In UMB’s new one-sentence mission statement, we lay our purpose on the line: “To improve the human condition and serve the public good of Maryland and society at-large through education, research, clinical care, and service.”

“Education” is first for a reason. And with commencement right around the corner, it’s the mission that’s top of mind for me.

UMB is a great research university. We are a great provider of care and service. Neither of those statements is in doubt. But it’s by design that these missions serve our mission to educate, because it’s education that sustains everything else.

It’s education that continually replenishes the deep pool of people curious enough to ask the questions that test the limitations of our knowledge; capable enough to provide the care and counsel that secure health, well-being, and justice; compassionate enough to apply their skill and scholarship to efforts that reaffirm our common humanity.

On May 15, some 2,000 graduates will leave the University to do the work we’ve prepared them to do — to build communities of health and resilience; to solve the seemingly intractable problems we confront as a state and a nation; to inspire the next generation of students to lives of research and care and service. It’s the most hopeful day of the year.

As our graduates begin the next chapter of their careers, our commencement speaker, University System of Maryland Chancellor William “Brit” Kirwan, closes a chapter on his own. With nearly 50 years of service to Maryland higher education behind him, Kirwan leaves the chancellorship on June 30.

Kirwan is one of the nation’s best known and most respected experts on the American academy. He’s spoken at length about the premise — and promise — of higher education.

In an article last year he wrote, “Deep within the makeup of this great nation is the belief that a person’s status at birth is not supposed to determine his or her status throughout life. It has always been education that provided the most effective and reliable path to a person’s full potential, taking them as far as their efforts and ambition will allow them to go ...”

Kirwan is absolutely right, of course, that education paves the path to social mobility and success. But there are conditions that must be met before education can unlock potential. From the earliest age, people have to be healthy to learn. They have to be safe and secure. They have to be assured of those things foundational to self-determination — equity, inclusion, opportunity.

Creating these conditions is the invaluable work our graduates undertake. It’s the trade we make with every degree we confer.

In that same article, Kirwan wrote, “We have the ability — and the obligation — to help protect and strengthen the American dream.” He was talking about the imperative of college access.

But every spring, I think of the American dream more broadly. In their implicit commitment to improve the human condition, UMB’s graduates are uniquely bound to this dream. And their work each day is the same: Pull it close enough that those they serve might grasp on with both hands.

Congratulations to the Class of 2015!

Jay A. Perman, MD
President
UNIVERSITYWIDE

Richard J. Behles, MLS, historical librarian and preservation officer, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, co-authored “Eugene Fauntleroy Cordell: Alumnus and Medical Historian for the Ages,” in the spring *University of Maryland Medicine Bulletin*.

The School of Medicine’s Vincent Conroy, PT, DScPT, Laundette Jones, PhD, and Wendy Lane, MD, MPH, the School of Nursing’s Kelly Flannery, PhD, RN, the Carey School of Law’s Leigh Goodmark, JD, the School of Social Work’s Tanya Sharpe, PhD, MSW, the School of Pharmacy’s Deanna Tran, PharmD, and the School of Dentistry’s Clemencia Vargas, DDS, PhD, have been selected to participate in UMB’s 2015 Center for Community-Based Engagement and Learning Faculty Fellows Program.

Eighty-five employees representing 2,345 years of service were saluted at the 2014/2015 Employee Recognition Awards Luncheon in April. Jing Yin, DDS, research supervisor at the Genomics Core Facility in the School of Medicine, won the Cecil S. Kelly Memorial Employee of the Year Award. Laniara McCoy Cassie, accounting clerk in the Office of Academic Affairs, won the James T. Hill Scholarship Award. Thomas Day (Academic Affairs), Tony Green (Parking and Transportation Services), and Michele Suit (School of Pharmacy) were named Board of Regents staff award nominees. Forty-year service award recipients included Elizabeth Altieri, Catherine Brown, Ronn Wade, and Mabel Zelle of the School of Medicine.

Paula Barkon (Center for Information Technology Services), Walter Christopher (Administration and Finance), Regina Johnson (Academic Affairs), and Carol Scruggs (School of Dentistry). Read more.

The Health Sciences and Human Services Library unveiled a large painting of Andreas Vesalius, 16th-century author of *De humani corporis fabrica libri septem* (“On the fabric of the human body in seven volumes”) on the fifth floor near the Administration Suite. The painting by Baltimore artist Joseph Sheppard is a gift from Mr. and Mrs. Henry A. Rosenberg Jr. The painting depicts the Belgian Vesalius, recognized as the Father of Anatomy, performing a dissection in the anatomical theater at Padua.

Bohyun Kim, MA, MSLIS, associate director for library applications and knowledge systems, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, was the invited keynote speaker for the 2015 Library Technology Conference in St. Paul, Minn. She presented “Libraries Meet the Second Machine Age.”

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

Guadalupe Garcia, DMD, clinical assistant professor, Department of Endodontics, Prosthodontics and Operative Dentistry, won second place in the International Association for Dental Research’s Prosthodontic Research Group, Pre-Prosthetic Regenerative Scientific Awards for her abstract, “Accuracy of 3-Unit Fixed Implant Prosthesis Impressions Conventional Versus Digital.”
Gary Hack, DDS ’79, clinical associate professor and director of simulation research, and Eric Levine, DDS ’91, clinical assistant professor, both in the Department of Endodontics, Prosthodontics and Operative Dentistry, presented a poster “Exciting Use of Current Technology to Help Students Reach Their Clinical Potential,” at the American Dental Education Association annual meeting in Boston.

