It’s no secret that interprofessional education has been a priority of mine — during my time at UMB and long before it. I’ve used our interprofessional activities to show students the power of surrounding patients with a team of professionals who know how to work together to address the complex health and social challenges faced by the most vulnerable people we serve.

Certainly, demonstrating the efficacy of team-based care is advanced by establishing a real-world setting in which to serve patients who benefit most from an interprofessional approach, and by building a model of care from which we and others might learn. We inaugurated this model last summer in partnership with University of Maryland Capital Region Health. The Interprofessional Care Transitions Clinic (ICTC), based at the University of Maryland Family Health and Wellness Center in Cheverly, serves Medicare, Medicaid, and newly insured patients who are discharged from the University of Maryland Prince George’s Hospital Center and who lack a primary care provider. It uses a staged approach to reduce hospital readmissions and emergency department visits: First, provide uninterrupted services to these hard-to-reach patients as they undergo transitions in care, and then connect these patients to their own primary care providers over the long term.

The clinic, supported with $1.2 million from the state, is a collaborative effort of the School of Pharmacy and the School of Nursing, and it draws on two of the schools’ existing community resources to link patients with providers: the Governor’s Wellmobile, operated by the nursing school, and the e-Health Center, operated by the pharmacy school. These remote care sites, augmenting expanded hours at the Cheverly clinic itself, allow patients to receive services where they live.

Each member of the interprofessional team is essential to the health and wellness outcomes we’re trying to achieve:

• The pharmacist provides comprehensive medication therapy management that promotes medication adherence and appropriate drug therapy. She offers individualized counseling to patients with complex medication regimens. She even works with local pharmacies to accommodate patients unable to afford drug co-pays.

• The nurse practitioner conducts health assessments and manages any new or persistent conditions. She connects patients with primary care providers, making referrals and appointments for them. Through regular follow-up, she counsels patients on health promotion and disease prevention.

• The social worker helps patients find temporary housing and navigate the health care system. She enrolls them in public benefits, secures referrals for behavioral health treatment, and finds them reliable transportation to and from the clinic. (Transportation remains one of the biggest barriers preventing patients from keeping their clinic appointments.)

• The lawyer provides counsel to the clinic’s patients directly, but also consults with the interprofessional team on issues related to legal records, housing, and landlord-tenant agreements.

Lest this description of coordinated care give too rosy an impression, let me set the record straight: The ICTC teaches us every day not only how important this model of care is for our high-need patients, but also how challenging it is to sustain it. The clinic was always conceived as a “disruptive innovation” in health care, a model that replaces the old way of providing services in a quest for something more effective and more affordable. This disruption doesn’t come without difficulty. It requires that we acclimate patients to receiving care in a new way — from different providers and in different locations. It requires changes at all levels of the organization: how we build infrastructure, and integrate care and technology, and collect and share data, and evaluate programs, and engage patients, and create social networks to support them.

Perhaps no challenge is more daunting than retaining the patients we engage. Attrition frequently happens early on, between patients’ discharge from the hospital and their first appointment at the clinic. This isn’t particularly surprising given that connecting with patients is often complicated by the fact that many have no working phone, or they provide a wrong number, or their phone is later disconnected. Clinics similar to the ICTC, both locally and nationally, point to these sorts of challenges as the primary obstacle to large patient volumes.

Of course, we know that success isn’t measured only in patient volume but also in the value added to patient care, and we are carefully evaluating our impact and efficacy. While early evidence suggests good things about our added value — the ICTC shows a preliminary positive trend in reducing hospital readmissions and emergency department visits — we don’t yet have complete or long-term data by which to gauge success. What we do have are several patient stories that suggest our approach is working.

I’ll share just one: A 67-year-old woman with a complex medical history — including Type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, COPD, and pulmonary embolism — arrived at the emergency department...
complaining of dizziness and weakness. She was taking at least five medications, including a blood thinner. She cares for her husband whose health is deteriorating and who is becoming verbally abusive. She needs to adapt her home to accommodate their reduced mobility but has little money to do so.

The ICTC team identified the medication associated with the patient’s dizziness, one incompatible with her other medications. Medication management alleviated the immediate concerns, and she was then referred to a primary care provider to assess her remaining prescriptions. The team connected the patient to several local and state resources — a crisis intervention unit, a support program for caregivers, a financial counseling organization, and a community health worker program. She was given tools to help her coordinate care for her husband and get him screened for behavioral health issues.

By the time the patient was discharged from the ICTC, she had applied for a tax credit program, which would limit the property taxes she pays; she’d contacted an agency that subsidizes modifications that make homes accessible for their owners; and she’d been connected with a community health worker who could support her with care, education, and referrals.

It’s stories like these that keep us committed to an interprofessional model. The ICTC is our test bed for many of the things we say matter most in health care. It’s our chance to prove that team-based care improves health outcomes. It’s our chance to show others — other communities, states, academic health centers, and hospitals — how you meet patients where they are, how you connect them to the primary caregivers they need, and how you stitch together a strong safety net beneath the people who urgently need one.

The ICTC’s first year hasn’t been without challenges, but it has demonstrated the critical need among Prince George’s County residents, a need that we believe will be met by high-quality, team-based care and by organizations committed to providing it.

