## the PRESIDENT'SMESSAGE

MAY 2021

### AS REINTEGRATION APPROACHES, PLEASE FOCUS ON YOUR MENTAL HEALTH

You may have seen the *New York Times article* defining a feeling that many people are experiencing at this point in the COVID-19 pandemic: *languishing*. Whether that explains how you might be feeling or not, the reality is that the pandemic has disrupted our lives. Living with the fear of contracting or spreading COVID-19, caring for the sick, social isolation, and uncertainty all affect our mental health. In fact, a *recent study* found that rates of psychological distress have risen for all adults, but by six times for young adults and by four times for those ages 30 to 54. This pandemic has taken a toll on our mental health.

While the pandemic persists, as more people get vaccinated and conditions improve, we also are faced with feelings about resuming activities. As we prepare for another transition — getting more people back together in person at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) — I think it's important to prepare ourselves mentally. As Michelle Pearce, PhD, professor in our Graduate School, recently wrote in *The Baltimore Sun*, "Reintegration is also a matter of psychological readiness. We must retrain our brains to feel safe and comfortable again with people, and that can take some time and practice."

Transition and change are hard even during non-pandemic times. We need to name and normalize what we are feeling during this intense time period. You may be feeling anxious, unsettled, or ambivalent about returning to pre-COVID pandemic activities. UMB faculty, staff, and students are caring for those with COVID-19, researching therapies and vaccines, distributing vaccines, participating in hours of Zoom calls, studying, teaching, parenting, and taking care of family members. It's imperative that you also take care of yourself. May is National Mental Health Awareness Month, and I ask that you take steps to evaluate how you are doing.

UMB has a number of resources available to support you and your mental health, including the *UMB COVID-19 Coping Kit*, the *Employee Assistance Program*, and the *Student Counseling Center*. Working with a counselor in the Employee Assistance Program or Student Counseling Center is completely confidential and will never be shared with anyone else at UMB or elsewhere. It's normal to feel ups and downs during transition. I know that I am excited for when we can be back on campus, but also keenly aware that we are not out of the pandemic.

I consider UMB to be a community of leaders. Part of that leadership is looking out for one another. Please familiarize yourself with the resources available to support mental health and share them with students and colleagues. Give yourself and others some grace, and know that the pandemic is affecting us all in different ways. If you see a colleague or friend who is struggling, please check in and let them know that there are resources to help.

"It's imperative that you take care of yourself. May is National Mental Health Awareness Month, and I ask that you take steps to evaluate how you are doing."

As more people join those already working on campus, knowing that UMB has COVID-19 safety measures and procedures in place can help "retrain our brains" to feel comfortable. It also may help you to know that over 70 percent of employees and 67 percent of students are already vaccinated — and University System of Maryland Chancellor Jay A. Perman, MD, has mandated that everyone returning to campus in the fall be vaccinated. Our vaccine clinic at the SMC Campus Center is distributing vaccines to anyone regardless of where they live, work, or learn (residents, employees, and students in Baltimore City will be given priority). Please share that information broadly.

I hope you know that UMB, and I, care about you and your mental health. We are in this — and we are stronger — together.

Sincerely,

Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS

Bruce & buell

PRESIDENT





Register to watch and learn more at *umaryland.edu/president/face-to-face*.

MAY 2021

#### UNIVERSITYWIDE





YOLANDA OGBOLU

VIRGINIA ROWTHORN

Yolanda Ogbolu, PhD '11, MS '05, BSN '04, CRNP-Neonatal, FNAP, FAAN, associate professor and chair, Department of Partnerships, Professional Education, and Practice, School of Nursing, and Virginia Rowthorn, JD, LLM, associate professor, Graduate School, and assistant vice president for global engagement, UMB, are co-principal investigators on a three-year, \$950,000 grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to create the Global Learning for Health Equity Network.

Michelle Peralta, MPH, senior assistant director, Wellness Hub, presented "Stress Management: Balancing Work, Loved Ones, and Self" at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Wellness Retreat on March 18.

#### SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

Simon Akerman, PhD, research assistant professor, and Marcela Romero-Reyes, DDS, PhD, clinical associate professor, both from the Department of Neural and Pain Sciences, co-authored "Preclinical Studies Investigating the Neural Mechanisms Involved in the Co-Morbidity of Migraine and Temporomandibular Disorders:







MARCELA ROMERO-REYES

The Role of CGRP," which was published in the *British Journal of Pharmacology*. Akerman also was among the co-authors of "Differential Actions of Indomethacin: Clinical Relevance in Headache," which was published in *Pain* on Feb. 1.