Patricia Tordik, DMD, clinical professor and director of postgraduate endodontics, received a two-year, $4,000 grant from the American Association of Endodontists Foundation to fund endodontics resident research.

Postdoctoral fellow Ping Wang, DDS, PhD, received the International Association for Dental Research (IADR) Frechette Prosthodontics Research Award for her oral presentation, “An Injectable Self-Setting Calcium Phosphate-Alginate-iPS-MSCs Paste for Bone Tissue Engineering,” at the IADR annual meeting in Boston in March.

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CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW

“Perspectives on Outpatient Commitment,” by Richard Boldt, JD, professor, was published in the New England Law Review. Boldt also published “The ‘Voluntary’ Inpatient Treatment of Adults under Guardianship” in the Villanova Law Review.

Douglas Colbert, JD, professor, served as reporter for a bipartisan committee of criminal justice experts that authored a new report from the Constitution Project on pretrial representation. Colbert also moderated a panel discussing the report, which included Senior Judge Andre Davis, JD ’78, of the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Students Andrew Geltman, Sean Gugerty, Phi Vi, and Michael Vinlaun, MD, were named “Leaders of Tomorrow” and participated in a corresponding summit for graduate students, postdocs, and young biotech researchers held in conjunction with the Maryland Regional Biotech Forum at MedImmune in Gaithersburg.

Shulman, James, Gray & Gifford’s Cases and Materials on the Law of Torts (sixth edition), co-authored by Donald Gifford, JD, Edward M. Robertson Research Professor of Law, and Oscar Gray, JD, Jacob A. France Professor Emeritus of Torts, was published by Foundation Press.


“The Virtues of Moderation,” by James Grimmelmann, JD, professor, was published in the Yale Journal of Law and Technology.

Michelle Harner, JD, professor and director of the Business Law Program, was inducted into the American College of Bankruptcy, an honorary association of bankruptcy and insolvency professionals who provide pro bono legal services in this area.

“Respect and Dignity: A Conceptual Model for Patients in the Intensive Care Unit,” co-authored by Leslie Meltzer Henry, JD, MSc, associate professor, was published in Narrative Inquiry Bioethics: A Journal of Qualitative Research, a publication by Johns Hopkins University Press that explores current issues in bioethics.

“Are We There Yet? Aligning the Expectations and Realities of Competency in Legal Writing,” by Sherri Lee Keene, JD, assistant professor and director of the Legal Writing Program, was published in the Duquesne Law Review.
Clark Lee, JD ’06, MPH, CPH, Center for Health and Homeland Security senior law and policy analyst, received first prize for an oral health research presentation on drowsy driving in university students for the session “Risk, Prevention, and Health Behavior” given in April at Graduate Research Interaction Day in College Park.

“Restating Environmental Law,” by Robert Percival, JD, MA, Robert F. Stanton Professor of Law and director of the Environmental Law Program, was published in the Columbia Journal of Environmental Law.

Lori Romer Stone, JD ’04, senior law and policy analyst for the Center for Health and Homeland Security, was a panelist for the session “SLIGP Lessons Learned – Straight from the States” at the International Wireless Communications Expo in Las Vegas in March.

Faculty members at the Johns Hopkins Berman Institute of Bioethics performed a table reading from a play co-written by Karen Rothenberg, JD, Marjorie Cook Professor of Law, designed to encourage reflection on the bioethical issues faced by various professionals who assist patients confronting genetic testing.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Transplantation has accepted a paper titled “Early Microchimerism After Face Transplantation Detected by Quantitative Real-Time Polymerase Chain Reaction of Insertion/Deletion Polymorphisms” by multiple faculty within the Department of Surgery, including Agnes Azimzadeh, PhD, associate professor, Stephen Bartlett, MD, professor and chair, and Rolf Barth, MD, associate professor. Azimzadeh, Bartlett, Barth, and Branko Bojovic, MD, assistant professor, were among the co-authors of “Infused Bone Marrow Fails to Prevent Vascularized Composite Allograft Rejection in Nonhuman Primates” accepted by The American Journal of Transplantation.

Kelley Banagan, MD, assistant professor, Department of Orthopaedics, co-authored “Subaxial Cervical Spine Injuries,” a chapter in Textbook of the Cervical Spine. Banagan and Steven Ludwig, MD, professor, Department of Orthopaedics, were among the co-authors of “Traumatic Spinal Injury Treated with Minimally Invasive Stabilization,” a chapter in Complex Spine Cases: A Collection of Current Techniques.

William Blattner, MD, professor, Department of Medicine, and associate director, Institute of Human Virology, received the Washington University Medical Center’s Alumni Achievement Award in April.

Chris D’Adamo, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Family & Community Medicine, and director of research, Center for Integrative Medicine, is lead author on “Supervised Resistance Exercise for Patients with Persistent Symptoms of Lyme Disease,” which has been accepted for publication in Medicine & Science in Sports & Exercise.

