As we reach the midpoint of another semester, I want to continue to highlight our strategic plan themes. Last month’s message touched on promoting diversity and a culture of inclusion. Now, as we celebrate Founders Week, I’d like to discuss excelling at interdisciplinary research and interprofessional education, clinical care and practice, and public service, and illustrate how effectively we are doing just that.

The 2012 Founders Week award winners personify this. For instance, our Teacher of the Year, Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD, BCPS, CPE, a professor and vice chair of academic affairs at the School of Pharmacy, has taught in three of our schools: pharmacy, nursing, and medicine. Her co-director on a Center of Excellence in Pain Education grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is Sharon Gordon, DDS, MPH, PhD, who hails from the School of Dentistry.

In addition to applying her expertise in palliative care and pain management to interprofessional education, Dr. McPherson conducts clinical rounds with students and residents and, in her course training, teaches clinical skills such as administering insulin and properly fitting patients for assistive devices.

Researcher of the Year Alexander MacKerell Jr., PhD, represents excellence in interdisciplinary research and interprofessional education. As Grollman-Glick Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the School of Pharmacy and director of its Computer-Aided Drug Design Center, Dr. MacKerell is a world leader in computational chemistry. His research has attracted substantial funding (more than $9 million from the NIH alone) and numerous patents. Despite this success, Dr. MacKerell remains committed to the training of postdoctoral fellows and graduate students and is a willing interdisciplinary research partner.

The public service component to this theme begins with Richard “Dick” Cook, MSW, director of the Social Work Community Outreach Service (SWCOS) at the School of Social Work since 1995. His outreach touches our global and local neighbors. In the 1960s, he was among the first Peace Corps volunteers, serving in Venezuela, and this year he coordinated a School of Social Work experience in El Salvador.

In addition to his SWCOS duties, which have resulted in many partnerships with our West Baltimore neighbors, Mr. Cook has been a tireless volunteer advocate for dozens of local organizations crossing all racial and institutional divides.

Entrepreneurs of the Year William Blattner, MD, and Robert Redfield Jr., MD, co-founders and associate directors of the Institute of Human Virology and professors in the Department of Medicine at the School of Medicine, provide clinical care and public service of a different type.

Drs. Blattner and Redfield are being recognized for their global impact on treating and preventing HIV/AIDS. As a result of their success in building a sustainable business model and infrastructure in nine African and Caribbean nations, nearly 500,000 patients have been treated with antiretroviral medications and virtually 3 million people have received prevention interventions and HIV testing.

Thanks to University stalwarts such as these five award winners, and those in the laurel pages that follow, our University is indeed excelling at interdisciplinary research and interprofessional education, clinical care and practice, and public service. Thank you all for your efforts.

I hope you can attend many of our Founders Week activities listed at http://founders.umaryland.edu/ and on our back page. And don’t miss Davidge Hall’s 200th birthday celebration on Friday, Oct. 26, at noon.

All the best,

Jay A. Perman, MD
President
The following students have been named the University’s president’s fellows for the 2012-2013 academic year: Abdalla Aly, School of Pharmacy; Casey Brent and Caroline Sunshine, School of Social Work; Victoria Chihos and Ian Clark, Francis King Carey School of Law; Mazen El Ghaziri, School of Nursing; Deborah Mansdorf, School of Dentistry; and Oksana Mishler, School of Dentistry and Graduate School. The fellows will create a white paper and present a lecture about civility as a core instructional value at the University.

Richard Behles, MLS, historical librarian/preservation officer at the Health Sciences and Human Services Library (HS/HSL), has written the biography “John Crawford, 1746-1813” for the Dictionary of Early American Philosophers. Crawford was a School of Medicine faculty member whose private book collection, donated to the University in 1813, established the HS/HSL.

Jeffrey Raymond, media relations specialist in the Office of Communications and Public Affairs, has been elected president of the Baltimore Public Relations Council. Raymond previously served on the group’s programming committee and as treasurer of the council, which is the oldest PR organization in Baltimore.

