A SEASON OF CELEBRATION

We did not get to see our graduates in caps and gowns this year, processing into Royal Farms Arena for our Universitywide commencement, celebrating at Party in the Park, or gathering one last time for their individual school’s convocation. We did not get to hood our graduates, or shake their hands, or give big post-commencement hugs. The Class of 2020 graduated, unfortunately, without the pomp and circumstance that they absolutely deserved. Nevertheless, circumstances do not define us, they lead us to decide what happens next.

You all know the University of Maryland, Baltimore’s (UMB) mission: To improve the human condition and serve the public good of Maryland and society at-large through education, research, clinical care, and service. This year, perhaps more than any other in recent history, that mission has increased importance. As a University, community, city, country, and world, we are all facing cancellations — schools, jobs, religious services, sports — but we do so for the greater good. Staying home and staying safe from the COVID-19 pandemic is the best way we can celebrate these accomplished scholars who have dedicated years of study to be ready to serve the public good.

Many of our graduates, however, are not working from home. They are treating patients in hospitals, conducting research in labs — even volunteering to be human subjects for vaccine trials. In difficult times, Mister Rogers instructed preschoolers to “look for the helpers.” Because our professional schools and Graduate School confer the majority of health care, human services, and law professional degrees in Maryland each year, UMB continues to supply a steady stream of people committed to serve and ready to be those helpers.

I know that you feel the same pride that I do in the faculty, staff, alumni, and students of UMB. Therefore, while this year’s graduates did not walk across the stage, we can rest assured that they are walking the walk — stepping into the challenges of today, preparing for our future. We will remember the Class of 2020 not because it missed out on the pomp and circumstance, but for leading despite circumstances, for facing abrupt change and choosing to help. UMB’s faculty, staff, alumni, community, families, and the state of Maryland are proud of our graduates.

I want to say thank you to everyone who innovated and creatively celebrated this year’s class through virtual ceremonies or celebrations and congratulatory messages. You can see video messages, the student remarker’s speech, and learn more about how others celebrated by visiting UMB’s commencement website.

My very best wishes to UMB’s Class of 2020. It will be a year to remember!

Sincerely,

Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS
INTERIM PRESIDENT
COMMENCEMENT 2020: SCHOOL-SPECIFIC CELEBRATIONS

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY
Dean Mark A. Reynolds, DDS, PhD, MA, told graduates in a virtual ceremony that although the COVID-19 pandemic profoundly altered their final months of study and year-end festivities, their achievements are no less impressive. “You are truly needed, and you are needed right now,” he said.

FRANCIS KING CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW
To honor the Class of 2020, the school unveiled the Maryland Carey Law Yearbook website, which features a video address by Dean Donald B. Tobin, JD, pages for each graduating student, a list of awards, and messages from faculty and staff.

GRADUATE SCHOOL
The school honored its Class of 2020 on a website that included a hooding address by Dean Roger J. Ward, EdD, JD, MSL, MPA, slideshows of master’s and doctoral graduates, and recognition of the Outstanding Mentor Award winner.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
In a virtual commencement, Dean E. Albert Reece, MD, PhD, MBA, told the graduates they could not be joining the ranks of medical professionals during a more critical time. “You are truly needed, and you are needed right now,” he said.

SCHOOL OF NURSING
Graduates, faculty, and staff members joined in a virtual conferral of degrees that included remarks from Dean Jane M. Kirschling, PhD, RN, FAAN, and UMB Interim President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS as well as a recitation of the Nursing Oath.

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY
The school celebrated its PharmD, PhD, and MS graduates on a website featuring remarks from Dean Natalie D. Eddington, PhD, FAAPS, FCP, and pages that recognized each graduate by name and degree program.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
The school’s virtual celebration featured individual webpages for each graduate and a video with remarks from Richard P. Barth, PhD, MSW, presiding over his last convocation as dean, and a keynote speech by National Association of Social Workers CEO Angelo McClain, PhD, LICSW.

Face to Face is a new weekly program presented Thursdays at 2 p.m. via Webex or Zoom where Interim President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, explores issues with UMB subject matter experts, government and health officials, and others. Guests can watch the program online and offer questions for the panel to consider.

Watch previous programs and learn more at umaryland.edu/president/face-to-face.
UNIVERSITYWIDE

Tara Wink, MLS, historical collections librarian, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, was elected chair of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference.

Amy Yarnell, MLS, data services librarian, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, was accepted to the editorial board of the Association of College & Research Libraries’ ResearchDataQ, a collaborative platform where librarians can ask and answer questions related to research data support in academic libraries.

Brian Zelip, MSLIS, MA, emerging technologies librarian, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, joined the Journal of the Medical Library Association’s Virtual Projects Section Advisory Committee.

Mary Anne Melo, DDS, MSc, PhD, associate professor and director, Division of Operative Dentistry, Department of General Dentistry, was the senior author of “Dental Sealant Empowered by 1,3,5-Tri Acryloyl Hexahydro-1,3,5-Triazine and α-Tricalcium Phosphate for Anti-Caries Application,” which was published in Polymers.

The Physician Assistant Leadership and Learning Academy graduated its inaugural cohort of fellows: Dave Bunnell, MSHS, PA-C; Matt Kearney, MS, MPAS, PA-C; Jeffrey Russell, MMS, PA-C; and Kyle Schiller, MS, PA-C.

