The great American poet and philosopher Ralph Waldo Emerson gave us those inspiring words in the 1800s, but he could have been talking about our University today. Giving back is something our students, staff, and faculty excel in doing on a daily basis.

Whether it’s a clinician donating time, a great legal mind offering pro bono assistance, faculty mentoring students, or students volunteering for the public good, giving back is alive and well here at the University of Maryland, Baltimore.

Our students, faculty, and staff provide more than 2 million—yes, million—hours of community service annually. The schools of medicine, pharmacy, dentistry, and nursing each provide millions of dollars of uncompensated care each year aiding the underserved and the needy. At the School of Social Work, 600 students provide 400,000 hours of uncompensated care to Maryland citizens annually. Full-time day students at the Francis King Carey School of Law, which gets its very name from an 1880 alumnus’ family that gave $30 million to the school, must represent the poor and other under-represented persons and communities as part of their clinical law training.

I’m happy to see such a strong giving component to two recent events on campus, the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr./Black History Month celebration and the Women’s History Month event.

At the former event, MLK Diversity Recognition Awards were presented. The group award went to the Pride Alliance, students who promote a more inclusive campus environment for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer/questioning students, faculty, staff, and alumni. As MLK event emcee, I pointed out that this group devoted more than 1,000 hours advocating for Question 6, Maryland’s civil marriage equity law that passed in November. And remember, these are students! With their demanding coursework, this is especially impressive.

The individual MLK award went to Gregory Carey, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology and director of student summer research and community outreach in the Office of Student Research at the School of Medicine. An accomplished scientist, Dr. Carey has been a passionate mentor to minority students and postdoctoral fellows at the University for close to a decade. He first met some of the students during his occasional visits to local schools where he encourages science and health careers. This is what I mean by giving back.

The same principle imbued the Women’s History Month celebration. Speakers from House of Ruth, Dress for Success, and Baltimore Outreach Services shared inspiring stories of how their organizations assist women and how we can help them. These personal journeys of assistance motivated the faculty, staff, and students who attended the event. Donations, which were accepted at the door, will continue to be collected. Visit http://www.umaryland.edu/offices/communications/events/ to see how you can add to the astounding amount of clothing and baby supplies that our University colleagues have contributed.

Thanks to drives by groups like the Staff Senate and Club UMB, the hungry are being fed, soldiers are getting cell phones, needy children are receiving school supplies. I couldn’t be more proud of the giving provided by our University family.

Former heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali said “service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on Earth.” Thanks for all you do to give back.

Jay A. Perman, MD
President
Laurels

CAMPUSWIDE

Andrew Youngkin, MLS, AHIP, emerging technologies/evaluation coordinator, National Network of Libraries of Medicine Southeastern/Atlantic Region, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, has been awarded senior level membership in the Medical Library Association’s Academy of Health Information Professionals.

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

“Full Genome Sequences of All Nine Chlamydia Psittaci Genotype Reference Strains,” written by Patrik Bavoil, PhD, chair of the Department of Microbial Pathogenesis, and collaborators from Ghent University in Belgium, was published in the *Journal of Bacteriology*.

“Expanding the Physician’s Role in Addressing the Oral Health of Adults,” written by Leonard Cohen, DDS, MPH, MS, professor, Department of Health Promotion and Policy, was published in the January edition of the *American Journal of Public Health*.

Sharon Gordon, DDS, PhD, MPH, director of graduate research education, received a $142,631 grant from the Altarum Institute/Palladian Partners for the project “National Institutes of Health Pain Consortium Centers of Excellence in Pain Education.”

Mark Reynolds, DDS, PhD, MA, chair of the Department of Periodontics, received an $85,673 grant from OraPharma, Inc., for the project “Multi Center Phase 3 Trial of Minocycline HC 1 mg Microspheres for Subjects With Oeri-Implants.”