Stephen Davis, MBBS, professor and the Dr. Theodore E. Woodward Chair in the Department of Medicine, joined department professor Braxton Mitchell, PhD, MPH, associate professors Toni Pollin, PhD, Kristi Silver, MD, and Soren Snitker, MD, PhD, and assistant professors John McLennahan, PhD, Kashif Munir, MD, Laura Yerges-Armstrong, PhD, and Norann Zaghloul, PhD, by participating in the American Diabetes Research Summit, which was held in February in Towson. They presented talks, presided over roundtable discussions, and held Q&A sessions to educate the public about diabetes.

Richard Eckert, PhD, the John F. B. Weaver Distinguished Professor and chair, Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, has been appointed the 2015 chair of the New Membership Committee, American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

Gary Fiskum, PhD, the M. Jane Matjasko Professor for Research and vice chair for research, Department of Anesthesiology, traveled to São Paulo, Brazil, in February to serve as a scientific advisor to the Center for Research on Redox Processes in Biomedicine, located at the University of São Paulo. The center and its 22 faculty members are supported by a $15 million grant from the São Paulo Research Foundation.
Claire Fraser, PhD, professor, Department of Medicine, and director, Institute for Genome Sciences, was a panelist at a congressional hearing in Washington in March organized by the Personal Genetics Education Project by Harvard Medical School.

Robert Gallo, MD, the Homer and Martha Gudelsky Distinguished Professor in Medicine and director, Institute of Human Virology, gave the keynote address in March for Tulane University’s Presidential Symposium on Translational Research in Infectious Diseases: From Microbes to Man. He also gave the keynote address at the Fulbright Enrichment Seminar sponsored by the U.S. State Department and hosted in Baltimore by the World Trade Center Institute in March before Fulbright scholars from around the world, academia, and public officials. And in April, he gave the keynote address for the University of Miami CFAR’s annual HIV Symposium.

Jeffrey Hawk, MPT, MDE, MBA, director of instructional technology, Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science, was awarded the 2014 Feitelberg Award for his article, “SECTIONS Model: Strategizing Technology-Based Instruction in Physical Therapist Education” at the American Physical Therapy Association’s Combined Sections Meeting in Indianapolis in February.

This award acknowledges excellence in publication by a first-time author in the Journal of Physical Therapy Education.

“Adolescent Endogenous Sex Hormones and Breast Density in Early Adulthood” by postdoctoral fellow Seungyoun Jung, ScD, was ranked among the top 20 abstracts by the American Society of Preventive Oncology (ASPO). It was also selected for an ASPO travel award, which enabled her to attend the organization’s conference in March in Birmingham, Ala.

Haney Mallemat, MD, assistant professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, was a guest editor of a recent issue of Emergency Medicine Clinics of North America devoted to the topic of critical care. Articles were contributed by emergency colleagues Kim Boswell, MD, assistant professor; Wendy Chang, MD, assistant professor; Jay Menaker, MD, associate professor; Michael Scott, MD, sixth-year resident; David Wacker, MD, PhD, chief resident; Michael Winters, MD, associate professor; and John Greenwood, MD, fellow, and Daniel Herr, MS, MD, associate professor, both from the Department of Medicine.

This award acknowledges excellence in publication by a first-time author in the Journal of Physical Therapy Education.

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Amal Mattu, MD, professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, was the keynote speaker for the first annual Saudi Emergency Medicine Assembly in Riyadh. Mattu also led two workshops on electrocardiographic interpretation and gave lectures on acute cardiac syndrome and acute heart failure.

Braxton Mitchell Jr., PhD, MPH, professor, Kashif Munir, MD, assistant professor, and Kristi Silver, MD, associate professor, all from the Department of Medicine, have been appointed vice division chiefs of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Nutrition. Mitchell will lead research in the division, Munir will direct and manage all clinical operations within the Center for Diabetes and Endocrinology (CDE), and Silver will handle all aspects of clinical research in the CDE.
Vincent Njar, PhD, professor, Department of Pharmacology, and head of medicinal chemistry, Center for Biomolecular Therapeutics, and Angela Brodie, PhD, professor, Department of Pharmacology, were co-authors on “Discovery and Development of Galeterone (TOK-001 or VN/124-1) for the Treatment of All Stages of Prostate Cancer” in the Journal of Medicinal Chemistry.

Michelle Pearce, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Family & Community Medicine and the Center for Integrative Medicine, was interviewed on WBAL-TV for a segment titled “Cookies Help Spread Kindness for ‘Random Acts’ Week” about the partnership between UMB and Judaic Heritage where cards and food were prepared for civil servants and the city’s needy.

Jean-Pierre Raufman, MD, professor, Department of Medicine, received a four-year, $650,000 VA Merit Award for “M3R, MMP1 and Colon Cancer Dissemination.”

Pablo Sanchez, MD, assistant professor, Department of Surgery, was awarded a 2015 F. Griffith Pearson Fellowship by the American Association for Thoracic Surgery. This fellowship will allow him to spend time with the Toronto Lung Transplant Group to further improve his lung transplant and ex vivo lung perfusion skills.