Michelle Pearce, PhD, faculty and program director, Integrative Health and Wellness and Science Communication, passed the National Board of Health and Wellness Coaches’ certification exam.

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

Philip Gentry, DDS, FAGD, assistant clinical professor, Dean’s Faculty, Department of General Dentistry, and third-year student Erin Golueke co-authored “Bridging the Missing Tooth Space Between an Implant and Natural Tooth,” which was published in GP: The Journal of the New York State Academy of General Dentistry.

Mary Anne Melo, DDS, MSc, PhD, associate professor and director, Division of Operative Dentistry, Department of General Dentistry, was the senior author of “Dental Sealant Empowered by 1,3,5-Tri Acryloyl Hexahydro-1,3,5-Triazine and α-Tricalcium Phosphate for Anti-Caries Application,” which was published in Polymers.

The Intercultural Leadership Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Program’s inaugural cohort of students completed the program: Irina Golubeva, PhD; Shani Fleming, MSHS, MPH, PA-C; Courtney Jones Carney, MBA; and Ebony Nicholson, MSW.

GRADUATE SCHOOL

The Physician Assistant Leadership and Learning Academy graduated its inaugural cohort of fellows: Dave Bunnell, MSHS, PA-C; Matt Kearney, MS, MPAS, PA-C; Jeffrey Russell, MMS, PA-C; and Kyle Schiller, MS, PA-C.

Michelle Pearce, PhD, faculty and program director, Integrative Health and Wellness and Science Communication, passed the National Board of Health and Wellness Coaches’ certification exam.
CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW

Taunya Banks, JD, professor, authored “The Disappearing Public Toilet,” which was published in the Seton Hall Law Review.

Leigh Goodmark, JD, professor and co-director, Clinical Law Program, was a guest on The Critical Criminologist podcast on April 7.

Michael Greenberger, JD, professor and director, Center for Health and Homeland Security, spoke with WUSA-TV in Washington, D.C., on April 10 on the subject, “Is May 1 Too Early to Reopen the Country?”

Kathleen Hoke, JD, professor and director, Legal Resource Center for Public Health Policy, was appointed to a four-year term on the editorial board of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention journal Preventing Chronic Disease: Public Health Research, Practice, and Policy.

Seema Kakade, JD, assistant professor and director, Environmental Law Clinic, authored “Remedial Payments in Agency Enforcement,” which was published in the Harvard Environmental Law Review.

William Moon, JD, assistant professor, authored “Delaware’s New Competition,” which was published in the Northwestern University Law Review.

Robert Percival, JD, professor and director, Environmental Law Program, presented a guest online lecture on “The Climate Crisis, China and Global Environmental Law,” for the University of Maryland, College Park’s Environmental Science and Policy Program on April 2.

Rene Steinzor, JD, professor, authored “The Pandemic and Industry Opportunism,” which was published in The Regulatory Review.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

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

Micheal Pinard, JD, professor and co-director, Clinical Law Program, authored “Race Decriminalization and Criminal Legal System Reform,” which was published in NYU Law Review Online.

The Department of Emergency Medicine presented its annual Emergency Cardiology Symposium as a livestream on April 1. The lecturers were: Laura Bontempo, MD.
associate professor; Sarah Dubbs, MD, assistant professor; Ben Lawner, DO, EMT-P, visiting assistant professor; Mimi Lu, MD, adjunct assistant professor; Amal Mattu, MD, professor; Mak Moayed, MD, CDEMA, assistant professor; Semhar Tewelde, MD, assistant professor; and Mike Winters, MD, professor.

Toni Antalis, PhD, professor, Department of Physiology, and associate director of basic research, Center for Vascular and Inflammatory Diseases, and former graduate student Erik Martin, PhD, were issued a U.S. patent for “Engineered Anthrax Protective Antigen Proteins for Cancer Therapy.”

Nariman Balenga, PhD, assistant professor, Departments of Surgery and Pharmacology, co-authored “The Emerging Role of Adhesion GPCRs in Cancer,” which was published in American Chemical Society Pharmacology & Translational Science.

Robert Gallo, MD, the Homer and Martha Gudelsky Distinguished Professor in Medicine and director, Institute of Human Virology, authored “HIV/AIDS Research for the Future,” which was published in Cell Host & Microbe.

Michael Mazzeffi, MD, associate professor, Department of Anesthesiology, was awarded the two-year, $100,000 2020 Mid-Career Grant by the Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists and the International Anesthesia Research Society for “Von Willebrand Factor Concentrate for Treatment of Acquired Von Willebrand Syndrome During ECMO: An in vitro Dose-Finding and Efficacy Study.”

Erin O’Connor, MD, assistant professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, was awarded a four-year, $757,280 grant from the National Institute of Mental Health for “Mechanism and Predictors of Neurocognitive Impairment in HIV Infection.”

Hongshuo Song, PhD, assistant professor of medicine, Division of Infectious Agents and Cancer, co-authored “Safety and Immunogenicity of Ad26 and MVA Vaccines in Acutely Treated HIV and Effect on Viral Rebound after Antiretroviral Therapy Interruption,” which was published in Nature Medicine.

SCHOOL OF NURSING

The UMSON Office of Diversity and Inclusion’s Booked for Lunch Book Club was honored with a 2020 Inspiring Affinity Group Award by INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine and will be recognized in the magazine’s July/August issue.