“Thalamocortical Asynchrony in Conditions of Spinal Cord Injury Pain in Rats,” written by assistant professor David Seminowicz, PhD, and collaborators in the Department of Neural and Pain Sciences, was published recently in *The Journal of Neuroscience*.

Huakun Xu, PhD, MS, director of the Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering Division, is the winner of the 2013 William J. Gies Award for Biomaterials and Bioengineering Research from the International Association for Dental Research. The award will be presented during the association’s general session in Seattle this month.

FRANCIS KING CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW

“The Unfinished Journey: Educational Equality and Martin Luther King Jr. Revisited” was presented by Taunya Lovell Banks, JD, Jacob A. France Professor of Equality Jurisprudence, during the Martin Luther King Jr. reception at the Villanova University School of Law. Banks also delivered “From Lincoln to King and Beyond—The Unfinished Journey Toward Full Emancipation” during the recent Mid-Atlantic People of Color Conference at the University of Pennsylvania Law School. Dean Phoebe A. Haddon, JD, LLM, delivered the keynote address during the same conference.
“Five Basic Things 3Ls Should Be Considering and Doing to Get a Job,” written by Avery Blank, JD ’11, law and policy analyst at the Center for Health and Homeland Security, was published in the American Bar Association publications The 101 Practice Series: Breaking Down the Basics and Women in the Profession.

Douglas Colbert, JD, professor, delivered the keynote address during the Robert M. Cover Public Interest Law Retreat, held in Peterborough, N.H., in early March.

Larry Gibson, LLB, professor, recently discussed his book Young Thurgood: The Making of a Supreme Court Justice at the Pennsylvania State University Dickinson School of Law and at Albany Law School.

“The Constitutional Bounding of Adjudication: A Fuller(tan) Explanation for the Supreme Court’s Mass Tort Jurisprudence,” written by Donald Gifford, JD, Edward M. Robertson Research Professor of Law, was published recently in the Arizona State Law Journal.

Student Abe Gitterman won second place in the H. Thomas Austern Memorial Writing Competition for his paper “Manufacturing a Solution: How the U.S. Food and Drug Administration Can Ensure the Safety and Security of a Globalized Drug Supply Chain.”

Contributors to the first issue of the School’s Legal Studies Research Paper Series include Leslie Meltzer Henry, JD, MSc, associate professor; Kathleen Hoke, JD ’92, director of the Legal Resource Center for Tobacco Regulation, Litigation, and Advocacy; Susan McCarty, JD, manager of library research fellows; Paula Monopoli, JD, founding director of the Women, Leadership, and Equality Program; associate professors Amanda Pustilnik, JD, and Shruti Rana, JD, MSc; Robert Rhee, JD, MPA, co-director of the Business Law Program; and professors Rena Steinzor, JD, and Michael Van Alstine, JD, MJurComp, DrJur.

Law and Leadership—Integrating Leadership Studies Into the Law School Curriculum, editors of which are Paula Monopoli, JD, founding director of the Women, Leadership, and Equality Program, and Susan McCarty, JD, manager of library research fellows, was recently published. Avery Blank, JD ’11, law and policy analyst at the Center for Health and Homeland Security; Brenda Bratton Blom, JD, PhD, MPS, professor, Community Justice Clinic; Maura DeMouy, JD ’96, coordinator of the Leadership, Ethics, and Democracy Initiative; Dean Phoebe A. Haddon, JD, LLM; Diane Hoffmann, JD, MS, director of the Law and Health Care Program; Alan Hornstein, JD, MA, professor emeritus; Susan Leviton, JD ’72, professor; and Robert Rhee, JD, MPA, co-director of the Business Law Program, are contributors to the book.

Robert Percival, JD, MA, director of the Environmental Law Program, presented “The Next 40 Years of Environmental and Natural Resources Law” during the annual meeting of the Association of American Law Schools, held recently in New Orleans. Percival also presented “Clerking at the Supreme Court—Then and Now” as part of the recent District of Columbia Court of Appeals Distinguished Speaker Series.
Michael Pinard, JD, director of the Clinical Law Program, was recently elected a member of the American Law Institute.