Tricia Ting, MD, associate professor, Department of Neurology, received a two-year, $1.54 million contract from the Food and Drug Administration for “Characterization of Epilepsy Patients at Risk for Adverse Outcomes Related to Switching Antiepileptic Drug Products.”

Samuel Tisherman, MD, professor, Department of Surgery, has been selected as president-elect of the Surgical Critical Care Program Directors Society. William Chiu, MD, associate professor, Department of Surgery, has been elected treasurer of the society.

A U.S. patent was issued for Stefanie Vogel, PhD, professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, for the invention “Use of 5, 6-Dimethylxanthenone-4-Acetic Acid as an Antiviral Agent.” This patent may be very useful for treating infections from newly emerging strains of flu and other interferon-sensitive pathogens.

Emerson Wickwire, PhD, ABPP, CBSM, FAASM, assistant professor, departments of psychiatry and medicine, spoke on insomnia and sleep health at NASA in March.

Claudia Witt, MD, MBA, professor, Department of Family & Community Medicine and the Center for Integrative Medicine, was lead author on “Combining ‘Omics and Comparative Effectiveness Research: Evidence-Based Clinical Research Decision-Making for Chinese Medicine,” which was published in Science.

Ruixin Zhang, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Family & Community Medicine and the Center for Integrative Medicine, is co-author on “TRP Channel and Interleukin-17A Involvement in LTTL Gel Inhibition of Bone Cancer Pain in a Rat Model,” which has been accepted for publication in Integrative Cancer Therapies. Zhang and Brian Berman, MD, professor, Department of Family & Community Medicine, and director, Center for Integrative Medicine, are among the presenters...
of the abstract “Electroacupuncture Modulates Brain Connectivity to Alleviate Osteoarthritis-Associated Pain in a Rat Model” at the 10th annual International Congress of Complementary Medicine Research in Jeju, Korea, in May.

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Assistant professors Charon Burda, MS ’03, PMHNP-BC, Katherine Fornili, MPH, RN, CARN, and Kelley Wilson, MSN, RN; and clinical instructors Ben Canha, MS ’96, RN, Meredith Caves, MS ’13, RN, Dzifa Dordunoo, PhD ’14, RN, Ana Duarte, MS ’09, BSN ’06, APRN, CRNP-PMH, Michelle Gonzalez, MSN, MSOM, RN, CRNA, Ann Hoffman, MS ’11, RN, and Kathleen McElroy, MS ’10, BSN ’97, have been awarded the Nurse Educator Doctoral Grant for Practice and Dissertation Research. The grant program is designed to assist PhD and Doctor of Nursing Practice candidates while pursuing their advanced degrees.

Linda L. Costa, PhD RN, NEA-BC, assistant professor, presented an evidence-based practice (EBP) training program in Xiamen, China, in March. The program, attended by more than 100 nurses, trained mentors to introduce EBP in China’s hospitals in response to

Susan G. Dorsey, PhD ’01, MS ’98, RN, FAAN, associate professor and chair, Department of Pain and Translational Symptom Science, presented the Fifth Annual Suzanne H. Brouse lectureship during the University of Michigan School of Nursing’s Dean’s Research Day.

Elizabeth Galik, PhD ’07, CRNP, associate professor, and Roy Nirmalya, PhD, assistant professor, University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), received Innovation Seed Track Awards from the UMB-UMBC Research and Innovation Partnership Grant Program for “Automated Functional and Behavioral Health Assessment of Older Adults with Dementia.”

Dean Jane M. Kirschling, PhD, RN, FAAN, and alumnae Cynthia Arnold, MS ’95, Cathy Chapman, MS ’95, Mary Jo Huber, BSN ’77, Megan Jendrossek, BSN ’13, Vicky Kent, PhD ’96, MS ’87, Calvert Moore, MS ’11, Lisa Rowen, MS ’86, and Joan Warren, PhD ’04, MS ’88, have been honored with Baltimore Magazine’s Inaugural Excellence in Nursing Awards.

Kathryn T. VonRueden, MS, RN, ACNS-BC, FCCM, associate professor, received the 2015 Distinguished Lectureship Award at the Society of Trauma Nurses Conference, held recently in Jacksonville, Fla. At the same conference, she, Katie Hinderer, PhD ’12, and Erika Friedmann, PhD, professor and interim associate dean for research, along with the University of Maryland Medical Center (UMMC) Shock Trauma Nursing Research team, received the Outstanding Research Publication Award for “Burnout, Compassion Fatigue, Compassion Satisfaction, and Secondary Traumatic Stress in Trauma Nurses,” which appeared in the Journal of Trauma Nursing.

VonRueden and Paul Thurman, MS ’07, a UMMC clinical nurse specialist, co-authored “Hemodynamic Management in Hypovolemia and Trauma,” which appeared in Hemodynamic Monitoring: Evolving Technologies and Clinical Practice.
Robert Beardsley, PhD, professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, Stuart Haines, PharmD, professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science (PPS), Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD, professor in PPS, and James Trovato, PharmD, associate professor in PPS, were named to the 25 Top Pharmacy Professors list by the Medical Technology Schools blog.

Jeffrey Gonzales, PharmD, associate professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, has been appointed chair of the Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmacology Education Committee for the Society of Critical Care Medicine.

Students Geoffrey Heinzl and Maryanna Lanning received American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education Predoctoral Awards.