Nancy Bolan, PhD, MPH, FNP, CNM, assistant professor and director, Office of Global Health, and Yolanda Ogbolu, PhD ’11, MS ’06, BSN ’04, CRNP, FNAP, FAAN, assistant professor and chair, Department of Partnerships, Professional Education, and Practice, co-authored “Changing the Narrative for Nursing Globally,” which was published in Annals of Global Health.
Amy L. Daniels, PhD ’18, MS ’12, BSN ’89, CHSE, assistant professor and director of clinical simulation, and Mary Pat Ulicny, MS ’11, MHA, RN, CNE, CHSE, director of simulation at UMSON at the Universities at Shady Grove, were elected to serve two-year terms on the International Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning’s Nominations and Elections Committee.

BSN student Hastiolsadat Osumishirazi received a 2019-20 Universities at Shady Grove Student Achievement and Leadership Award for academic achievement that was based on grade-point average, participation in internships and honor societies, and contributions to their program of study.

Catherine Cooke, PharmD, research associate professor, and Bethany DiPaula, PharmD, professor, both in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, received a one-year, $47,740 grant from UMB’s Center for Addiction Research, Education, and Service for “Perceptions of Third-Party Payers on Expanding Access to Collaborative Management of Substance Use Disorder.”

Megan Ehret, PharmD, associate professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, was named UMSP’s alternate delegate for the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy’s House of Delegates.

Mathangi Gopalakrishnan, PhD, research assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, received a one-year, $25,000 contract from Wockhardt for “Comparison of Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics of Wockhardt’s Biphasic Insulin Aspart Injection (30/70) with Novomix 30 in Healthy Subjects,” and a two-year, $195,000 contract from Dr. Reddy’s Laboratories for “DFN-15 (Celecoxib Oral Solution) MIDD Approach.”

Lisa Lebovitz, JD, assistant dean of academic affairs and assessment, was a member of a multi-institution team that received the Assessment Special Interest Group Collaborative Publication Award from the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.

Zac Noel, PharmD, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, was named UMSP’s American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy 2020 Teacher of the Year.

Ebere Onukwugha, PhD, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, and executive director, Pharmaceutical Research Computing, received a 19-month, $30,000 contract from the Maryland Department of Health for “Enhanced Toxidromic Surveillance Using Poison Center Data,” and a one-year, $60,250 grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration for “CARES Funding for Poison Centers.”
A $112,036 contract from Sanofi for University of Maryland, Baltimore Fellowship Training Program.

Julia Slejko, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, was elected president-elect of UMSOP’s Pharmacy’s Faculty Assembly.

Charlotte Bright, PhD, associate dean for doctoral and postdoctoral education; Haksoon Ahn, PhD, associate professor; and Terry Shaw, PhD, associate professor, were among the co-authors of “Neighborhood Disorder and Child Behavioral Problems Among Kinship Children: Mediated by Social Support and Moderated by Race/Ethnicity,” which was published in Child Abuse and Neglect.

John Cagle, PhD, associate professor, co-authored “Documenting the Contributions of Palliative Care Social Work: Testing the Feasibility and Utility of Tracking Clinical Activities Using Medical Records,” which was published in Social Work in Health Care.

Angela Henneberger, PhD, research assistant professor; Bess Rose, PhD, statistician; Terry Shaw, PhD, associate professor; and Michael Woolley, PhD, associate professor, along with Synthetic Data Project colleagues in College Park, won an American Education Research Association Advances in Methodology Award for “Statistically Modeling Multiple Membership in the Real World: Lessons from Statewide Longitudinal Data in Maryland.”

Bethany Lee, PhD, associate professor, and Tony Bonadio, PhD, research assistant professor, received a grant from Youth Villages to evaluate the use of the GuideFree service in child- and family-serving organizations.

Joan Pittman, PhD, clinical associate professor, and Debbie Gioia, PhD, associate professor, co-authored “Transformative Learning and Inclusion in a Global Social Work Course,” which was published in Advances in Social Work.
The University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) is pleased to announce the winners of the inaugural Presidential Core Values Awards, which recognize faculty, staff, and students who exemplify our core values of accountability, civility, collaboration, diversity, excellence, knowledge, and leadership. We congratulate the honorees, whose work is vital to the University’s mission to improve the human condition and serve the public good.

**ACCOUNTABILITY**
**PAYROLL TEAM**
Candace Chow, Glenda Habeych-Randall, Jen Qiu, Shanay Smith, Celeste Williams
Financial Services, UMB

**CIVILITY**
**AL ESSIEN**
Associate director, Corporate and Foundation Relations, UMB

**COLLABORATION**
**ROSE M. VISCARDI, MD**
Professor of pediatrics and director, Joint Departmental Faculty Academic Career Development Program, School of Medicine

**DIVERSITY**
**ELIZABETH ALSTON OTTEY, DDS, MHS**
Resident, School of Dentistry

**EXCELLENCE**
**KATHLEEN HOKE, JD**
Professor and director, Legal Resource Center for Public Health Policy, Francis King Carey School of Law

**KNOWLEDGE**
**JOE EVANS**
Assistant vice president, Strategic Sourcing and Acquisition Services, UMB

**LEADERSHIP**
**KAITLYN HOLZER**
Student, Francis King Carey School of Law

Read about the winners at [umaryland.edu/president/core-values/2020-winners](http://umaryland.edu/president/core-values/2020-winners)
The University of Maryland, Baltimore’s (UMB) Employee Service Awards Luncheon was canceled this year because of the COVID-19 pandemic, but the annual show of appreciation must go on.