Mark Reynolds, DDS, PhD, chair of the Department of Periodontics, has been selected to give two keynote presentations: “Contemporary Periodontics: Emerging Technologies, Changing Paradigms” at the University of Missouri, Kansas City; and “Inflammation in Aging and Disease” at the Columbia University College of Dental Medicine.

Mark Shirtliff, PhD, associate professor, and former colleague Rebecca Brady, PhD, have received the European patent “Methods and Devices for the Detection of Biofilm” for an invention that will help health care practitioners in the in vivo, noninvasive detection of bacterial communities or biofilms.
FRANCIS KING CAREY
SCHOOL OF LAW

Franklin Branch, JD ‘12, is the first student from the School to win the James B. Boskey Law Student Essay Contest on Dispute Resolution, sponsored by the American Bar Association (ABA) Section of Dispute Resolution. His essay, “Mediation Over Prosecution: The Right Approach to Increasing School Attendance in Baltimore City,” appears on the ABA website.

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) honored Christopher Brown, JD, MA, associate professor emeritus, for his lifetime of legal service to civil liberties and ACLU clients during a ceremony on campus Oct. 4. The ACLU also created a C. Christopher Brown Award to recognize others who make a significant contribution to the legal work of the ACLU of Maryland.

“When the Cheering (for Gideon) Stops: The Defense Bar and Representation at Initial Bail Hearings,” written by Douglas Colbert, JD, professor, is the lead article in a recent issue of The Champion, the journal of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. The edition is devoted to the 50th anniversary of Gideon v. Wainwright, the Supreme Court decision that requires state courts to provide legal counsel to defendants who cannot afford an attorney.

“More Than a ‘Quick Glimpse of the Life?’ The Relationship Between Victim Impact Evidence and Death Sentencing,” co-written by Jerome Deise, JD, professor, has been accepted for publication in the Hastings Constitutional Law Quarterly, a publication of the University of California Hastings College of the Law.

Renée Hutchins, JD, associate professor, has been appointed to the board of directors of the Judicial Institute of Maryland. William Reynolds, JD, Jacob A. France Professor of Judicial Process, has completed 25 years on the board.

Olorunfunmi Ojetayo, JD ’12, is the first student from the School to be chosen as a law clerk at the Constitutional Court of South Africa, that country’s highest court. Ojetayo will clerk for Deputy Chief Justice Dikgang Moseneke, who was a visiting scholar last fall at the law school.

“The Cost of Securities Fraud,” written by Urska Velikonja, JD, LLM, LLB, assistant professor, has been accepted for publication in the William and Mary Law Review.

Dean Phoebe A. Haddon, JD, LLM, was invited to make a presentation celebrating Constitution Day at the U.S. Department of Justice. Her lecture—“The Constitution: What Is Access to Justice in the 21st Century?”—was delivered in person and broadcast to department attorneys. Haddon also recently introduced Jeffrey Toobin, lawyer and staff writer at The New Yorker, for a discussion of his new book The Oath: The Obama White House and the Supreme Court at Baltimore’s Enoch Pratt Free Library. Haddon also participated in the panel discussion “Law Schools: Their Role and Their Costs,” held at the Clarence M. Mitchell Jr. Courthouse in Baltimore.

Leslie Meltzer Henry, JD, MSc, associate professor, is part of a team that secured an $8.9 million grant from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation to find ways to improve the dignity of patients in intensive care units.

Leslie Henry

Urska Velikonja
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

The Department of Orthopaedics hosted two groups of orthopaedic surgeons from Asia and Latin America recently as part of a fellowship program created by the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine. James Dreese, MD, assistant professor, headed the initiative.

“Cardiac Arrest and Sudden Cardiac Death in the Pediatric Population,” written by Carissa Baker-Smith, MD, MS, MPH, and Sudhir Vashist, MD, MBBS, assistant professors, was published in the Journal of Clinical & Experimental Cardiology.