Student Laura Bozzi received the Geriatrics and Gerontology Education and Research Program and Center for Research on Aging Award at UMB’s Graduate Research Conference in March.

Postdoctoral fellow Jing Huang, PhD, received a one-year, $30,000 contract from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute for “Development and Testing of Novel Empirical Force Field for Molecular Dynamics Simulations that Includes Multipoles and Polarizability.”

Student Brandy Garzel received the Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award Individual Predoctoral Fellowship.

Eleanor Perfetto, PhD, professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, received a 20-month, $28,937 grant from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute for “PCOR Training for Non-Usual Suspects: A Program for Rare Disease Patient Advocates.”

Student Xian Shen received a predoctoral dissertation award from the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America Foundation.

Student Joseph Vandigo received a 17-month, $38,117 grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality for “Impact of Medicare Contracting Reform on Colon Cancer Treatment, Survival, and Cost.”

Haksoon Ahn, PhD, was promoted from research assistant professor to associate professor. She works on child welfare policy at the Ruth H. Young Center for Families and Children.
Students Jenny Afkinich and Lisa Fedina have been named National Institute of Justice (NIJ) research assistants. The NIJ Research Assistantship Program is designed to support criminal justice research and to provide highly qualified doctoral students with practical and applied research experience.

Lisa Berlin, PhD, associate professor, gave a presentation to the ACT Program Annual Leadership Seminar at the Violence Prevention Office of the American Psychological Association in Washington, D.C.

“The Impact of Training Interventions on Organizational Readiness to Support Innovations in Juvenile Justice Offices,” co-authored by Jill Farrell, PhD, research assistant professor, was published in Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health Services Research.

Nadine Finigan-Carr, PhD, research assistant professor in the Ruth H. Young Center for Families and Children, contributed to “Using the Theory of Planned Behavior to Predict Aggression and Weapons Carrying in Urban African American Youth,” which appeared in the Journal of Health Education and Behavior. The article is based on research conducted in middle schools in Baltimore City.


Michael Reisch, PhD, MSW, MA, the Daniel Thursz Distinguished Professor of Social Justice, spoke on “Using Research to Promote Social Justice” at the University of California, Berkeley, School of Social Welfare and on “Addressing Poverty and Inequality Across the American Life Span,” at the Pikesville Library. Reisch also presented the University of Vermont’s Burack President’s Distinguished Lecture in March.

Corey Shdaimah, PhD, associate professor, spoke at Rutgers University on “Moving Away from Damage-Centered Research in Studies with Prostitute Women” in conjunction with Women’s History Month.

The National Association of Social Workers Maryland Chapter honored Michael Walter as its Student of the Year.

In keeping with the practices of his predecessors, Gov. Larry Hogan has issued Standards of Conduct for Executive Branch Employees. UMB employees should be aware of these standards, which include:

- Employees shall exhibit exemplary conduct and use honest efforts in the performance of their duties.
- Employees shall preserve and conserve state property and shall not use it for other than authorized activities.
- Employees shall adhere to all applicable laws and regulations that provide equal opportunity for all Marylanders regardless of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, or gender identity.

President Perman shares the governor’s expectations on this and violation of the standards may lead to corrective action, education, or discipline consistent with University policies, collective bargaining agreements, and state law. Read the full Executive Order.
UPCOMING EVENTS

In the coming weeks, the UMB community will have the opportunity to enjoy many major events. Some of the President’s Signature Events are listed below. We hope you can attend as many as possible.

STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY ADDRESS
May 7  |  3 p.m.
School of Nursing auditorium

As UMB joins its Baltimore neighbors in action to secure peace, justice, and opportunity for all, Dr. Perman will deliver the address “Renew the state. Repair the world.” He will talk about the University’s vision for strengthening our communities, building population health and prosperity, and engaging in scholarship and service that changes lives for the better.

CORE VALUES SPEAKER SERIES
May 11  |  noon
SMC Campus Center

Speaker: Norman Augustine, retired chair and CEO, Lockheed Martin; member, University System of Maryland Board of Regents

UNIVERSITYWIDE COMMENCEMENT
May 15  |  2 p.m.
Royal Farms Arena

UMB NIGHT AT EVERYMAN THEATRE
June 24  |  7:30 p.m.
Part of UMB’s Council for the Arts & Culture, the event offers discount tickets for Noel Coward’s play Blithe Spirit.

TO LEARN MORE VISIT
www.umaryland.edu/cpa/what-we-do/special-event-services/
Commencement is the most hopeful day of the year at UMB and the day’s events for the Class of 2015 promise to be memorable and festive.

Kicking off May 15 will be a new event — the Party in the Park, where the graduates and their families can celebrate in UMB Plaza Park between the School of Social Work and the Carey School of Law.

The Oriole Bird and Poe from the Ravens will be on hand enjoying the music and fun activities from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. CulinArt will provide some free food to graduates at the park and a bevvy of food trucks will offer lunch selections (a limited number of discounted vouchers are available for the graduates only). Seating will be available for graduates and their guests and no tickets are required.

A little after 1 p.m. the students, faculty, and platform party will assemble for the colorful academic procession to Royal Farms Arena several blocks away. There more memories await the graduates and their families at the commencement ceremony itself at 2 p.m.