Sincerely,

Jay A. Perman, MD
PRESIDENT

**QUARTERLY Q&A**

**with Dr. Perman**

**TUESDAY**

**September 18, 2018**

10 a.m. | Carey School of Law, Moot Courtroom

Please join me as I answer questions from students, staff, and faculty. Everyone is welcome to attend.
UNIVERSITYWIDE

Every fall, we dedicate Founders Week to commemorating UMB’s rich history and to celebrating the future we’re building together. Among the highlights is recognizing the extraordinary work of our faculty and staff. Here are the recipients of our 2018 Founders Week Awards.

ENTREPRENEURS OF THE YEAR

Steven I. Hanish, MD
Thomas M. Scalea, MD, FACS, FCCM
Deborah M. Stein, MD, MPH, FACS, FCCM
School of Medicine
R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center
University of Maryland Medical Center

PUBLIC SERVANT OF THE YEAR

Valli Meeks, DDS, MS, RDH
School of Dentistry
Clinical associate professor, Department of Oncology and Diagnostic Sciences

RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR

Karen L. Kotloff, MD
School of Medicine
Professor, Department of Pediatrics
Head, Division of Infectious Disease and Tropical Pediatrics
Associate Director, Clinical Studies, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health

TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Geoffrey L. Greif, PhD, MSW
Professor, School of Social Work

Congratulations to our winners. Read more about them and Founders Week.

Bonnie Bissonette, EdD, director of education abroad and international safety, Center for Global Education Initiatives, presented the opening remarks for NAFSA: Association of International Educators’ Education Abroad Regulatory Summit in Washington, D.C.

Health Sciences and Human Services Library staff participated in the Towson Conference for Academic Libraries. Vickie Campbell, resource sharing supervisor, and Lorrie Woods, resource sharing specialist, co-presented “ILL Cost Recovery at the University of Maryland, Baltimore.”

Everly Brown, MLIS, head of information services, and Kathleen Hand, reserves coordinator, co-presented “Engaging Instructors in E-reserves.”

Reba Cornman, MSW, director, Geriatrics and Gerontology Education and Research program, Graduate School, wrote “Health of Caregivers Sometimes Forgotten,” which was published by The Baltimore Sun under its Ask The Expert column.

Tony Nguyen, MLIS, AHIP, executive director, National Network

LAURELS ARE SUBMITTED BY THE COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENTS OF THE SCHOOLS AS WELL AS BY REPRESENTATIVES IN VARIOUS UNIVERSITYWIDE OFFICES. THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ERRORS IN THESE SELF-SUBMITTED LAURELS.
of Libraries of Medicine Southeast/Atlantic Region, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, wrote “Technology: Infographic Design Tools,” which was published in MLA (Medical Library Association) News.

Michelle Peralta, health and wellness specialist of the Wellness Hub, Campus Life Services, received the Integrative, Complementary, and Traditional Health Practices student award from the American Public Health Association in August and the School of Medicine MPH Student Leadership and Student Travel awards in June.

**SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY**

The school’s chapter of the Student National Dental Association was awarded Chapter of the Year by the National Dental Association (NDA) during the NDA’s annual convention in Orlando, Fla. This is the third year in a row that the school has won this award.

Gary Hack, DDS, clinical associate professor, Division of Operative Dentistry, gave a poster presentation titled “An Interprofessional Collaboration to Implement and Evaluate Adult Diabetes Screening in a Dental School (UMSOD) Clinic” at the American Association of Diabetes Educators annual conference in Baltimore.

Resident Surya Joseph, DDS, MBA, Division of Orthodontics, received the Charles J. Burstone Research Aid Award of $5,000 from the American Association of Orthodontics for her one-year project titled “Use of Temporary Anchorage Devices for Ridge Preservation After Tooth Extraction.”

Radi Masri, DDS, MS, PhD, associate professor and director, Division of Prosthodontics, was awarded the American College of Prosthodontists (ACP) 2018 Distinguished Service Award. It will be presented at the ACP’s annual session in November in Baltimore.

Abraham Schneider, DDS, PhD, associate professor, Department of Oncology and Diagnostic Sciences, was among the co-authors of a manuscript titled “Nicotine Induces Oral Dysplastic Keratinocyte Migration via Fatty Acid Synthase-Dependent Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor Activation,” which was published in Experimental Cell Research.

**CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW**

Danielle Citron, JD, Morton & Sophia Macht Professor of Law, wrote “Four Principles for Digital Expression,” which was published in the Washington University Law Review. The book Love’s Promises by Martha Ertman, JD, Carole & Hanan Sibel Professor of Law, was relied on by an Israeli family law court in its decision that allowed a non-biological mom in a lesbian couple to obtain pre-birth designation as the child’s legal parent.

Seema Kakade, JD, professor and director, Environmental Law Clinic, and Robert Percival, JD, Robert Greenberger, JD, professor and founding director, Center for Health and Homeland Security, appeared in the news segment “Hogan: Voter Data Not Breached Despite Russian Investor’s Ties To Maryland Election Software” on WJZ-TV. He also spoke to a visiting Pakistani delegation about countering violent extremism, and specifically the law school’s 2015 course on “Freddie Gray’s Baltimore: Past, Present, and Moving Forward.”
F. Stanton Professor of Law and director, Environmental Law Program, wrote “What’s Next for the EPA – Here’s What Reagan Did,” which was published in *The Conversation*. Percival also presented “A History of Innovation in Global Environmental Law and Policy” at the 16th Colloquium of the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law at the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, Scotland.