Instead of being singled out at a crowded Westminster Hall, the honorees were recognized in a video presentation by Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, interim president, and Matt Lasecki, SPHR, associate vice president for human resources, for the following awards: Cecil S. Kelly Memorial Employee of the Year, James T. Hill Scholarship, and Community Service Award. In addition, Jarrell and Lasecki congratulated employees who’ve reached length-of-service milestones.

“It’s a great honor to recognize our dedicated staff who have served UMB faithfully,” Jarrell said. “Our University is so fortunate to have a staff with such dedication, energy, and drive. I am sorry that we are not able to come together to celebrate in person, but that does not diminish the contributions that you have made to UMB over the years.

“There is enormous value in the kind of deep institutional knowledge that this group represents. You know the University’s strengths and our challenges, our history and traditions, our culture and climate. What I’m most grateful for is that you know your work matters, and you do it like it matters.”

CECIL S. KELLY MEMORIAL EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR
The Employee of the Year, Sheena Jackson, MS, is the director of admissions in the Office of Student and Academic Services (OSAS) at the School of Nursing. Her colleagues say Jackson was instrumental in restructuring the school’s admissions operations unit into one that’s modernized, service-oriented, and more efficient.

In addition to other efforts, Jackson helped to implement a phone queuing system that reduced wait times and eliminated dropped calls; developed an automated applicant recommendation system that decreased application processing time; established an admissions tour program; and executed well-received recruitment events.

Jackson has worked at the school since 2007, moving from a temporary job to a coordinator’s position in the nurse anesthesia program before joining OSAS in 2014, a move she describes as “a leap of faith.”

“I decided that I wanted to be on the front line to deal with students in the admissions process,” Jackson says. “I had dealt with a lot of faculty and current students in my previous role but never really with the prospective students, so that was my passion, to help them begin their journey to becoming a nurse.

“Helping people brings me joy,” adds Jackson, whose award includes a $1,500 prize. “In this role, I am able to watch dreams come true. I work with prospective students who come to us with just a thought of becoming a nurse, and we’re able to take that thought and see it turn into a reality. And then on graduation day, to see the students graduate, it’s really the most fulfilling thing that I can imagine.”

The award is presented to an employee who exemplifies the qualities of service, humanity, and commitment that Kelly exhibited during his career on UMB’s facilities staff from 1966 to 1989.

JAMES T. HILL SCHOLARSHIP
This year’s winner, Lyndsay Smith, works as a program specialist for the National Quality Improvement Center on Tailored Services, Placement Stability, and Permanency for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning, and Two-Spirit Children and Youth in Foster Care at the School of Social Work’s (SSW) Institute for Innovation and Implementation.
According to the program’s project director, Angela Weeks, MPA, Smith has gone above and beyond to seek out professional development opportunities during her three years at UMB.

“Last year alone, she presented at six conferences with the goal of sustaining and improving her public speaking skills,” Weeks said. “She also attended several on-campus offerings for professional development offered by the School of Social Work and UMB related to unconscious bias and diversity in the workplace.”

Smith, who is working toward a Master of Science degree in women’s and gender studies at Towson University, has served on SSW’s Diversity and Anti-Oppression Committee and worked with UMB colleagues to start a Diversity Advisory Council-sponsored affinity group for LGBTQ+ employees. The group aims to provide a place for LGBTQ+ staff and faculty to raise issues across UMB’s six professional schools and interdisciplinary Graduate School.

“I’ve dedicated my career so far to working toward equity and helping others in the public sector, whether in the fields of education, child welfare, health care, or nonprofit work,” Smith says. “I’m fortunate to have found a home to grow my career at UMB, an institution that values the development and growth of its employees.”

The $2,000 scholarship was established to support UMB’s commitment to staff development in recognition of Hill’s long and outstanding service to the University as well as his personal commitment to the professional development of UMB employees.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS**

Two Community Service Awards were handed out for the first time, one to an individual and one to a team, in recognition of employees who are active in local community service organizations or have a long history of service on the local, national, or international level.

The individual honor went to Adrianna Dunnock, contracts administrator, Sponsored Programs Administration (SPA), Office of Research and Development, who is active in the Reach Foundation, a bicoastal charitable organization. As part of her work with the foundation, she has been working with Gaudenzia Weinberg Center to provide events for the women and children in the housing facility.

Emmanuel Shodeinde, JD, senior contracts administrator, says Dunnock’s giving spirit is contagious throughout the SPA office. “No one is more deserving of an award for community service than Ms. Dunnock,” he says. “One conversation with her, and the
love for her community exudes through her body language and the unbridled passion of her words.”

Shodeinde says Dunnock’s charitable nature shined through when she told him that if she were to win the lottery, she would use her prize to build homes for single mothers in Baltimore.

“Generally when people talk about winning the lottery, they talk about all the things they would do for themselves,” Shodeinde says. “Ms. Dunnock’s desire is to help those who are less fortunate. If there were more Ms. Dunnocks in the world, the world would be a better place.”

Dunnock says she was “pretty shocked” to have won the award, “especially to be recognized among such phenomenal individuals who are also working hard to better our communities.”

She added, “I don’t work in my community for the accolades, but more so because I love the people of Baltimore and I want to do my best to support our communities to provoke positive change. I am truly honored and appreciative for the recognition and support from UMB. I am proud to be part of an institution that not only is engaged with its employees but the surrounding community as well.”