MAN-KYO CHUNG

Man-Kyo Chung, DMD, PhD, professor, and Sheng Wang, DDS, PhD, postdoctoral fellow, both from the Department of Neural and Pain Sciences (NPS), co-authored

"Orthodontic Force Induces Nerve Injury-Like Transcriptomic Changes Driven by TRPV1-Expressing Afferents in Mouse Trigeminal Ganglia," which was published in *Molecular Pain*. Chung and **Vipin Arora**, **PhD**, postdoctoral fellow, NPS, were among the co-authors of "Fight Fire with Fire: Neurobiology of Capsaicin-Induced Analgesia for Chronic Pain," which was published in *Pharmacology & Therapeutics* in April.

**Dina Sanchez, DDS**, clinical assistant professor, Department of Orthodontics and Pediatric Dentistry, was awarded membership in the Omicron Kappa Upsilon national dental honor society for her outstanding scholarship,

exemplary traits of character, and documented potential for professional growth and attainment.

#### **CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW**

**Chaz Arnett, JD**, associate professor, was quoted in "'They Track Every Move': How U.S. Parole Apps Created Digital Prisoners," which was published in *The Guardian* on March 4.



PETER DANCHIN

Peter Danchin, JD, professor and associate dean for research and faculty development, presented "Things Fall Apart: Between Alliance and

Global Governance in the History of International Legal Thought" as the keynote address at the University of Maryland History Graduate Student Association's 15th Annual Conference on March 19.



SARAH EVERHART

Sarah Everhart, JD, managing director, Agricultural Law Education Initiative, wrote "The Oyster vs. the View: Legal Attempts to Hinder

Maryland's Shellfish Aquaculture Industry," which was published in the American Bar Association's Natural Resources and Environment Section magazine.

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.



MAY 2021

Leigh Goodmark, JD, professor and co-director, Clinical Law Program, wrote "Beyond Criminalizing Domestic Violence," which was published in Alchemist magazine March 18.



SEEMA KAKADE

Seema Kakade, **JD**, associate professor and director, Environmental Law Clinic, wrote "Detecting Corporate Environmental Cheating,"

which was published in Ecology Law Quarterly.

Paula Monopoli, JD, professor and director, Women, Leadership, and Equality Program, presented "The Legacy of the Nineteenth Amendment" as part of the Miami (Ohio) University Menard Family Center's Dialogues in Democracy Speaker Series on March 23.

Will Moon, JD, assistant professor, presented "Delaware's Global Competitiveness" at Tulane Law School's Corporate and Securities Law Roundtable on March 13.



ROBERT PERCIVAL

Robert Percival, **JD**, professor and director, Environmental Law Program, presented "The Supreme Court Wades into Water Law: Recent Decisions"

to the American Bar Association on March 19.

#### SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

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



**BIZHAN AARABI** 



HOWARD EISENBERG

Bizhan Aarabi, MD, professor, Department of Neurosurgery, and director of neurotrauma, R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center, and Howard Eisenberg, MD, the R.K. Thompson Professor of Neurosurgery and director, Neurosurgery Residency Program, co-authored the chapter "Surgical Management and Prognosis of Penetrating Brain Injury" in "Youmans and Winn Neurological Surgery" (Volume IV, Eighth Edition).



SALLY ADEBAMOWO

Sally Adebamowo, MBBS, MSc, ScD, assistant professor, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health. co-authored "A Proposed

New Generation of Evidence-Based Microsimulation Models to Inform Global Control of Cervical Cancer," which was published in Preventive Medicine in March.

Diana Carvajal, MD, MPH, assistant professor, Department of Family and Community Medicine, received the 2021 Family Medicine Educator of the Year Award from the Maryland Academy of Family Physicians in recognition of her exemplary clinical teaching of medical students and residents in the



DIANA CARVAJAI

specialty of family medicine.



ELIZABETH CLAYBORNE

Elizabeth Clayborne, MD, MA, adjunct assistant professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, was featured in the article "Dr. Elizabeth

Clayborne on Her Outlook for the COVID-19 Vaccination Timeline," which was published by Yahoo Finance on Feb. 25.