Clark J. Lee, JD, MPH, CPH, senior law and policy analyst, Center for Health and Homeland Security, has written a chapter on “Sleep, Law, and Public Policy” that was published by Oxford University Press.

Frank Pasquale, JD, MPhil, professor, was elected a member of the American Law Institute.

Max Stearns, JD, Venable, Baetjer & Howard Professor of Law, wrote the book *Law and Economics: Private and Public*.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

The following is a select list. For all the SOM laurels, visit www.somnews.umaryland.edu.

Eugene Albrecht, PhD, professor, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences, received a five-year, $3,152,686 grant from the National Institutes of Health for “Regulation of Uterine Spiral Artery Remodeling During Primate Pregnancy.”

Paul Antony, MD, assistant professor, Department of Pathology, was a co-author on “PD-L1-Independent Mechanisms Control the Resistance of Melanoma to CD4+ T Cell Adoptive Immunotherapy,” published in the *Journal of Immunology*.

Sally Cheston, MD, assistant professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, received a special Governor’s Citation from Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan. The award was presented by Robert R. Neall, secretary of the Maryland Department of Health, in recognition of her long-term and outstanding work in creating and sustaining a joint UMSOM-Johns Hopkins program in radiation oncology at Howard County General Hospital.

Lauren Jackson, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was awarded a three-year, $1,499,999 grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for “An NHP Efficacy Study of BIO 300 for the Mitigation of DEARE-Induced Pneumonitis and Pulmonary Fibrosis.”

Robert Gallo, MD, the Homer & Martha Gudelsky Distinguished Professor in Medicine and director, Institute of Human Virology (IHV), and Yutaka Tagaya, PhD, assistant professor of medicine, IHV, authored “Time to Eradicate HTLV-1: An Open Letter to WHO,” which was published in *The Lancet*.

Edward Herskovits, MD, professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, was among the co-authors of “Science to Practice: IT Solutions to Drive Standardized Report Recommendations for Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Surveillance,” published in the *Journal of the American College of Radiology*.

Myron “Mike” Levine, MD, DTPH, Simon and Bessie Grollman Distinguished Professor of Medicine, associate dean for global health, vaccinology and infectious diseases, was awarded a three-year, $1,499,999 grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for
“Strengthening Typhoid Surveillance and Microbiological Lab Capacity in Samoa.”

Thomas MacVittie, PhD, professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was awarded $3,771,098 for “Assess the Efficacy of Filgrastim (Neupogen) or Peg-Filgrastim (Neulasta) on Mitigating Co-Morbidities and Mortality of Multi-Organ Injury (MOI) Associated with Concurrent GI-ARS, Prolonged GI Injury and Delayed Effects to Lung and Kidney Characteristic of the DEARE in NHP Exposed to 10 Gy Using the PBI/BM 2.5 Protocol.”

Jay Magaziner, PhD, MSHyg, professor and chair, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, was among the co-authors of “Identifying Research Priorities Around Psycho-Cognitive and Social Factors for Recovery from Hip Fractures: An International Decision-Making Process,” published in Injury.

Shabnam Salimi, MD, MSc, research associate, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, was awarded Best Poster at the national Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Center for “Soluble Tumor Necrosis Factor Alpha Receptor 1, Bone Resorption and Bone Mineral Density in the Year Following Hip Fractures: The Baltimore Hip Studies.” The meeting was held in Arlington, Va.

The school and Chesapeake College signed an agreement of dual admission that will ensure students’ seamless transition from Chesapeake College’s Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) program to UMSON’s Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree. Through the agreement, students can be admitted to UMSON’s BSN program while in Chesapeake College’s ADN program. Chesapeake College becomes the 10th community college in Maryland to sign such an agreement.

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Four faculty members have been awarded nearly $2 million in Nurse Support Program II (NSP II) grants funded through the Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission and administered by the Maryland Higher Education Commission: Debra Bingham, DrPH, RN, FAAN, associate professor; Shannon Idzik, DNP ’10, MS ’03, CRNP, FAANP, FAAN, associate professor and associate dean, Doctor of Nursing Practice program; Nina Trocky, DNP, RN, NE-BC, CNE, assistant professor and associate dean, baccalaureate program; and Rebecca Wiseman, PhD ’93, RN, associate professor and chair, UM School of Nursing at the Universities at Shady Grove. NSP II grants aid in increasing the capacity of nurses in Maryland by implementing statewide initiatives to grow the number of nurses prepared to serve as faculty.

Assistant professors Charon Burda, DNP ’16, MS ’03, PMHNP-BC, CARN-AP, and Victoria L. Selby, PhD ’17, MS ’09, BSN ’06, hosted a one-hour webinar, “Recommended Curricular Content for an Addictions Course for Nurse Practitioners,” sponsored by the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty. Katherine Fornili, DNP ’16, MPH, RN, CARN, FIAAN, assistant professor, also co-authored the presentation.