The team Community Service Award was given to the School of Nursing’s Community Engagement Committee, which in 2019 included Linda Daley Atila, MS; Ayamba Ayuk-Brown, MBA; Terrence Bradshaw; Samantha Hoffman, MS, CPNP-PC; Sarah Hokenmaier, MPA; Phyllis Lovito; Jillian Pahel; Mishawn Smith, MPA; Angela Staten, MS; Tara Wells; and Megan Woolley.

The committee is a workgroup from the school’s Staff Council, which organizes opportunities for faculty and staff to participate in volunteer experiences, fundraising events, and drives for items of need. In 2019, the group organized multiple events, including visits to Paul’s Place to assist with lunch and clothing donation services as well as trips to UMB’s Community Engagement Center to help serve lunch. Thirty-two staff or faculty members volunteered across these events for a combined 113 volunteer hours.

The committee also organized Hooked on Helping, a program in which nearly 350 knitted or crocheted hats were donated to the neonatal intensive care unit at Mercy Medical Center. Fourteen employees combined to provide more than 400 service hours, which encompassed donating yarn, posting on social media, creating flyers, organizing hat-making events, and managing collection stations.

“Several employees wanted to learn how to knit or crochet, and they used the opportunity to work with colleagues who could teach them,” says Mikki Coleman, former chair of the Staff Council. “It was a great team-building experience and a fun way for staff and faculty members to work together.”

SERVICE MILESTONES

UMB annually recognizes employees who have hit service milestones in five-year increments between 20 and 50 years. In the video, a special note of appreciation was sent to seven employees who have served UMB for 40, 45, or 50 years:

- 50 years: Althea Pusateri, School of Medicine.
- 45 years: Beverly Huebel, School of Dentistry; Mabel Zelle, School of Medicine.
- 40 years: Linda Ferreira, Administration and Finance; Regina Johnson, Academic Affairs; Christy Kopchinski, Center for Information Technology Services; Mary Jo Rodney, Francis King Carey School of Law.

— Lou Cortina

Watch the video.
Planning a global health project during a global health crisis is a difficult task, but that’s exactly what the inaugural recipients of the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) President’s Global Impact Fund (PGIF) have been doing over the past month.

For instance, School of Nursing (SON) professor Kirsten Corazzini, PhD, FGSA, has had to make adjustments to her project, “Developing Capacity for Long-Term Care of Older Adults Living with Dementia in Brazil,” because the study’s population includes nursing home caregivers and residents, a group at the highest risk of COVID-19-related deaths.

“Just as we see nursing homes in the United States struggling to keep residents and staff safe, so, too, are our geriatric medicine clinician-researcher partners in Brazil struggling to provide safe and compassionate care,” says Corazzini, whose project partners are SON assistant professor Vivian Schutz, PhD, MBA, RN, and School of Pharmacy assistant professor Ester Villalonga Olives, PhD, MSc. “How to collect data and co-develop new models of care in this context, therefore, requires integrating COVID-19-related measures and questions, ensuring that the knowledge gained addresses our shared and emergent needs.”

Virginia Rowthorn, JD, LLM, assistant vice president for global engagement and executive director of UMB’s Center for Global Engagement, which is organizing PGIF, says the fund recipients are eager to move forward once it’s safe to do so and are working on revising their projects’ timelines. “The pandemic changes every single project,” she says, “but the grantees are adjusting their plans and remain very excited to proceed with them when they are able to.”

PGIF is a $250,000 initiative providing support for 11 projects that aim to develop cross-campus and international collaborations to enhance UMB’s global engagement and reach. The fund was launched following the 2019 UMB Global Health Summit, which brought researchers, practitioners, and interprofessional teams to campus to highlight the University’s commitment to improving the human condition through collaborative health and human services.

UMB Interim President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, says he hopes PGIF will be a catalyst for innovative initiatives, create new opportunities for students, and elevate the strong global work of UMB through all of its schools. “It was extremely gratifying to see, woven into all the applications we received, a deep understanding of mutually beneficial international collaboration and the knowledge that we have as much to learn from our partners as we have to share,” Jarrell says.

School of Medicine (SOM) faculty members Melissa McDiarmid, MD, MPH, and Joanna Gaitens, MSN, MPH, PhD, received funding for their project, “UMB and Its Duty of Care: Building Resilient Health Systems with Host Country Partners.” McDiarmid says a June visit to the West African nation of Gambia has been postponed but other aspects of planning have continued virtually via WhatsApp and Skype.

McDiarmid adds that while a public health crisis brings health worker protections to the forefront, it’s also important to protect these front-line practitioners from more common, everyday exposures such as tuberculosis and hepatitis B. “We are optimistic that our project will ultimately help protect our global health partners over the long term and lay the foundation needed to strengthen the overall global health system,” she says.

Two SOM faculty members, Nadia Sam-Agudu, MD, and Alash’le Abimiku, PhD, MS, are leading the project, “Developing an Implementation Science Mentoring Toolkit for Early Investigators in West and Central Africa.” According to Sam-Agudu, the project’s goal is to provide hands-on, productivity-focused mentoring for aspiring independent investigators in the West and Central African nations of Nigeria, Ghana, Cameroon, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

“We may have to delay intensive implementation for some time,” Sam-Agudu says. “However, some of the activities can be conducted virtually, so we will be adapting accordingly to make progress. After all, part of our mandate will have to be responding to the COVID-19 pandemic with impactful research studies.