Raymond Cross Jr., MD, MS, associate professor, has been named chair of the National Patient Education Committee of the Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation of America. Leyla Ghazi, MD, assistant professor, has been named co-chair of the Mission Committee of the foundation’s Maryland and southern Delaware chapter.

Deepak Deshpande, PhD, assistant professor, received a five-year, $1.6 million R01 grant for “Molecular Basis of Age-Dependent Changes in Airway Smooth Muscle Functions.”

Marc Hochberg, MD, MPH, professor, will receive the Distinguished Clinical Investigator Award during the annual meeting of the American College of Rheumatology in November.

David Klassen, MD, professor, has been appointed to a two-year term on the United Network for Organ Sharing board of directors.

Benjamin Lawner, DO, EMT-P, assistant professor, and Jose Nable, MD, EMT-P, clinical instructor, are among the authors of “2010: The Emergency Medical Services Literature in Review,” which was published in The American Journal of Emergency Medicine.

“Rediagnosis: Investigating the Ills of Long-Dead Celebrities,” written by Philip Mackowiak, MD, MBA, vice chair of the Department of Medicine, was published in Science.

The Department of Defense Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs have awarded a three-year, $2.5 million grant for the clinical trial “Supplemental Perioperative Oxygen to Reduce Surgical Site Infection After High-Energy Fracture Surgery,” for which Robert O’Toole, MD, associate professor, is the principal investigator. A three-year, $1.5 million grant has been awarded for the clinical trial “Instructive Biological Scaffold for Functional Tissue Regeneration After Trauma to the Extremities,” for which Marcus Sciadini, MD, associate professor, is a co-principal investigator.

Christopher Plowe, MD, MPH, leader of the Malaria Group, Center for Vaccine Development, was recently featured in New Scientist magazine. Plowe was interviewed about malaria vaccines.

“Breast Cancer Resistance Protein (BCRP) and the DNA Which Encodes It,” an invention by Douglas Ross, MD, PhD, professor, and Lynne Abruzzo, MD, PhD, and L. Austin Doyle, MD, formerly of the medical school, was recently issued a Canadian patent.
The discovery of a new colon cancer biomarker by Horea Rus, MD, PhD, associate professor, and Tudor Badea, MD, PhD, and Matthew Fosbrink, PhD, former colleagues in Rus’ lab, has been issued a U.S. patent. Rus’ group has also found use for this marker as a diagnostic and prognostic tool for other diseases including multiple sclerosis.

The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene has awarded Eileen Steinberger, MD, assistant professor, a five-year, $1.2 million renewal for her work on state cancer database systems and a five-year, $1.1 million renewal for her work on cancer surveillance and evaluation in Maryland.

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Susan Bindon, DNP, RN, assistant professor, was recently elected to a two-year term on the National Nursing Staff Development Organization board of directors.

Linda Hickman, PhD, MBA, RN, FACHE, assistant professor, was recognized for her 10 years of service as a board of directors member of the American Red Cross of the Delmarva Peninsula during the organization’s recent annual meeting and volunteer recognition ceremony.

“The Effects of a Web-based Pre-operative Education Program for Patients Who Undergo Ambulatory Surgery: A Preliminary Study,” co-written by Eun-Shim Nahm, PhD, RN, FAAN, associate professor, was published in The Journal of Health Administration. The University of Maryland Medical Center’s (UMMC) Lena Stevens, MSN, RN, nurse educator; Pamela Scott, MS, RN, nursing manager; and Kristy Gorman, MS, RN, clinical practice and education specialist, were among the other co-writers. The article is based on the findings of a School of Nursing-UMMC collaborative project.

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

The School’s chapter of the Lambda Kappa Sigma International Professional Pharmacy Fraternity has been named the 2012 Outstanding Collegiate Chapter of the Year and the 2012 Outstanding Alumni Chapter of the Year.

Nancy Bowers, director of administration and finance, has been elected co-secretary of the University System of Maryland’s Council of University System Staff.