Linda Diaconis, PhD, MS ’95, BSN ’92, RN, assistant professor and specialty director, Health Services Leadership and Management, participated in a panel presentation at the 39th Annual International Listening Convention, “Listening
Beyond Boundaries,” at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland. Diaconis gave a presentation on “Listening Online: A Caring Presence.”

Lori Edwards, DrPH, MPH, BSN ’80, RN, PHCNS-BC, assistant professor, has been named president-elect of the Association of Community Health Nursing Educators (ACHNE). Edwards, who served as ACHNE’s vice president and program committee chair from 2016 to 2018, will become the organization’s president in 2020.

Vanessa P. Fahie, PhD ’94, BSN ’76, RN, assistant professor, was awarded a College Preparation Intervention Program grant from the Maryland Higher Education Commission. The two-year, $125,000 award is in support of the Maryland Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Program. In collaboration with Baltimore City Public Schools, the nursing school provides services to Edmondson-Westside and Frederick Douglass high school students and their families through the Exploring Health Profession Careers project. Fahie also was awarded a four-year, $2 million Health Resources and Services Administration grant. Through the project Increasing Diversity in the Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) Option, Fahie seeks to infuse the nursing workforce with CNL master’s students from under-represented backgrounds.

Jana Goodwin, PhD, RN, CNE, assistant professor and director, Bachelor of Science in Nursing program, participated in the American Association of Colleges of Nursing’s Leadership for Academic Nursing Program, an executive leadership fellowship tailored specifically for new and emerging executive administrators who aspire to move into senior administrative or executive positions within the nursing academic unit.

Alfred Guante, MEd, assistant director, Student Success Center, Office of Student and Academic Services, was named UMB’s July Employee of the Month for his efforts to support students, in particular by launching the Student Ambassador Program in the spring 2018 semester.

Shannon Idzik, DNP ’10, MS ’03, CRNP, FAANP, FAAN, associate professor and associate dean, Doctor of Nursing Practice program, has been selected as a fellow in the 2018 American Association of Colleges of Nursing-Wharton Executive Leadership Program at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. The program will be taught by faculty from Wharton, the University of Pennsylvania’s business school, who will present content designed to advance academic administrators to a higher level of leadership.

Joseph E. Pellegrini, PhD, CRNA, FAAN, associate professor and director, Doctor of Nursing Practice Nurse Anesthesia specialty, has been awarded $78,111 in additional funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to continue the school’s nurse anesthetist traineeship program. Recipients of the HRSA grant are full-
time nurse anesthesia students who have pledged to serve the medically underserved upon graduation.

Veronica Quattrini, DNP, MS ’99, BSN ’95, CRNP, FNP-BC, assistant professor, participated in the Nurse in Washington Internship program. Attendees took part in advocacy breakout sessions, advocacy training, a panel session with professional nurse advocates, a congressional staff panel session, role playing, and networking. Additionally, interns met with their representatives and senators on Capitol Hill.

Kristen Rawlett, PhD ’14, FNP-BC, assistant professor, presented part of her Dean’s Research Scholar research, “Precursor to a Tailored Mindfulness Intervention with Adolescents: Engaging the Community,” as a podium talk at the 2018 International Conference on Mindfulness in Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Jessica Rowe, MA, MS, CCRP, research quality improvement manager, was named UMB’s August Employee of the Month for going above and beyond to help UMSON researchers conduct research in compliance and in an ethical manner.

Catherine Cooke, PharmD, research associate professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, has received a 17-month, $187,393 contract from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute for “PCORI Training for Minority Practitioners and Their Patients: Targeting the Silent Killers of Cardiovascular Disease.”

Student Laura Gressler has received an ORISE fellowship in the Department of Epidemiology at the Food and Drug Administration.

Emily Heil, PharmD, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, has been elected secretary/treasurer of the Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists.

Vijay Ivaturi, PhD, research assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, has received a one-year, $23,969 contract from Thomas Jefferson University for “A Comparison of Buprenorphine Versus Morphine in the Treatment of the Neonatal Ab.”

Sophia Johnson, PharmD, MPH, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science and Department of Pharmaceutical
Health Services Research, has been named chair of the Mixed Methods International Research Association’s Governance Committee.

Alexander MacKerell, PhD, the Grollman-Glick Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences and director, Computer-Aided Drug Design Center, has received a one-year, $32,463 grant from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences for “Carbohydrate Force Fields for Structure, Dynamics and Molecular Recognition.”

Jill Morgan, PharmD, professor and chair, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, has received a one-year, $190,922 contract from the Maryland Department of Health for “FY19 Clinical Pharmacy Service.”

C. Daniel Mullins, PhD, professor and chair, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, and director, PATIENTS Program, has been named a member of the National Academy of Medicine’s steering committee on “Generating Stakeholder Support and Demand for Leveraging and Sharing Data for Continuous Learning,” and has received a six-month, $162,000 contract from the University of Maryland, College Park for “Improving FDA Health Communications with Older Women Regarding FDA Regulated Products.”

B.J. Shaneman, RN, MSN, senior program specialist, PATIENTS Program, has been named an honoree by the New Vision House of Hope for her service, dedication, and commitment to the citizens of Baltimore. She will be recognized in October at the organization’s Crystal Masquerade Ball.