“I’m really looking forward to implementing this project in collaboration with UMB departments, faculty, and students in the United States and in West and Central Africa,” she adds. “Professor Abimiku and I are honored to be among the first group of UMB faculty to receive the PGIF award. It was the best news I’ve received in some time.”

— Lou Cortina

See a list of PGIF recipients.
ESSENTIAL SERVICES: FACILITIES EMPLOYEES KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK

Since mid-March, the majority of University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) employees have been working remotely because of the COVID-19 pandemic. But many employees who are deemed essential remain on campus, knowing their mission is to keep buildings functional, streets safe, garages operational, elevators working ... the list goes on. UMB photographer Matthew D’Agostino chronicled the efforts of two such employees, senior building chiefs Joe Pfeiffer and Howard Hamlin, in a photo essay. To see all the photos, go to UMB News.

JOE PFEIFFER CHECKS THE CHILLER RETURNS UNDERNEATH THE PHARMACY SOUTH BUILDING.

HOWARD HAMLIN INSPECTS THE BASEMENT OF THE HEALTH SCIENCES AND HUMAN SERVICES LIBRARY.

HAMLIN CHECKS SYSTEMS DURING HIS PORTION OF NIGHTLY ROUNDS IN THE BASEMENT OF THE SCHOOL OF NURSING BUILDING.

PFEIFFER FINISHES HIS ROUNDS INSIDE HEALTH SCIENCES RESEARCH FACILITY III, LEAVING VIA THE BASEMENT.

PHOTOS BY MATTHEW D’AGOSTINO
PRESIDENT’S FELLOWS PROPOSE STEPS TO ENHANCE CORE VALUES

As an institution where seven schools operate relatively autonomously under the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) umbrella, how can UMB’s seven core values be applied consistently?

The 2019-2020 President’s Symposium and White Paper Project presented a variety of recommendations to encourage UMB and its seven schools to do just that.

“I like the idea of focusing on core values because in the end, if we make core values work right, we will make the University work right,” UMB Interim President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, said during the May 7 presentation on Webex. “It’s not that it’s not working right now — it’s working great — but it could be much better than it’s working now, particularly around the core values.”

The President’s Symposium and White Paper Project is a joint initiative between the President’s Office and the Office of Interprofessional Student Learning and Service Initiatives to create a yearlong conversation on a topic important to the University community, driven by the President’s Fellows.

This year’s topic examined actionable strategies for institutionalizing the University’s core values: accountability, civility, collaboration, diversity, excellence, knowledge, and leadership. The findings are through the lens of the student population, while there may be overlap in some areas for faculty and staff.

In the students’ eyes, values and how they are applied are chiefly learned through their schools and not directly from central administration. They see a potential for sharing more information about Universitywide resources and initiatives to enhance the UMB experience. Recommendations ranged from creating new positions and groups to make sure core values are consistently implemented to updating the UMB mobile app and the SMC Campus Center.

“We feel the University has made a great effort to be very clear and explicit, but we also felt students weren’t necessarily informed,” said fellow Anicca Harriot, a biochemistry and molecular biology PhD candidate at the School of Medicine. “Something that we struggled with a lot at the beginning of this project, and even now, is ‘What is the University’s responsibility to inform us? What is our responsibility to be informed?’ A lot of the information that we found was readily available to us, and we didn’t necessarily have to go through a lot of hurdles. But if you don’t know it until you go to look for it, how well are those values really being incorporated into the culture?”

In addition to Harriot, the 2019-2020 fellows are: Jamaad Abdi, School of Dentistry; Meghna Bhatt, School of Pharmacy; Marina Gettas, DPH, MPH, School of Nursing; Adrienne Kambouris, Graduate School and School of Medicine; and Nina Marks, Francis King Carey School of Law.

The fellows interviewed faculty, staff, and students while gathering data during the year, culminating in a 23-page white paper chock full of analysis about how core values are applied at each of the seven schools and UMB, coupled with recommendations for improvements.

Their work was commissioned under former UMB president and current University System of Maryland Chancellor Jay A. Perman, MD, and continued with Jarrell, who is receptive to many of the recommendations while acknowledging the collaborative environment prevents him from making certain changes unilaterally.

One such change would pivot the core value of accountability to integrity. The fellows believe that the value of accountability focuses on the impacts of an action after the fact, and instead, the campus community should act with integrity by contemplating actions beforehand.

Kambouris said that belief was instilled in her while serving in the Army for 10 years.
“I knew ahead of time that you had to think about your actions before you take them. When I was reading about the core values and how they were implemented across the schools, it seemed like it was act first then ask questions and think how it will impact others,” she said. “If you think through your decisions prior to your actions, you already know what the potential consequences will be, and you will plan and evaluate for that.”

The fellows also recognized many of the existing positive initiatives and honors that exemplify core values, including offering a medical Spanish course (civility), Carey Law’s Diversity Scholars Program (diversity), and the UMB Health Alliance initiative (knowledge), among others.

During the school year, the fellows attended a Core Values Speaker Series that included a kickoff session featuring the inaugural President’s Distinguished Scholar, Norman Augustine, MSE, retired chair and CEO of Lockheed Martin.