Injustice on Appeal—The United States Courts of Appeals in Crisis, a book co-written by William Reynolds, JD, Jacob A. France Professor of Judicial Process, was recently published.

“Manipulating Fate: Medical Innovations, Ethical Implications, Theatrical Illuminations,” co-written by Karen Rothenberg, JD, MPA, Marjorie Cook Professor of Law and director of the Law and Health Care Program, has been accepted for publication in the Houston Journal of Health Law and Policy.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
Karen Anderson, MD, associate professor, Department of Neurology, was elected chief investigator for the Huntington Study Group, a worldwide consortium of clinical researchers. Anderson also was elected to the group’s executive committee.

Agnes Azimzadeh, PhD, associate professor, Department of Medicine, was appointed to the editorial board of Xenotransplantation, the journal of the International Xenotransplantation Association.

William Blattner, MD, associate director and co-founder of the Institute of Human Virology, received a Certificate of Recognition from the mayor of Baltimore for his 10 years of leadership of the Baltimore City Commission on HIV/AIDS Prevention and Treatment. Blattner chairs the commission.

Robert Buchanan, MD, chief of the Outpatient Research Program at the Maryland Psychiatric Research Center, received the American College of Psychiatrists’ Stanley Dean Research Award during the college’s annual meeting, held in Hawaii in February. The award honors an individual who has had a major impact on the diagnosis and treatment of schizophrenic disorders.

Vanessa Foreman, administrator at the Institute for Genome Sciences, was inducted into the American International College Co-Curricular Hall of Fame. Foreman, who serves on several leadership committees at the University of Maryland, was chosen for the honor based on her leadership accomplishments.

Claire Fraser, PhD, director of the Institute for Genome Sciences, and Eduardo Rodriguez, MD, DDS, chief of plastic and reconstructive surgery at the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center, were named by The Daily Record newspaper to its list of 2013 Influential Marylanders. The honorees are being recognized during a reception in Cockeysville in March.
Geoffrey Girnun, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, received a five-year, $1,625,635 grant from the National Cancer Institute for “Metabolic Control of Hepatocellular Carcinoma by PGC1alpha.”

Erin Hager, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Pediatrics, was competitively selected to receive a K12 award and become a Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women’s Health Scholar for the period January 2013 through December 2014. The award is sponsored by the National Institutes of Health’s Office of Research on Women’s Health. Hager’s project is “The Built Environment and Health-Promoting Behaviors Among Low-Income, Urban, Adolescent Girls.”

Laurel Kiser, PhD, MBA, associate professor, Department of Psychiatry, received a four-year, $2.4 million National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. The grant supports the Family-Informed Trauma Treatment Center, a partnership among the schools of medicine and social work and the Kennedy Krieger Institute Family Center.

Research associate Changqing Li, postdoctoral fellow Min Liu, professor Wuyuan Lu, PhD, and assistant professor Davide Zella, PhD, all of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, were issued a U.S. patent for “P53 Activator Peptides.” P53 is a gene that plays a crucial role in the prevention of tumor development.

Stuart Martin, PhD, associate professor, Department of Physiology, received a five-year, $1.55 million grant from the National Cancer Institute for “Targeting Microtubule Stabilization to Reduce Breast Tumor Metastasis.”

Vadim Morozov, MD, assistant professor, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences, licensed his laparoscopic hysterectomy technology and related patent rights to Soulor Surgical in December 2012.

Yvette Rooks, MD, CAQ, FAAFP, vice chair of family and community medicine, was a guest panelist during Women and Sports-Related Concussion, a fundraiser for Student Athletes for Educational Opportunities held in Washington, D.C., in January.