Jana Shen, PhD, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, and co-director, Computer-Aided Drug Design Center, has received an 11-month, $347,625 grant from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences for “Electrostatic Modulation of Protein Dynamics and Interactions.”

Ester Villalonga Olives, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, has been named an outstanding reviewer by the journal Health & Place.

Sarah Christa Butts, MSW, executive director, Grand Challenges for Social Work initiative, has been named a VIP by The Daily Record. The business and legal newspaper created the VIP List in 2011 to recognize professionals 40 years of age and younger who have been successful in Maryland.
Nadine Finigan-Carr, PhD, has been promoted to research associate professor.

Joan Davitt, PhD, associate professor, is a co-author of “Loneliness, Depressive Symptoms, and Cognitive Functioning Among U.S. Chinese Older Adults,” which was published in Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine.

The Carroll County Health Department has awarded the school’s Institute for Innovation and Implementation funding for its project E-SMART: Early Screening, Decision-Making, Assessment, Referral and Treatment for Children and Families. The institute’s Margo Candelaria, PhD, serves as the principal investigator for this grant.

Brook Kearley, PhD, research assistant professor, is a co-author of “Scaling Up Evidence-Based Programs Using a Public Funding Stream: A Randomized Trial of Functional Family Therapy for Court-Involved Youth,” published in Prevention Science.

Amida Lehning, PhD, has been promoted to associate professor.

Sam Little, PhD, associate dean, is a co-author of “Responding to the Grand Challenge to End Homelessness: The National Homelessness Social Work Initiative,” which appeared in Families and Society.

Michael Reisch, PhD, Daniel Thursz Distinguished Professor of Social Justice, presented a paper on the past and present U.S. treatment of immigrant children and their families at the Joint World Conference on Social Work, Education, and Social Development in Dublin, Ireland.

Paul Sacco, PhD, associate dean for research, Michelle Tuten, PhD, associate professor, alum Mary Hodorowicz, PhD ’18, and others co-authored “Substance Use and Psychosocial Functioning in a Sample of Liver Transplant Recipients with Alcohol-Related Liver Disease,” which was published in the journal Transplantation Proceedings. Tuten also has been promoted to associate professor.

JaVon Townsend, MSW ’12, LCSW-C, will travel to Ghana after being awarded a scholarship in the 2018 Fulbright U.S. Student Program. It is the first time a current or former UMB student has been named a scholar in the program, which offers research, study, and teaching opportunities in more than 140 countries to recent graduates and graduate students.

Student Orrin Ware and John Cagle, PhD, recently promoted to associate professor, co-authored “Informal Caregiving Networks for Hospice Patients With Cancer and Their Impact on Outcomes: A Brief Report,” published by the American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine.

Student Yanfeng Xu, Corey Shdaimah, PhD, recently promoted to professor, and Deborah Gioia, PhD, associate professor, co-authored “Qualitative Research in the Chinese Social Work Academy: Optimism and Invisible Disadvantages,” which was published in the British Journal of Social Work.
UMB NIGHT at the Ballpark

Orioles vs. Chicago White Sox
Friday, Sept. 14
7:05 p.m.

Lower Box
Sections 6-14 & 60-64
$34*

Upper Box
Sections 316-356
$22*

Upper Reserve
Sections 316-356
$14*

Left Field Upper Reserve
Sections 368-388
$9*

*There is an additional 10% service charge per ticket.

For any questions or accessible seating, please call 888.848.BIRD (2473) and ask for the Ticket Services team. Tickets posted for re-sale are subject to cancellation. Offer is NOT valid at the box office.

orioles.com/tix/umbuniversityevents
IMPROVED MOBILE APP LAUNCHED

Just in time for the fall semester, the Office of Communications and Public Affairs (CPA) is launching improvements to UMB’s mobile app.

The app, created in 2013 to “put UMB in your pocket,” has evolved over time. But Amir Chamsaz, ScD, MS, managing director of web development and interactive media in CPA, says this upgrade is the best one yet. In addition to a redesign that increases user engagement and retention, the app offers a wide range of improvements.

- Interactive experience: Latest news, social media stories, and more display on the landing page and users can flip through them without having to open the modules
- Ease of use: Most used functionality is moved to the top to help users access what they need faster
- Accessibility: Using large tile icons, sufficient color contrast, and other measures to help impaired users, the app meets ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) accessibility requirements
- Incorporates URecFit live and Blackboard that are popular destinations for users

“By studying quantitative data from Google Analytics as well as conversations with users, we put together a group of suggestions that are addressed in the redesigned UMB mobile app,” said Chamsaz, who adds the app is available by free download. “In addition to being more functional, it is user-centered, beautiful, and easy to use.”

Items on the landing page, such as UMB Alerts, UM shuttle, Directory, Calendar, News, URecFit, Maps, Parking/Transportation, Courses, Blackboard, Library, and Social Media, also appear on the hamburger menu, which is available in the top right corner of the mobile app. There also is a feedback link to let Chamsaz and his web team know of further changes that are sought.

“We are working toward increasing our mobile user engagement by providing relevant information that our users need, incorporating functionality that is easy to use, and doing all this in an attractive way,” Chamsaz added.