VASKEN DILSIZIAN

Vasken Dilsizian, MD, professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, was appointed vice chairman of the Advisory Committee on the

Medical Uses of Isotopes of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Thomas Ernst. Dr rer nat, professor; Christine C. Cloak, PhD, assistant professor; and Linda Chang, MD, MS, professor,



LINDA CHANG



MAY 2021

all from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, were among the coauthors of "Association Between Habitual Snoring and Cognitive Performance Among a Large Sample of Preadolescent Children," which was e-published by JAMA Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery on Feb. 25.



ROBERT GALLO

Robert Gallo,
MD, the Homer
& Martha
Gudelsky
Distinguished
Professor in
Medicine and
director, Institute
of Human
Virology, received

honorary membership in the National Virus Association in recognition of his outstanding contributions to fighting HIV. Gallo also presented "From T Cells and Human Retroviruses to the SARS-CoV-2 Pandemic and Innate Immunity" as the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences' David Packard Lecture on March 22.

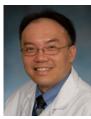


STEPHEN GOTTLIEB

Stephen Gottlieb, MD, professor, Department of Medicine, received a 2021 Shock Trauma Center Hero Award from the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center

in recognition of his lifesaving work.

**Daniel Haase, MD**, and **Quincy Tran, MD, PhD**, both assistant professors, Department of Emergency Medicine, were among the co-authors of "Arterial or Cuff Pressure: Clinical Predictors Among Patients in Shock in a Critical Care Resuscitation Unit," which was published by the American Journal of Emergency Medicine on March 9.



QUINCY TRAN



ANTHONY HARRIS

Anthony Harris, MD, professor, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health; Mohammad M. Sajadi, MD, associate professor, Institute of Human

Virology; and **Saman Saadat**, postdoctoral fellow, were among the co-authors of "Binding and Neutralization Antibody Titers After a Single Vaccine Dose in Health Care Workers Previously Infected with SARS-CoV-2," which was published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* on March 1.



ISABEL LAUREN JACKSON

Isabel Lauren
Jackson, PhD,
the Marlene
and Stewart
Greenebaum
Endowed
Professor in
Radiation
Oncology and
director, Division

of Translational Radiation Sciences, received one-year funding of \$81,167 for a research collaboration with Kallyope, Inc. for "An Adaptive, Randomized, Vehicle-Controlled Study to Evaluate the Efficacy of Kallyope's K-Compounds as Mitigators of the Acute Radiation Syndrome Using a C57BL/6J Model of Total Body Irradiation with 2.5% Bone Marrow Sparing (TBI/BM2.5)."

Niharika Khanna, MD, professor; Elena Klyushnenkova, PhD, MSPH, statistician; and Alex Kaysin, MD, assistant professor, all from



NIHARIKA KHANNA

the Department of Family and Community Medicine, co-authored "Association of COVID-19 with Race and Socioeconomic Factors in Family Medicine," which was published in the *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine* in February.



JONATHAN LEDERER

Jonathan Lederer, MD, PhD, professor, Department of Physiology, and director, Center for Biomedical Engineering and Technology, co-authored

the poster "Consequences of Inner Membrane Folding on Mitochondrial ATP Output," which was presented at the 65th Biophysical Society Annual Meeting on Feb. 26.



KATHLEEN NEUZIL

Kathleen
Neuzil, MD,
MPH, FIDSA,
the Myron M.
Levine, MD,
DTPH, Professor
of Vaccinology
and director,
Center for Vaccine
Development

and Global Health, was awarded



MAY 2021

a \$1,566,239 Collaborative Influenza Vaccine Innovation Centers contract supplement from the National Institutes of Health for a clinical trial of a novel neuraminidase influenza vaccine.



SANDRINE NIYONGERE

Sandrine
Niyongere, MD,
assistant professor,
Department of
Medicine, was
featured in "Her
White Blood
Count Was
Dangerously Low.
Was Med School

Still Safe?" which was published in *The New York Times Magazine* on Feb. 18.



ADAM PUCHE

Adam Puche, PhD, professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology; Joseph Kao, PhD, professor, Department of Physiology; and a University of

Maryland, College Park colleague received an *MPower* Brain Health and Human Performance seed grant for "Dysregulation of Endocannabinoid Signaling in the Aging Olfactory System."