Among the other speakers were Kristy Novak, MS, assistant director of graduate clinical placements for the School of Nursing, student and academic services, and president of UMB’s Staff Senate, and Oksana Mishler, RDH, MS, clinical assistant professor at the School of Dentistry and vice president of the Faculty Senate.

Gregory Brightbill, MBA, MEd, leadership education and involvement program specialist, applauded the students for their work.

“The students here really prepared an amazing white paper, which can act as a road map for each of us in looking at what our core values are and how we can implement them as a campus community,” Brightbill said.

Brightbill also announced during the presentation that the 2020-2021 topic will be “Health Literacy as a Social Determinant of Health” and completed via the University of Maryland Strategic Partnership: MPowering the State.

— Charles Schelle

Read the White Paper Project and watch the Webex presentation.

### PRESIDENT’S FELLOWS’ MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS ON CORE VALUES

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<td>• Conduct a student/faculty/staff climate assessment through the lens of diversity and inclusiveness.</td>
<td>• Send accepted students a video highlighting UMB’s campus, student life, and core values.</td>
<td>• Make School of Social Work diversity training available to all faculty.</td>
<td>• Create an executive director for student affairs to work directly with schools’ offices of student affairs and report directly to the UMB president.</td>
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<td>• Each school should annually assess core values in its programming and practices.</td>
<td>• Convert Campus Center to Student Center with several programming and amenity improvements for both studying and recreation.</td>
<td>• Require all incoming students to take the Structural Oppression online course offered by the School of Social Work.</td>
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<td>• Change Accountability to Integrity to focus on behavior before an action is taken.</td>
<td>• Improve the UMB mobile app to become more student-friendly with push notifications, emergency alerts, and direct registration for various programming, student account information, and courses.</td>
<td>• Expand interprofessional course offerings.</td>
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<td>• Standardize student orientation to ensure students in each school are aware of UMB-wide resources and core values by Division of Student Affairs/Campus Life address each orientation.</td>
<td>• Use the University Student Government Association to form UMB chapters of interest groups for collaboration to bring students from the seven schools together for common causes.</td>
<td>• All schools should investigate pay and promotion equity.</td>
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<td>• Create a President’s Student Advisory Council to analyze proposed and existing policies to ensure they align with UMB core values.</td>
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UMB cares

FOOD FOR OUR FRONT LINES

UMB Ordering Food from Local Businesses to Provide Free Lunch to Essential Employees Working on Campus During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Your generous support can help more than 200 University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) employees working on the front lines of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and help support local businesses hit hard by this crisis in West Baltimore.

At UMB, everyday heroes are risking their lives, and the lives of loved ones, to keep our campus safe and operational. Many are working in minimum-wage jobs and in extreme conditions. Now, due to the closure of local restaurants and food venues, there is nowhere for these vital workers to eat during work hours.

Because of this unprecedented hardship, we are collecting donations to purchase an essential meal for essential UMB front-line workers. A donation of $12.50 will provide a meal for one of the 200-plus employees working daily at our University.

This much-needed support will directly support local businesses in the West Baltimore community as they struggle to remain operational and survive this pandemic. This community simply cannot afford for these businesses to close their doors. These merchants not only provide vital services to West Baltimore residents and the greater UMB community, but they also provide employment for many.

Join the Food for Our Front Lines effort! Invest in the heroes of UMB while supporting our valued neighbors.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO MAKE A GIFT, visit www.umaryland.edu/giving/frontline.
A L E I HELPS MARYLAND FARMERS THROUGH COVID-19 CRISIS

When Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan announced the closure of all nonessential businesses due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Laura Beth Resnick immediately began to worry.

Resnick owns Butterbee Farm, a 5-acre farm in Baltimore County that supplies sustainably grown local flowers to florists. The farm operates year-round, growing over a hundred varieties of blossoms, including feverfew and larkspur in the spring; zinnias and snapdragons in the summer; and dahlias, celosia, and heirloom mums in the fall.

Florists in Baltimore, Washington, and Northern Virginia have come to depend on her fresh local blooms, which travel fewer than 50 miles from farm to destination. In fact, demand for Butterbee Farm’s flowers has spiked during the COVID-19 pandemic due to the breakdown of the supply chain of the global floral industry.

The governor’s March 23 announcement was a dark day for Resnick, who wondered whether she would have to shut down her operation and lay off her staff. “We weren’t really sure what to do,” she recalls. “We don’t grow vegetables, so I wasn’t sure if we were essential.”

The lack of clarity prompted her to reach out to Sarah Everhart, JD, Agriculture Law Education Initiative (ALEI) senior legal specialist and managing director of the program at the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law. Since 2013, ALEI, a University of Maryland Strategic Partnership: MPowering the State program, has been helping Maryland farmers navigate state, federal, and local laws that impact their operations. ALEI offers the combined legal and agricultural expertise of the Carey School of Law, the University of Maryland College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

The onset of COVID-19 has made ALEI an even more important resource for farmers grappling with rapidly changing regulations. “As soon as the governor started shutting down businesses, we started getting calls from the agricultural community about how this was going to affect their operations,” Everhart says.

ALEI’s working group quickly mobilized to answer individual questions but also created a frequently updated COVID-19 resources webpage to address common issues such as paid sick leave for agricultural employees, force majeure clauses in contracts, and the federal Paycheck Protection Program.

Everhart says ALEI legal specialists have been keeping their ears to the ground to ensure they are providing answers to farmers’ concerns in real time. They were anticipating calls from Delmarva poultry farmers who will be impacted by the closure of production plants and the subsequent disruption of the supply chain.