In conjunction with CITS (UMB’s Center for Information Technology Services), the CPA web team is working toward putting push notifications, or timely pop-up updates, into the new design.

“It’s a wonderful opportunity to enhance communication to our students, faculty, and staff all over the University,” said Laura Kozak, MS, associate vice president in CPA. “I’m proud that our team was able to make this a reality.”

— Chris Zang

Learn more about the mobile app.
SCHOLARS FIND SUMMER LEARNING IS FUN

Combining a dip in the pool with jumping headfirst into a murder mystery, the UMB CURE Scholars refreshed themselves mentally and physically during a three-week summer camp at the University.

Rising eighth-grade students took part in a forensics lab, where they used mathematics to try to solve *The Case of the Murdered Mayor*. Meanwhile, seventh-graders deepened their knowledge of oral health and delved into genomics during activities organized by the School of Dentistry and the Institute for Genome Sciences at the School of Medicine.

While keeping a heavy emphasis on STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math), UMB CURE, a pipeline program that prepares West Baltimore children for health and research careers through hands-on workshops, lab experiences, and mentorship, also keeps in mind that the scholars are just kids.

So when they expressed a desire to be outside and enjoy the sunny weather, Robin Saunders, EdD, MS, executive director, and her UMB CURE team came up with a Field Day on July 11 as the perfect cure for the scholars’ cabin fever.

Kept apart for their studies, the seventh- and eighth-graders combined for relay races, water basketball, and more in the 25-yard Infinity pool at URecFit. The scholars moved outdoors for kickball, tug of war, water balloon toss, and more. For many of the scholars, it’s not safe to play outside their homes and schools so the protected environment outside the School of Nursing was appreciated.

Of course, no field day is complete without a dance party, with Saunders joining in the fun. Aside from the teamwork and sportsmanship displayed, another learning component was a poster competition at the end of the day where scholars explained what UMB CURE means to them. (See the Field Day video.)

The next day it was back to the classroom for the scholars, who were joined by CURE mentors, staff members, and UMB faculty during the summer camp.
"It was cool being in the forensic scientist position and learning how to solve a crime," said Green Street Academy (GSA) student Machai Whyte. Machai’s grandmother watches a true crime television series called Forensic Files, and this lab put Machai right in the middle of her favorite show.

The math skills come in handy during the regular school year, according to another GSA student, Shereen Farquharson. After joining CURE in 2016, she recalls feeling confident in her classwork when multiplying decimals and learning about electricity because she had encountered these lessons through the CURE Scholars Program.

"It’s really helping me with my schoolwork," Shereen explains, "and when I go to college, I am going to be set up knowing what to expect."

Seventh-grade scholars also learned about genomics, building models of DNA. And during an oral health session at the School of Dentistry, GSA seventh-grader Kaden Johnson expressed his career aspirations on the plaster cast of a lower jaw after learning what it’s like to shape the filling of a tooth.

"First step to dentistry," his inscription reads.

— Jena Frick and Chris Zang

The UMB CURE Scholars Program is the first in the nation to engage middle schoolers in the National Cancer Institute’s Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (CURE) Program. Learn more at the UMB CURE Scholars website.
UMBR’S ADVANCES IMPRESS CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

The grand opening may be later this month, but staffers from Maryland’s U.S. congressional delegation got a sneak peek at Health Sciences Research Facility III (HSRF III), the newest research facility of the University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM). The cutting-edge facility was the first stop on a tour Aug. 14 to introduce the delegation to new innovations and initiatives at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB).

“It’s always important to get [congressional] staff on campus to see what we have going on,” said Jeff Grossi, JD, senior government affairs specialist. “It allows better opportunities to build relationships, and more than anything, it reinforces the need for continued federal investment in academic research and higher education at the graduate level.”

The daylong tour began in the pristine lobby of HSRF III. UMB President Jay Perman, MD, greeted members of the delegation with warm handshakes and a few words about how imperative UMB’s research is to solving global health problems, creating advanced medical practices, and, most important, saving lives.

“This facility isn’t filled with investigators only looking into biology,” Perman explained to the group. “It’s filled with investigators helping clinicians, like me, who take care of babies in their work.”

HSRF III’s grand opening is Sept. 14, but investigators were able to begin their life-saving research programs in January. Using state-of-the-art laboratories, researchers from UMSOM have been able to collaborate on groundbreaking research in cancer, metabolic and infectious diseases, women’s and children’s health, and brain development using front-line genomic sciences.

“We designed an open-lab type of setting,” said Jacques Ravel, PhD, associate director of the Institute for Genome Sciences at UMSOM. “We want to physically encourage the sharing of ideas and collaboration among professionals because that is how new innovations are discovered.”

After viewing HSRF III, the congressional delegation was introduced to oncology research in the School of Medicine, clinical simulation labs in the School of Nursing, and the work of the Center for Addiction Research, Education, and Service before traveling across Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard for an up-close look at the positive footprint UMB is leaving on the West Baltimore community.

The tour first stopped for a walk-through of the Grid (Graduate Research Innovation District). Established last year, the Grid is designed to bring innovative health and social impact ideas to life by supporting entrepreneurial ventures through education, early-stage funding, and programming. The space will soon be home to a degree program in health and social innovation, set to launch in fall 2019.

