sending an interdisciplinary team with a medical student, social work student, nursing student, pharmacy student, and a law student to 25 schools is better than sending one or two people to 50 schools.

When I was a social work student, I remember being in a school in West Baltimore assisting with a children’s mental health project. A lot of the parents of the kids came in with their own problems, some requiring legal expertise. If there had been a law student alongside me, it would have been a lot easier than being the only UMB student there. So I think if we rethink some of that, it will help our students have a much better experience while bringing more holistic services to the students at the surrounding schools and their families. Dr. Jane Lipscomb, who’s running the Center for Community-Based Engagement and Learning, has already started to pull together a work group to look at that.

**AMONG THE GOALS OF COMMUNITY PROMISE ARE ELEMENTS THAT SOUND SIMILAR TO WHAT YOU DID PREVIOUSLY IN REGARD TO SMART GROWTH, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND PLANNING. DO BOTH TASKS REQUIRE THE SAME SKILL SET?**

Hopefully that’s why I was chosen for this position. There are 157 municipalities in the state, and traveling around to meet with mayors in all parts of the state, whether they’re the mayor of a town of 1,000 people or the mayor of Baltimore City, everyone has different priorities and different worries, but it didn’t matter in my job. My job was to go and listen to get a feel for the local priorities, then discuss what the governor’s priorities were, and see how they could fit together. What that work entailed in the beginning was a lot of relationship building, trust building. If local officials had a problem with something on a state level, I was to follow up. To show that you’re there to help them, you’re not there to tell them what to do, you’re not there to force an agenda, but you really want to see where you can find areas of alignment and identify areas where you can be of assistance. Those two things are very similar here. Where can we find areas of alignment with the community and where can we be of assistance? I can’t begin that work here until I can build some trusting relationships with both our internal and external stakeholders, and then go on and do the heavy lifting. So I’m going to meet with as many UMB groups and community and neighborhood groups as humanly possible in the next six weeks.

**LET’S SAY I’M A READER LOOKING AT THIS STORY AND I CARE ABOUT THE COMMUNITY, BUT I DON’T HAVE A TITLE BEFORE MY NAME OR A PHD AFTER IT. WILL THERE BE A ROLE FOR JOHN AND JANE DOE AS YOU MOVE AHEAD WITH COMMUNITY PROMISE?**

I would love to know who those people are. I’m willing to talk to anyone who shares Dr. Perman’s vision for a better West Baltimore community. While I don’t know formally how that’s all going to play out in terms of a community advisory group, etc., I do know there are a lot of people on this campus who want to see the community thrive, and we’re open to their ideas. Brian Sturdivant has done wonderful work through the President’s Outreach Council and the BioPark team is doing a great job of marrying their relationship with the community to the workforce needs of the tenants of the BioPark. We want to build on that.

**CLOSING THOUGHTS?**

The challenge is daunting and there is a lot to learn. There are a lot of people to get to know across the campus and it doesn’t just happen in a one-hour meeting. Expectations that now that Dr. Perman has hired someone for this position we’re going to see an overnight change in West Baltimore would be misplaced. That’s just not how community organizing and community engagement works. It’s a longer process. For good reason, because if it was faster, I think it would be us as an anchor institution telling the community what changes we’re going to make. Well, that’s very one-sided. The community has to be heard. And I’m here to listen.