“The issues are all over the map,” says Paul Goeringer, JD, LLM, MS, extension legal specialist, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Maryland, College Park. Goeringer, a member of the ALEI working group, has assisted

SARAH EVERHART AND PAUL GOERINGER OF THE AGRICULTURE LAW EDUCATION INITIATIVE HAVE OFFERED GUIDANCE AND RESOURCES TO FARMERS AFFECTED BY THE PANDEMIC.
farmers with queries ranging from labor issues to managing contracts canceled due to COVID-19. “We’re dealing with questions as they come up,” he says.

In addition to his role at ALEI, Goeringer hosts the popular weekly Maryland Risk Management Education Podcast, which brings in agriculture experts from across the country to discuss important farming issues. Recent topics include “Poultry Markets During Coronavirus: A Conversation with Dr. Jordan Shockley” and a podcast about the importance of estate planning during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In Resnick’s case, her answer came almost two days later when Everhart emailed her updated guidance clarifying that, in addition to farms being declared essential businesses, nurseries and greenhouses also were considered essential, although subject to social distancing requirements. The days of not knowing were “an awful, really sad and scary time,” she says. Armed with information from ALEI, “We realized we were good to go. It was such a relief,” Resnick adds.

As a small business owner, Resnick says she is grateful for the service provided by ALEI. “We’re a small farm, we don’t make a lot of money, and lawyers are expensive, so having ALEI as a resource is a huge comfort.”

— Laura Lee

Learn more about ALEI.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE

Even when we are apart, we are a part of the UMB community!

The UMB community is called on to reflect on our Core Values of accountability, civility, collaboration, diversity, excellence, knowledge, and leadership, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Office of Accountability and Compliance (OAC) is committed to supporting our community during this crisis.

If you have experienced, witnessed, or suspect that someone has acted contrary to our Code of Ethics, Core Values, policies or procedures, or violated a law, notify OAC of your concerns via the website or phone number below.

umaryland.edu/umbhotline
866-594-5220

Open | Accessible | Collaborative
UMMARYLAND.EDU/PRESIDENTS-MESSAGE

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

JUNE 2020

UMB, ARABBERS TEAM UP TO DELIVER FOOD DONATIONS

“We’ve got bread here! Free chicken!” Anthony Savoy shouted as he walked through West Baltimore alongside his red-and-yellow horse-drawn cart. The bells on the horse’s bridle jingled with every step, letting the neighborhood know that even during a global pandemic, the arabbers were still hard at work.

Arabbers are street vendors who sell fruits and vegetables from colorful carts pulled by horses, and they’ve been an institution in Baltimore since the late 1800s. Savoy has worked as an arabber for over 50 years, delivering fresh food to Baltimore neighborhoods with limited access to grocery stores.

On April 29, instead of delivering fruits and vegetables, Savoy delivered packages of bread and a thousand pounds of frozen chicken.

“We need to do this job, and we always try to give back to the neighborhoods,” Savoy said. “Now that we’re all dealing with this COVID-19 pandemic, we’re trying to do our best to spread out in the neighborhoods and get people what they need.”

The bread that Savoy was carrying in his cart was donated by Baltimore’s H&S Bakery, and the chicken was part of a 2,000-pound donation from Holly Poultry to the University of Maryland, Baltimore’s (UMB) Community Engagement Center (CEC).

“UMB’s Office of Community Engagement is really passionate about making sure that all of our community members are doing well,” said Madison Haas, UMB’s economic inclusion coordinator. “We’re only as good as our community, so we really want to make sure that everyone is fed and that everyone has enough food in their fridge.”

During the COVID-19 pandemic, it’s been difficult and at times unsafe for many community members in West Baltimore to get to a grocery store. This enormous donation of chicken provides much-needed support for neighbors during this unprecedented situation.

UMB’s CEC decided to team up with the Southwest Baltimore Arabber Preservation Society to distribute the chicken directly to members of the community.

“We wanted everything to be really accessible to the community,” Haas said. “The arabbers are really trusted in Southwest Baltimore, so partnering with them on this effort was a great way to make sure that our neighbors can get what they need right where they are.”

The 2,000 pounds of chicken was expected to feed about 500 families in West Baltimore. Owners of the local business Neopol Savory Smokery offered their freezer space to store the large donation until it could be delivered directly to West Baltimore residents.

“This is a blessing,” said Paulette Carroll, a resident of the Poppleton neighborhood in West Baltimore. “It feels like so many communities are being forgotten. No one is really coming out into the community, but seeing people who want to help physically here in the neighborhood is just wonderful.”

The arabbers delivered the bread and frozen chicken over the course of two days. Savoy said he was happy to be doing such a great service. Even though their faces were hidden behind face coverings, community members were smiling when they saw his cart coming down the street.

ARABBERS DELIVERED FROZEN CHICKEN AND PACKAGES OF BREAD THAT HAD BEEN DONATED BY TWO BALTIMORE BUSINESSES.

“They love it! Especially the kids — they love to see the horse and wagon coming,” Savoy said. “We appreciate just being able to help somebody and give back to the community.”

The CEC plans to continue working with the Southwest Baltimore Arabber Preservation Society to deliver future food donations — including more than 1,300 loaves of bread from H&S Bakery — throughout West Baltimore.

— Jena Frick

Watch a video and see more photos.