The Grid also provides educational opportunities for local entrepreneurs in the greater Baltimore community such as business workshops from the Small Business Development Center and programs that include free legal consultation from
UMB law students. The facility’s educational services go hand-in-hand with the health and recreational services provided just a few blocks away at the UMB Community Engagement Center (CEC).

“We are very highly committed to being part of the community, and you can see that in our Community Engagement Center,” Perman told the congressional delegation.

The congressional staffers were able to see that commitment firsthand on their final stop of the tour. Ashley Valis, MSW ’06, executive director of strategic initiatives and community engagement at UMB, explained how the center’s location in Poppleton was an important part of earning the trust of the community.

“We wanted to break down the barrier between the University and our West Baltimore neighbors,” Valis said. “[The CEC] has been open for about three years, and in that time we have established a presence in the community and our neighbors have really taken to that.”

The CEC’s mission is to bring the University and its West Baltimore neighbors together to strengthen community relationships and improve residents’ quality of life through a number of free services including health care programs, exercise classes, workforce training, and after-school activities for children. The CEC also hosts weekly food markets, providing the community with a convenient and cost-effective way to purchase fresh and nutritious foods.

Valis told the delegation that UMB hopes to continue catering to the community’s needs by expanding the CEC to a larger location.

The visit to the CEC completed the congressional delegation tour, which started in a beautifully finished medical research facility and ended in a small community center that’s working toward expansion and growth.

“When you look around this University, you can see the magnificent construction and architecture and you can also see a community that needs a lot of help,” Perman told the tour group. “Those two bookends together are what make UMB.”

— Jena Frick

See photos from the event.
“Proud to Work Here. Proud to Give Here.” is a Universitywide awareness and fundraising effort throughout the month of September that invites faculty and staff to show their pride with a one-time or recurring gift to the UMB school, scholarship, program, fund, or cause that matters most to them.

The University of Maryland Baltimore Foundation, Inc. Board of Trustees is PROUD of UMB’s accomplished and dedicated faculty and staff.

To say THANK YOU for all that you do and to encourage further PRIDE in your work and the UMB community at large, the trustees have generously offered to match faculty and staff gifts to the “Proud to Work Here. Proud to Give Here.” campaign $1:$1 through a $40,000 match challenge.

Visit umaryland.edu/philanthropy/proud to learn more and become a #UMBProudDonor.
INTERNS GET A SUMMER BOOST

Kiana Carr and Sydnie Taylor are UMBC students pursuing biology degrees and careers in the medical field. Carr wants to be a pediatrician. Taylor is leaning heavily toward pediatric dentistry, but she’s not 100 percent sure.

What both students are certain about is the impact of the five-week Summer Bioscience Internship Program (SBIP) they completed this summer as part of the YouthWorks Program at UMB. This was the University’s 28th year of participation in the work-readiness program with the Mayor’s Office of Employment Development, and more than 60 interns were placed in jobs this summer through UMB’s Office of Community Engagement (OCE).

High school and college students receive paychecks for their YouthWorks efforts, but what pays off in the long run are the experiences gained by assisting clinicians or researchers and participating in school tours or hands-on workshops.

“It’s been interesting to actually interact with patients before you begin your research to find out what topic really matters to them the most,” said Carr, who has been working with C. Daniel Mullins, PhD, department chair at the School of Pharmacy (SOP).

Carr was a YouthWorks intern the past two summers at the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center. “I got to interact with a lot of doctors and residents at Shock Trauma, and that was fun,” she said, “but with pharmacy, it’s interesting to work with different researchers and see their varied focuses. I really get to see how much their research impacts the groups they’re studying.”

Taylor is in her fourth year in the SBIP, and she thanked the program’s leaders — Brian Sturdivant, MSW, of OCE, and Allison Robinson, MPH, program manager, Maryland AHEC Program, School of Medicine (SOM) — for arranging her internship at the School of Dentistry (SOD), which hadn’t hosted a YouthWorks intern before.

“They knew I was interested in dentistry, reached out to the school, and paved the way for me to have a mentor in the field I want to possibly get in to,” said Taylor, who assisted Vivek Thumbigere-Math, BDS, PhD, assistant professor in SOD’s Division of Periodontology. “The SBIP is a really good program for anyone who’s interested in the science field. It really helps you make connections, which is the best part, because I’m still in contact with mentors I’ve had in the past, and they’ve been very supportive.”

PRIMERS, TOURS, AND MORE

On July 20, a dozen of the SBIP students got a primer on SOM’s Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science from Nicole Willhide, MS, director of student services. They watched a 20-minute video about the profession and toured an anatomy class in Howard Research Hall. Then they headed to SOP’s PATIENTS Day at the UM BioPark for more interactive and
educational experiences. Earlier in the summer, the group took part in a three-day orientation.

“The topics and the experience itself are very intriguing,” said John Tinawin, who is studying civil engineering at the University of Maryland, College Park and was placed at SOM with Asaf Keller, PhD, professor of anatomy and neurobiology. “I’m helping with three experiments in the lab — on opium addiction, nicotine addiction, and pain.”

There are four sectors to UMB’s participation in YouthWorks: the SBIP; the Community Engagement Center (CEC); HIRE One (administrative/office-type jobs); and the CURE Scholars Summer Program (see story on page 13).