Sarah Sommerkamp, MD, RDMS, assistant professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, co-edited the November 2012 issue of the journal Emergency Medicine Clinics of North America, the topic of which was obstetric and gynecologic emergencies. Articles were contributed by faculty members Laura Diegelmann, MD, RDMS; Brian Euerle, MD, RDMS; Alisa Gibson, MD, DMD; Samuel Hsu, MD, RDMS; Siamak Moayedi, MD; and Mercedes Torres, MD. The issue included a foreword by Amal Mattu, MD, vice chair of emergency medicine, a consulting editor for the journal.

Dudley Strickland, PhD, director of the Center for Vascular and Inflammatory Diseases, was the Sol Sherry Distinguished Lecturer in Thrombosis during the American Heart Association’s recent Scientific Sessions conference in Los Angeles. He spoke on the “Role of LRP1 in Protecting the Vasculature.”

George Wittenberg, MD, PhD, associate professor, Department of Neurology, recently accepted the position of vice president of the American Society for Neurorehabilitation.
Peixin Yang, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences, was chosen to receive the Teratology Society’s 2013 F. Clarke Fraser New Investigator Award. The award recognizes Yang’s research in the field of birth defects and his work for the Teratology Society, which strives to prevent birth defects and disorders of developmental origin.

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Stacey Conrad, MBA, assistant director of development, recently completed her Master of Business Administration degree at the University of Maryland University College with a 3.8 GPA.

Jane Lipscomb, PhD, MS, RN, FAAN, director of the School’s Work and Health Research Center, presented “Workplace Violence Prevention: Research and Policy” during the University of California, San Francisco/Northern California Center for Occupational and Environmental Health Interprofessional Grand Rounds.

Lyn Stankiewicz Murphy, PhD, MBA, MS, RN, assistant professor, Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health, was elected vice president of research for the Council on Graduate Education for Administration in Nursing.

Suzanne Frey Sherwood, MS, RN, assistant professor, Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health, and Lynn Smith, MS, RN, senior clinical nurse II at the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center, presented

“The Past, Present, and Future of Trauma Nursing” to School of Nursing students on Jan. 16 in conjunction with the Partnerships Program at the University of Maryland Medical Center.

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

Students Mehmet Burcu, Sarah Dutcher, Patience Moyo, Xinyi Ng, and Dinci Pennap, MS, won second place in the University’s first America’s Got Regulatory Science Talent competition, held recently at the School. Jane Kalinina and Neha Patel, students who are earning simultaneous pharmacy and law degrees, won third place.

Student Curtis Gallagher won the University’s first America’s Got Regulatory Science Talent competition, held recently at the School of Pharmacy. His Interactive Medication Guides are designed to improve the process of reporting an adverse medication event to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Amy Ives, PharmD, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, was accepted to the MedStar Health Teaching Scholars Medical Education Research Certificate program.
Alexander MacKerell Jr., PhD, director of the Computer-Aided Drug Design Center, received a U.S. patent for “Small Molecule Inhibitors of BCL6.” BCL6 represses genes that function in lymphocyte differentiation, inflammation, and cell cycle control.

Fadia Shaya, PhD, MPH, associate director of the Center on Drugs and Public Policy, was elected to the board of directors of the Quality Health Foundation, which provides charitable grants to help eliminate disparities in health care.

Deanna Tran, PharmD, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, was appointed to the American Pharmacists Association’s New Practitioner Network’s Education and Professional Development Standing Committee. She was also named chair of the Communications Committee of the District of Columbia chapter of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy.

Julie Zito, PhD, MS, professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, and student Dinci Pennap, MS, received an Innovation Award from the University of Maryland Center of Excellence in Regulatory Science and Innovation for “Racial/Ethnic Differences in Pediatric Antipsychotic Use by FDA Labeled Status.”

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

An Op-Ed article by Howard Alstein, PhD, MSW, professor emeritus, about the decrease in international adoption opportunities was published recently in The Baltimore Sun.

Dean Richard P. Barth, PhD, MSW, was appointed by Maryland Governor Martin O’Malley, JD ’88, to a three-year term on the Governor’s Family Violence Council. Barth also will serve on the advisory board of the Congressional Research Institute for Social Work and Policy.