The keynote speaker will be University System of Maryland Chancellor William E. “Brit” Kirwan, PhD, who will discuss insights from his half-century in higher education.

There also will be a hilarious video titled “UMB,” created by Hippocratic Notes, the a cappella group from the School of Medicine.

An impressive cast of honorary degree recipients adds a special touch to the festivities as well.

Kermit R. Crawford, RPH, began at Walgreens as a pharmacy intern and 31 years later retired as president, pharmacy, health, and wellness, of the nation’s leading drugstore chain.

He will receive an Honorary Doctor of Science as will Robert S. Langer, ScD, the David H. Koch Institute Professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Langer is one of four living individuals to have received both the U.S. National Medal of Science and the U.S. National Medal of Technology.

Closer to home, we are privileged to be joined by Esther McCready, MM, BM, DIN ’53, who in 1950 fought through the legal system to become the School of Nursing’s first African-American student. Three years later, she became its first African-American graduate and went on to a stellar career in nursing, music, and education. She will receive an Honorary Doctor of Public Service from the University that initially rejected her.

Honorary marshals include the School of Medicine’s Gregory Robinson, DMin, MDiv, MA, associate dean for academic administration and resource management, who is stepping down after 41 years to devote himself to the ministry, and Frank L. Margolis, PhD, an internationally recognized expert in olfactory research (sense of smell).

Niña-Cecilia Santos of the School of Dentistry will inspire the new graduates as the student remarker.

Please try to join our special guests and cheer on the members of the Class of 2015 on May 15.

— Chris Zang
Dr. Perman held a group Q&A on April 21 at the School of Dentistry. The session included a legislative update by Kevin P. Kelly, JD, chief government affairs officer and associate vice president, who discussed the recently concluded General Assembly session. Excerpts of that and questions and answers that followed appear below.

**DR. PERMAN:**
I thought we would start by having our leader in governmental affairs, Mr. Kevin Kelly, give us an update on what happened in Annapolis this past session, so we all are starting from the same information. And then we’ll see what’s on your mind related to matters in Annapolis, or anything else that you have for me, which I’ll be glad to entertain.

**KEVIN KELLY:**
Thank you, Dr. Perman. When I was putting this presentation together, I looked at one I did last year around this time called Future Challenges, and I listed a bunch of things we need to be concerned with starting back to May 1 of 2014.

The first thing was the state budget. We’re still facing a structural deficit. We were looking at $235 million in Fiscal Year 2015, $395 million in FY16. Now we walk into FY16 on Jan. 1 with an $802 million deficit. I underestimated that, as did our leaders.

The Maryland economy is still flat. Last year, the Department of Legislative Services said to reach a point where revenues are actually meeting expenditures, we need about a 5.2 percent increase in the Maryland economy.

The growth in the Maryland economy is not there, and it remains to be seen how well this will grow over the next 12 to 24 months.

We also were looking at a turnover of one-third in the Maryland General Assembly. Instead of the predicted 37 seats of 188 changing we had 69. So we had a lot of new players, including a new governor, and a new state government administration.

We’ve had a huge turnover in all phases of the hierarchy of higher leadership in state government. They’re starting to get their feet on the ground, but it’s been an interesting time.

We walked into 2015, on Jan. 7, when the Board of Public Works decided, along with the governor, to approve $197 million in midyear reductions due to the fact that we were already facing a fairly significant deficit.

This included a $40 million reduction to the University System of Maryland (USM), which I believe equated to $5.6 million to UMB. Included in that reduction was $7.5 million to our academic health centers via the Cigarette Restitution Fund. Just for background, the academic health centers, which are Johns Hopkins and the University of Maryland, get about $13 million in cancer research funding through the Cigarette Restitution Fund.

That was cut to about $5.4 million. We already were starting in the negative for Dr. Cullen, who was trying to figure out how he was going to fund that gap. In addition, we had reduced provider rates, which affected our Faculty Practice Group.

Originally, they were funded at 100 percent for Medicare reimbursement and that was reduced down to 87. Not only did we face the reduction due to an overall USM $40 million reduction, we also faced some reductions in some of our programmatic funding.

Fast forward to about two weeks later, the governor introduced a budget and set a time to address the remaining $650 million structural deficit. He eliminated the 2016 merit increases, and essentially rescinded a 2 percent COLA (cost of living adjustment) that was initiated on Jan. 1, 2015, for state employees. I’ll get back to that shortly.

The new administration proposed $1.2 billion in general funds for USM, as the governor said that this represented an increase of $15.4 million, but the reality is, that was basically an increase over the reduced FY15 budget, after the midyear reductions.

The good news was that the General Assembly did not take any further funding. It did not take any fund balance, which it had done the last three or four years. They essentially fully funded the governor’s proposed budget, but at the end of the day, USM has concluded that we’re still about $47 million short of meeting all our mandatory costs.

As we all were aware, the governor rescinded the COLA, so the legislature took a fairly unusual step. The legislature cannot add to the governor’s budget, it can only reduce. In certain cases, it can redirect.

What they did in this case, they took about $400 million in general reductions and fenced off about $200 million and told the governor, we have certain priorities that we think you need to fund — one of which was the reinstatement of the COLA.