Six high school students spent their five-week internship working at the CEC and in the community, with four interns maintaining the Pop! Farm in the nearby Poppleton neighborhood. The students watered plants and trees, pulled weeds, and more. They were supervised by Sara Haile, a student at the School of Social Work (SSW), and the program is led by OCE’s Bill Joyner, MSW, a SSW alum.

Gardening was a new activity for Jahleah DeGraffinried, who entered the ninth grade at Western High School this month. “I’m learning how to garden, what weeds to pull, so that’s a plus. And I get to work with my friends,” said DeGraffinried, who did a YouthWorks job the previous summer canvassing the community to promote West Baltimore businesses.

Dante Gregg, entering 11th grade at Augusta Fells High School, says working at the farm had a side benefit. “My grandmother’s got a little garden in her yard, so now I can help her with what I’ve learned this summer.”

HELP AROUND THE OFFICE

Rather than tending to gardens, the HIRE One interns tend to office tasks around the campus in a program led by OCE’s Camille Givens-Patterson. There were 19 in the program this summer, including Coty Rock, a rising sophomore at Notre Dame of Maryland University, whom Givens-Patterson calls a real “Rock star.”

Rock worked as a general assistant in the SOM Office of Finance and Resource Management, answering phones, filing confidential information, entering data, and doing office inventory. She enjoyed being a “helping hand” and found working with YouthWorks at UMB to be “a great experience.”

Fudi Fickenscher had a similar experience working for UMB’s Office of the President. The senior at Bryn Mawr School did secretarial work as well as writing items for The Elm website to promote OCE’s Local Food Connection initiative.

Fickenscher calls working at UMB “truly a foot in the door” and added that the teamwork she sees in the office reinforces lessons she’s learned in school group projects.

“There is no assignment at work that has not involved other people,” she said. “Without teamwork and without meeting deadlines, this University and any workplace would not function. YouthWorks also teaches us valuable skills to succeed — college prep, résumé writing, and finances. I am so grateful for the opportunity to have exposure to a 9-to-5 office job. Not a lot of teenagers have this opportunity.”

— Lou Cortina
Camaraderie Reigns at National Night Out

The threat of rain did not stop a night of food, music, and a special appearance from McGruff the Crime Dog as the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB), its police force, its Community Engagement Center, and its West Baltimore neighbors rallied together to celebrate National Night Out.

Despite the dark, ominous storm clouds looming overhead, around 200 people gathered on the University of Maryland BioPark lawn Aug. 7 in an effort to strengthen relationships between the police and the community with a free cookout. The event was a momentous occasion for all participants as the UMB Police Force’s new chief, Alice Cary, MS, was there to welcome everyone.

“It’s great to see the turnout and to see our officers engaging with the community,” Cary said.

National Night Out is an annual event that takes place nationwide on the first Tuesday of August. Millions of communities across the country participate in National Night Out with block parties, parades, cookouts, and various other community events and UMB was no exception. Lt. Thomas Leone put down his police gear for the night and instead held a spatula as he and his fellow officers grilled hot dogs and hamburgers for members of the community.

“It’s all about community engagement,” Leone explained. “We’re here to help strengthen our community and show them that we’re all in this together.”

Meanwhile, other members of the UMB Police Force brought their families to the event and, with UMB representatives including School of Social Work Dean Richard P. Barth, PhD, MSW, engaged community members of all ages in outdoor games, dancing, and face painting.

“I think it’s a good thing for the community to get involved with the officers,” said Nancy Hunt, a Poppleton resident. “They are the ones who help us in our community and it’s nice to get to know some of them.”

Underneath the games and entertainment of National Night Out lies a much deeper objective. The event promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to bolster relationships and promote a true sense of community.

When he wasn’t grilling hot dogs and burgers, Sgt. Matthew Johnson served as a canvas for some young painters.

“It’s about building trust between police and the community that we serve, so people can see what’s behind the badge and see us as individuals,” Cary added.

In the past, UMB has held National Night Out at the SMC Campus Center to encourage UMB students to attend the festivities. As Cary pointed out, the event is all about building a strong relationship with the community, which is why Mary Phelan, senior media relations specialist in UMB’s Office of Communications and Public Affairs, suggested that the University police streamline community engagement by partnering with UMB’s Community Engagement Center (CEC) and organizing National Night Out in August.
The CEC, located in the Poppleton neighborhood, adjacent to campus, provides direct health, employment, legal, and social services to West Baltimore residents and works with them on neighborhood-strengthening advocacy projects.

Phelan’s small suggestion brought forth a tidal wave of support: UMB Facilities donated a gas grill for food preparation; CulinArt Group donated food; UMB police officers brought refreshments and activities like face painting; UMB faculty and staff donated games and volunteered to serve food; and CEC staff members took care of the music and went door-to-door encouraging neighbors to come out and mingle. Ashley Valis, MSW ’06, executive director, strategic initiatives and community engagement, says she was thrilled that this year brought such a high turnout from the West Baltimore community.

“The CEC has a great relationship with our neighbors in [West Baltimore], and this was a great way for the CEC and UMB police to partner up on our first of hopefully many more events,” Valis said.

— Jena Frick

View a photo gallery and video.