AMIT SAWANT

Amit Sawant, PhD, associate professor, and Carlo Repetto, machinist, both from the Department of Radiation Oncology, were among

the inventors on a U.S. patent

for "A Deformable Lung Model Apparatus" issued Jan. 26.



MOHAN SUNTHA

Mohan Suntha, MD, MBA, professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, and president and CEO, University of Maryland Medical System,

was among the NRG Oncology Group authors of "Risk Groups of Laryngeal Cancer Treated with Chemoradiation According to Nomogram Scores: A Pooled Analysis of RTOG 0129 and 0522," which was e-published by *Oral Oncology* on Feb. 25.



SAMUEL TISHERMAN

Samuel
Tisherman,
MD, professor,
Department of
Surgery, presented
"Resuscitation
Lessons Learned:
Fix the Patient!
But Sometimes
You Have

to Buy Time" to the Edinburgh Student Surgical Society, and "Early Goal Resuscitation: Then and Now" and "History of Rounds" to the Society of Critical Care Medicine's Clinical Congress.

#### SCHOOL OF NURSING

In the 2022 edition of U.S. News and World Report's "America's Best Graduate Schools," **UMSON** remained ranked among the best schools in the nation for its overall Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) and Master of Science in

Nursing (MSN) programs. Among public schools of nursing, the DNP program was No. 15 and the MSN program No. 16. The Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner DNP specialty ranked No. 2 (No. 6 overall) and the Family Nurse Practitioner DNP specialty ranked No. 2 (No. 8 overall).

Eight UMSON students were chosen to participate in the American Association of Colleges of Nursing's monthlong 2021 Virtual Student Policy Summit: Karenina "Karen" Anselmo, Erin Balkam, Colleen Calpin, Dana Frank, Josh Krantz, Jennifer Nonn, Kristin Ploog, and Wesleyan Smith.



PRISCILLA AGUIRRE



VERONICA AMOS



JACQUELINE MITCHELL

Priscilla Aguirre, DNP, CRNA, CRNP-AC, assistant professor; Veronica Amos, PhD, CRNA, PHCNS-BC, assistant professor and assistant specialty director

of nurse anesthesia; and Jacqueline Mitchell, MS '07, CRNA, director of clinical education, received 2021-22 Dean's Teaching Scholars Awards for their project "Impact of High Fidelity Simulation on Nurse Anesthesia Students' Knowledge, Self-Confidence, and Psychomotor Skills."



MAY 2021



DEBRA BINGHAM

Debra Bingham, DrPH, RN, FAAN, associate professor, served on the advisory workgroup to create the Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate

Services in Maternal Health Care Program, a free, two-hour e-learning program designed for providers and students seeking knowledge and skills related to cultural competency, cultural humility, person-centered care, and combating implicit bias across the continuum of maternal health care.



NANCY BOLAN

Nancy Bolan, PhD, MPH, FNP, CNM, assistant professor and director, Office of Global Health, coauthored "Human Resources for Health-Related

Challenges to Ensuring Quality Newborn Care by Nurses and Midwives in Low- and Middle-Income Countries: A Scoping Review" for the World Health Organization.



JOAN CARPENTER

Joan Carpenter, PhD, CRNP, ACHPN, FPCN, assistant professor, received a \$40,000 Cycle 2A Imbedded Pragmatic Alzheimer's Disease and

AD-Related Dementias Clinical Trials (IMPACT) pilot grant from the National Institute on Aging for "Implementation of a Telehealth Palliative Care Model for Persons with Dementia."

Modern Medicine" on March 20.



LUANA COLLOCA

Luana Colloca, MD, PhD, MS, associate professor, participated in The Helix Center's roundtable discussion "Panacea or Poison: Placebos and Nocebos in

JANA GOODWIN



WENDY ZHANG

Jana Goodwin, PhD, RN, CNE, assistant professor and director, BSN Program, and Wendy Zhang, RN, DNP student, made presentations to a Maryland Academy of Advanced Practice Clinicians' webinar April 10. Goodwin presented "Bias, Culture and the Social Determinants of Health: The Healthcare Challenge." Zhang presented "Social Determinants of Health Screening in the Primary Care Setting."



MAEVE HOWETT

Maeve Howett, PhD, APRN, CPNP-PC, CNE, professor and associate dean, Baccalaureate Program, was named a member at-large of the Maryland

Organization of Nurse Leaders.