The legislature provided $68 million for the cost of education index for K-12, provided an increase in the Medicaid reimbursement from 87 percent to 92 percent for all primary care and specialty physicians. Plus a $15 million operating grant for Prince George’s County Hospital and some various other health initiatives.
The General Assembly basically said, “Governor, these are our priorities. We have fenced off some money, but it’s up to you to decide are you going to fund them or not.”

As we’re all aware, the governor has not made any decisions just yet. Right now, I think it’s a 50-50 proposition. He has up to June 30 to decide whether he’s going to fund these initiatives, including the COLA.

If he does, he has to go through what is called a budget amendment process in which he essentially says, “Legislature, I agree with what you’re asking me to do. Here’s the money. You guys need to approve it.” The committees will have 45 days to do so. In this case, probably much shorter if, in fact, he agrees to do that.

Unfortunately, we’re in a holding period until it gets decided. If the governor decides not to fund it, then it reverts back to the general fund and he comes into the session next year with about $200 million in revenues.

Good news. We received our fourth year of construction funding from the state for $81 million for the continued construction of HSF III. We were also pre-authorized for next year’s funding, which is about $70 million, and then the final year, which is $2 million.

Overall, the legislature came through for us in tremendous fashion.

Funding, $8.5 million, was provided for the Maryland E-Novation program, which matches state funding for endowed chairs. That’s specifically designated for universities in the state. We received money for the governor’s Wellmobile Program, which is operated by the School of Nursing.

For some other economic development efforts, we got a little bit of a haircut. Usually, we get $5 million, we got $4.9 in the Maryland Innovation Initiative. We got $10.4 million for the Maryland Stem Cell Research Fund. The governor funded $9.4 million, but still, not too bad.

Legislative highlights, we had over 2,000 bills introduced. About 600 were passed. Some 150 of them were signed last week by the governor. Still a lot more to be signed. I don’t know if any of them will be vetoed, but there may be one or two.

Some of the pieces of legislation that came across was a bill that would prohibit a law clinic affiliated with a law school at a constituent institution of USM from initiating or participating in litigation opposing, contesting, or seeking judicial review of an act, a decision, or a determination of a state agency, department, or board.

Typically, our clinics represent people who are opposite of a lot of state agencies, Maryland Department of the Environment, state parole boards, and so on. This would have prevented us from doing that. We testified in front of the legislature. The committee voted unfavorably against the bill.

There was a bill put in that would not allow our medical schools to use either live or dead animals in medical training. That died in committee.

There was a bill that passed that gave protection for interns. This bill extends prohibitions against specified discriminatory acts to include acts against interns and applicants for internships. It put them on, essentially, the same status as a hired employee.

There was a piece of legislation that would allow candidates and campaign volunteers to have access to private residential areas, including dorms. The bill died.

There was Pay It Forward, which would study a possible program that would allow state funding of student tuition. Under this model, rather than paying tuition to attend public institutions, students would pay a fixed percentage of adjusted gross income for a set amount of time after graduation into a trust fund. Essentially, the state or university system would function as a bank. They tried it in Oregon, and it was basically given a thumbs down by both the legislature and the state there.

There was a lot of focus on sexual assault policies, probably 11 or 12 different pieces of legislation. USM worked very closely with the sponsors and the budget committees. We have a Senate bill that passed and budget committee language that essentially calls for a climate survey every two years, pursues formalized agreements between institutions of higher education and law enforcement and rape crisis centers, and some other policy issues that are in there. It’s a good first step in a continuing discussion.
That’s essentially a very, very brief overview, and I’m ready to answer your questions.

**QUESTION:**
With the group of items that include the COLA that they’re still deciding on, is that an all or nothing, or can the governor pick and choose and say, give back the COLA, but that K-12 goes away?

**KELLY:**
I’ve heard two different theories. First, I’ve heard it is an all-or-nothing proposition. However, the latest has been that he could pick and choose and send back the budget amendment saying, I’m going to fund these five things, but these other two things I’m not going to fund. I believe the latter is true at this point.

**QUESTION:**
Thank you for coming to the School of Dentistry. I have a question for President Perman related to the $6.9 million midyear reduction at UMB. How is that going to impact each school?

**PERMAN:**
We went to each school, plus the central units, and asked for a reduction plan. In the meantime, I held all hiring at the University until plans were in place from each of the schools to decide how they would manage what we needed to start doing to achieve this $6.9 million midyear reduction.

Midyear actually slipped into February because it takes time to make these reductions. I’m glad to say that each of the schools, in response to your question, decided on their own how they would propose to manage the reduction. Those needed to be approved by me. Once they were approved by me, then the schools can go ahead, and I think all of the schools are in this position now. So we are carrying on business as before, but with reductions in place.

Now, we’re trying to size the additional reduction to the campus in conjunction with the just passed FY16 budget. We anticipate our share of the reduction to be an additional $5 million.

That includes mandatory costs. We get a bill for our collective health insurance, for example. We have to pay that. In fact, that’s the challenge given what we’ve been dealt from the legislature.

The governor, yes, he put some money back compared to the reduction we started with. It’s just that it’s not enough to fund the things that we’re told have to be funded. That’s the gap that we’re dealing with.