Karen Hopkins, PhD, MSW, associate professor, was invited to join the faculty of the Network for Social Work Management’s inaugural Research to Practice Institute, which will be held at Rutgers University in May.

Co-writers of “Predicting Practice Outcomes Among Social Work Employee Assistance Counselors,” published recently in the journal Social Work and Mental Health, include Jodi Jacobson, PhD, MSW, associate professor, and alumna Jennifer Pastoor, MSW ’12.

“Depression in Inner City African American Youth: A Phenomenological Study,” co-written by Mirian Ofonedu, PhD, MSW, LCSW-C, adjunct professor, was published in the January issue of the Journal of Child and Family Studies.
QUESTION:
Our University has a great foothold in the research arena. I am happy to hear MPowering the State is bringing our campus and College Park together for improving administrative processes. With all of the great electronic systems in place here at UMB, why is it that some processes like “direct retros” (manual payroll adjustments older than 90 days) have made an already manual process more manual? Shouldn’t direct retros be electronic like EFPs (employee funding profiles) and journal entries? Processing direct retros is especially inefficient and ineffective for everyone involved. The process has a devastating effect on faculty who need efficient and effective administrative processes the most.

ANSWER:
The University is dedicated to converting manual processes to electronic processes whenever significant gains in productivity and compliance can be achieved. We have had tremendous success with recent projects like the travel e-forms. The Human Resource Management System upgrade project currently under way will provide many other opportunities. However, direct retros, or payroll adjustments over 90 days, are manual for a reason. Payroll adjustments made after 90 days indicate a problem with the payroll on the projects. For that reason, these transactions are highly scrutinized by auditors. As good stewards of external funding, it is our responsibility to minimize these transactions as much as possible. These really need to be partnerships. Quite frankly, I would want to be sure that those who are asking do their fair share in this. Having said that, of course we’re interested in discussions like that.

Have a question you’d like to ask Dr. Perman?
Visit http://um.umd.edu/president/ask/, attend the next group Q&A on Tuesday, April 16, at 11 a.m. at the School of Dentistry, Room G-314, or sign up to join one of his brown bag lunch discussions at http://um.umd.edu/president/lunch-with-the-president/.
Dr. Perman and Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake co-chair the Westside Task Force. Periodically, The President’s Message will offer updates. The following comes from the task force’s winter e-update.

**Lexington Market**

- New signage has been installed to promote the healthy food initiative of the mayor and Dr. Perman.
- A request for proposals has been issued for a new food merchandising plan and capital improvement program to prequalified retail consultants, architects, and financial analysts. A consultant team should be hired by mid-March, and their task will be to develop a financially feasible merchandising plan and capital improvement plan for the market, with improvements to be phased in over a 10-year period. The plan should take six to nine months to finalize.
- JustAdvice, a legal services initiative of the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law, continues to offer low-cost services to those who may not be able to afford an attorney but make too much money to qualify for legal aid. The program provided legal advice to 29 market patrons in early 2013, on matters ranging from expunging court records to insurance claims. A February-April schedule for JustAdvice was included in the e-update.

**Arts, Culture, and Entertainment**

- Tech Crawl 2 took place and the happy hour attracted 75 attendees to the new Everyman Theatre at 315 W. Fayette St. The “crawlers” blogged favorable impressions of each site, noting that the Bromo Tower is “the largest four-faced gravity powered, non-chiming clock on the planet—24 feet in diameter.”

**Real Estate and Economic Development**

- Nando’s Peri Peri, the new fast-food chicken restaurant that is preparing to open at 421 W. Baltimore St. (next to Panera Bread), is a recipient of a City Westside façade improvement grant. The program is administered by the Downtown Partnership. Property owners and business owners are eligible for storefront improvement grants of up to $10,000.

**Transportation and Infrastructure**

- Construction drawings are being produced for a new dog park at the intersection of Howard and Centre streets, adjacent to the Centre Street Light Rail stop. The detailed design work should be completed by June 2013.