KIM MOONEY-DOYLE

Kim Mooney-Doyle, PhD, RN, CPNP-AC, assistant professor, received the 2021 Eastern Nursing Research Society's Suzanne Feetham Nurse Scientist Family

Research Award, which recognizes outstanding contributions by a junior or senior investigator.

Veronica Njie-Carr, PhD, RN, ACNS-BC, FWACN, associate professor, co-authored "Countering the Negative Health Effects of Racial Injustice



VERONICA NJIE-CARR

and Systemic Racism," which was published in the Society of Behavioral Medicine's Outlook newsletter.



CAROL A. O'NEIL



KATHLEEN M.

Carol A. O'Neil, PhD, RN, CNE, and Kathleen M. Buckley, PhD, MS '76, BSN '73, RN, IBCLC, both associate professors co-

both associate professors, coauthored "Impact of Electronic Reminders on Student Grades and Attitudes in Online Courses," which was published in *Nurse Educator*.



MAY 2021



NICOLE PALMORE

Nicole Palmore, MSW, director of diversity and inclusion, was named to the inaugural DNPs of Color Advisory Committee, which will help transition

DNPs of Color to a membershipbased organization and develop the DNPs of Color Institute, a pathway program that will focus on cultivating the next generation of DNP-prepared researchers, faculty of color, and clinician leaders.



DORIS TITUS-GLOVER

**Doris Titus-**Glover, PhD, RN, assistant professor, wrote, "Opioid Use Disorder in Pregnancy: Leveraging Provider Perceptions to Inform

Comprehensive Treatment," which was published in BMC Health Services Research on March 10.

## SCHOOL OF PHARMACY



RYAN COSTANTINO

Ryan Costantino, graduate student, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, received a one-year, \$2,500 grant from the Society of Pain and Palliative

Care Pharmacists for "Evaluation of Strategies to Enhance Hospice Patient and Informal Caregiver

Knowledge and Confidence of Commonly Used Medications."



MATHANGI GOPALAKRISHNAN

Mathangi Gopalakrishnan, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, received a nine-month, \$330,000 contract

from West Therapeutic Development for "Proposal for Ketamine and Esketamine Formulations - MIDD Approach."



PHILIP JOHNSON

Philip Johnson, LAN administrator, was named UMB's March Employee of the Month for going above and beyond in IT customer service and doing it all

with a courteous and positive attitude.



RAYMOND LOVE

Raymond Love, PharmD, professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, and director, Mental Health Program, was recognized by United States

Pharmacopeia for his contributions to the creation of its COVID-19 Vaccine Handling Toolkit.

Amanda Oglesby, PhD, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Angela Wilks, PhD, the Isaac E. Emerson Chair of Pharmaceutical



AMANDA OGI ESBY



ANGELA WILKS

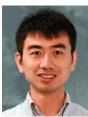
Sciences, received a five-year, \$2,411,578 grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for "Integration of Heme Acquisition and Signaling in Gram-Negative Pathogens."



HONGBING WANG

Hongbing Wang, PhD, professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a three-year, \$98,146 contract from Temple University for "Understanding

the Pathogenesis of Elevated Androgen-Induced Metabolic Dysfunction in Females."



FENGTIAN XUE

Fengtian Xue, PhD, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received an eightmonth, \$15,000 contract from Johns Hopkins

University for "Developing Novel Drugs for Therapeutic Targets in Neurodegeneration."



MAY 2021

## SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

UMSSW is entering into an educational and research partnership with the Yonsei University's (YU) School of Social Welfare in Seoul, South Korea. YU will collaborate with UMSSW on its Brain Korea 21 project, an initiative funded by the South Korean government to cultivate the next generation of leaders in higher education.

UMSSW's Institute for Innovation and Implementation, in partnership with the Maryland chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, received a five-year, \$646,878 grant from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration's Healthy Tomorrows Partnership for Children Program to establish the TREEHOUSE Program in Maryland.



RICHARD P. BARTH



JESSIE WATROUS

Richard P. Barth, PhD, professor, and Jessie Watrous, MPA, director of evidence-based programs, coauthored "Partnering for Success: A Prototype for Integrating Evidence-Based Practices Between Referring Professionals and Mental Health Professionals," which was published in the Journal of Clinical Pediatrics and Neonatology.