The better news is that we anticipated an additional $5 million in cuts for FY16. That’s going to be more along the order of $3.7 million. It’s still a lot of money, but it went in the right direction for us.

Once again, I’ve taken a management team around me, which includes the deans and the vice presidents, and we’re in a process right now, and we’re taking input. We’ll have a mechanism for input from the University in general.

What we need to do is, ideally, find things that we could do at a larger-than-school level. In other words, things that several schools, or all the schools, can agree to do to reduce costs.

The usual drill when reductions come from the state is use a formulaic means and say you get this share of it to each school or unit. It’s more than time to start to act like a group, like a single organization.

Ideally, we want to find things that we can do collectively. There are examples emerging already that I’m beginning to see. I think two of the deans, the dean of this school and the dean of the School of Nursing, are exploring a way to share an administrative position. That’s the kind of thinking that we need. We need to find more ways to do that together, rather than apart.

**QUESTION:**
There’s still a hiring freeze in place?

**PERMAN:**
No, there’s not a hiring freeze in place. Having said that, you know what I’m going to say. We have to be thoughtful about what we’re doing, in terms of layering on expenses.
**Question:**
Is there a different process in place for renewing hiring requests than there has been?

**Perman:**
The hiring process is back to being managed at the school level.

**Question:**
I’ve heard that in attempts to deal with the budget shortfall, furloughs were taken off the table. Is that correct?

**Perman:**
Let me address the furlough situation in several ways. When we dealt with the first of the budget cuts, the entities in the University System of Maryland had a discussion with the chancellor about how to deal with these things.

Quick ways to take care of a hole, which in our case was $6.9 million, is, one, raise the tuition, and/or two, pay for it ourselves by taking furlough days. I decided, on behalf of UMB, to do neither.

Quite apart from the philosophy of how I feel about taking something away from employees, or adding something that was already agreed to, in terms of the number on the backs of our students, the most practical concern I had about doing either of those things is that they’re only one-time fixes.

I made the decision to find long-term solutions, as painful as they could be, and would be. That’s where we’ve been.

**Question:**
I’m curious about the media focus on Baltimore police, and the situation that happened recently, how the University is monitoring that, involved, responding, anything along that line.

**Perman:**
Very thoughtful, timely, appropriate question, and in fact, I asked the same question yesterday of our public safety leadership. I was assured, and I’m going to assure you in return, that our campus police are very closely aligned in terms of communication with the city police, so they’re closely monitoring the situation in the city. We don’t know of any issues that will impact the campus. I have heard that there will be a march to the Western District police station. We’ll keep a sharp eye and hope for peace on our campus and in our city.
SAFETY IN THE COMMUNITY

“SAFETY BEGINS WITH YOU”
• You are responsible for your own safety.
• General Approach to Safety
  • Reduce opportunities that make you a target.
  • Increase overall awareness of surroundings.
  • Trust your instincts.
  • Prepare your outing with safety in mind.

PREPARE BEFORE YOU DEPART
• Dress comfortably, but professionally.
• Think conservative.
  • Avoid wearing excessive jewelry.
  • Avoid wearing expensive jewelry & accessories.
  • Avoid high heels and open-toed shoes.
  • Avoid carrying large handbags/purses.
  • Let someone know where you are going and when you expect to arrive at your destination.

COMMUNITY SAFETY TIPS
• Carry your purse with the clasp-side inward toward your body.
• Carry your wallet in a front or inside pocket, not in a back pocket.
• Carry as little money or valuables as possible.
• Be aware of people arguing or asking for directions as a means to distract you.

WHEN WALKING
• Use well-lit areas and main streets.
• Avoid alleys and shortcuts.
• Plan your route in advance.
• Travel in groups when possible.
• Walk confidently. Avoid looking like a tourist.
• If you are followed or feel you are being followed, head toward an open and/or populated area.
• Avoid texting & talking on cell phone while walking.
• Don’t carry your phone in plain sight and keep it set to silent or vibrate when you are in a public area.

WHEN DRIVING
• Plan ahead. Know the route to your destination. Have alternate routes in mind.
• Pay attention to your surroundings as you walk to your car.
• Look inside your car before you get in.
• Lock your car doors and keep your windows rolled up.
• Get gas in advance to avoid having to get gas in unfamiliar areas.
• When stopped in traffic maintain distance from the car in front of you so you can easily pass if necessary.
• Keep valuables out of sight. If possible put valuables in the trunk before leaving your home or office.
• Park so you can leave quickly if you have to.
• Scan your surroundings prior to getting out of the car.

IF VICTIMIZED
• Remain calm.
• The most valuable possession you own is your life.
• Stay within yourself.
• Don’t escalate the situation.
• Do not try to follow the assailant.
• Call 911.
• Be ready to provide the following information:
  • The nature of the incident.
  • When and where the incident occurred.
  • Number of persons involved
  • Description, including:
    › Names if known
    › Sex | Race | Age
    › Approximate height
      (It helps to use your height as a comparison)
    › Hair color / style
    › Complexion
    › Distinctive characteristics
      (scars, tattoos, or physical defects)
    › Clothing
      (start with the head – hat, top, pants, shoes)
    › Direction and method of travel
    › Vehicles involved
    › Description of stolen property

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