Student Diwura Owolabi has been named member-at-large on the 2012-2013 American College of Clinical Pharmacy’s National StuNet Advisory Committee.

Paul Shapiro, PhD, vice chair for education in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, has been appointed chair of the National Institutes of Health study section on grant applications for cancer therapeutics Academic Research Enhancement Awards.

Student Ting Wang, MS, received a research fellowship from the United States Pharmacopeia.
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Dean Richard P. Barth, PhD, MSW, was presented the 2012 Friend of Children and Youth Award during the North American Council on Adoptable Children’s annual conference in Crystal City, Va.

Deborah Gioia, PhD, MSSW, associate professor, has been named incoming reviews editor for the journal Qualitative Social Work.

Questions and Answers

FLASHBACK

Occasionally in the President’s Message, we will provide updates to previous questions that have been raised. The question below comes from an October 2010 group Q&A session with Dr. Perman at the then recently opened Pharmacy Hall Addition.

QUESTION

Are we going to establish a School of Public Health, and if so, when? College Park has one; it’s embarrassing that we as the health science campus do not.

ANSWER THEN

Are we having a School of Public Health? My conclusion right this minute with all that is happening with our funds is to tell you that we will likely not have a School of Public Health per se. We now have a department that includes public health in the School of Medicine.

A word of caution: I believe we need to be careful about committing resources to simply do what we’ve been authorized to do just because we’ve been authorized to do it. This is a great time for us to ask, “What do we have or want to have in its place?” The VPs, the deans and I—even the chancellor—have discussed this.

It depends on what you mean by public health. Our particular strength is in the kind of public health that others would call global health. That’s what our campus is about. It is about international vision.

College Park does something more focused in public health than we do. And we have an emphasis that they do not. There is no need for clean, distinct boundaries. We need to emphasize each of our strengths.

ANSWER NOW

On Sept. 25, the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) and the University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP) announced a collaborative school of public health that will give graduate students at both institutions expanded opportunities in public health education, research, service, and training.

The announcement was made at a news conference hosted by University System of Maryland (USM) Chancellor William Kirwan, PhD, at the USM offices in Adelphi. UMCP and UMB have begun the national accreditation process as one initiative of their University of Maryland MPowering the State collaboration approved by the USM Board of Regents on March 1, 2012.

“In establishing the MPowering the State initiative, the University System of Maryland Board of Regents developed
a framework to maximize the collective power of our two largest research institutions to serve the needs of our citizens,” says Kirwan. “This framework is embodied by bringing together the strengths of the public health program at our College Park flagship and the expertise behind several medical disciplines at our School of Medicine. I am pleased to see the collaborative school of public health chart its course as an opportunity for our students and the people they are training to serve in Maryland.”

The Council on Education for Public Health uses the term “collaborative school of public health” to describe a school of public health that offers degree programs across more than one institution but is accredited as a single unit. Currently, there are only three collaborative schools of public health.

Both the current School of Public Health in College Park and the Master of Public Health program in Baltimore will retain their current accreditation during this process. If approved by the accrediting body, the first master of public health students to receive degrees granted through the collaborative school will be in 2014.

“Students will be able to access the faculty expertise available in College Park and Baltimore,” says Jay Perman, MD, president of UMB. “The basic degree requirements won’t change, and will continue to include the core areas of public health. What will change is that the collaboration creates new opportunities and brings together complementary strengths from each campus.”

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October 22
Black-Tie Gala
6 - 11 p.m.
Hilton Baltimore

October 23
Entrepreneurs of the Year
4 - 6 p.m.
BioPark Life Sciences Conference Center

October 24
Student Cookout
noon - 1:30 p.m.
Southern Management Corporation Campus
Center Courtyard and School of Nursing Courtyard

Researcher of the Year Lecture
4 - 6 p.m.
Pharmacy Hall, N103 Lecture Hall

October 25
Staff Luncheon
11:30 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.  |  12:20 - 1 p.m.
Westminster Hall

October 26
Happy Birthday Davidge Hall
noon - 2 p.m.
Davidge Hall