LISA BERLIN



RODERICK ROSE

Lisa Berlin, PhD, professor; Roderick Rose, PhD, assistant professor; and a colleague received a \$100,000 grant from the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development for "The Effects of Attachment-Based Intervention on Low-Income Latinx Infants' and Mothers' Cardiac Vagal Regulation."



CHRISTABEL CHEUNG

Christabel
Cheung, PhD,
assistant professor,
was among
the co-authors
of "Persistent
Disparities:
Socioeconomic
Deprivation
and Cancer

Outcomes in Patients Treated in Clinical Trials," which was published in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*.



SARAH DABABNAH

Sarah Dababnah, PhD, associate professor, was among the co-authors of "Black Caregivers' Perspectives on Racism in ASD Services: Towards Culturally

Responsive ABA Practice," which is a part of an emergency series published in *Behavior Analysis in Practice* and designed to assist clinicians in confronting systemic racism in practice.

Caroline Harmon-Darrow, MSW, LMSW, PhD candidate, was among the co-authors of "Views of Barriers and Facilitators to Continuing Methadone Treatment Upon Release from Jail Among People Receiving Patient Navigation Services," which was published in the *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment* and explores the experiences of those who initiated methadone use at the Baltimore City Detention Center.





SUSAN KLUMPNER MICHAEL WOOLLEY

Susan Klumpner, MSW, LCSW-C, PhD candidate, and Michael Woolley, PhD, associate professor, co-authored "Expanding After-School Program Access for Vulnerable Students: Examining the Efficacy of Federal Policy and Funding," which was published in the journal Education and Urban Society.



JUDY L. POSTMUS

Judy L.
Postmus, PhD,
ACSW, dean
and professor,
was among
the co-authors
of "Women's
Economic Abuse
Experiences:
Results from

the UN Multi-Country Study on Men and Violence in Asia and the Pacific," which was published in the Journal of Interpersonal Violence.



MAY 2021



Michael Reisch, PhD, Distinguished Professor Emeritus, gave the keynote presentation "Social Work Ethics in a Changing and

Conflict-Ridden Society" at the annual statewide ethics conference of the North Carolina chapter of the National Association of Social Workers in March.



Clark Shah-Nelson, PhD, assistant dean of instructional design and technology, was the lead presenter of CLARK SHAH-NELSON "Meditation and Mindfulness: A

Guided Meditation Session for Beginners" and "Meditation and Mindfulness: A Guided Meditation Session" at the Online Learning Consortium's Innovate 2021 virtual conference in March.







COREY SHDAIMAH

Alexandra Wimberly, PhD, assistant professor, and Corey Shdaimah, PhD, the Daniel Thursz Distinguished Professor of Social Justice, were selected to UMB's Interprofessional Program for Academic Community Engagement Fellows Program in Community Engagement for 2021-22.

## **EMPLOYEERECOGNITION**

MAY 2021

## VIRTUAL EVENT FEATURES AWARDS, TRIBUTES, FUN, AND GAMES

For the second year in a row, the University of Maryland, Baltimore's (UMB) Employee Recognition and Service Awards event was held virtually because of COVID-19, but this year some fun, games, and video tributes were added to the April 20 program on Zoom.

The University handed out the annual Cecil S. Kelly Memorial Employee of the Year Award, James T. Hill Scholarship, and Community Service Award while recognizing employees who celebrated service milestones in 2020, including one 50-year employee. The ceremony featured videotaped congratulations from UMB deans and administration leaders, reflections from three longtime employees, and an online game of Kahoot for attendees featuring trivia questions about movies, sports, music, UMB, and more.

UMB President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS; Juliet Dickerson, MS, interim associate vice president, Human Resource Services (HRS); and Mark Emmel, MAS, director of organization and employee development, HRS, presided over the program, with help from University Events and Protocol and the Office of Communications and Public Affairs. Attendees offered congrats and shout-outs in the chat box, adding personal touches to the annual event that before COVID-19 featured lunch and a festive gettogether at Westminster Hall.

"Our University is so fortunate to have

a staff with such dedication, energy, and drive," Jarrell said in his opening remarks.

"It's been an exceptionally difficult year for everyone, and I'm so proud of the creativity and resilience of our staff. I'm sorry that we couldn't come together to celebrate in person, but that doesn't diminish the contributions you have made to UMB over the years.

"There is enormous value in the kind of deep institutional knowledge this group represents. You know the University's strengths and challenges, our history and traditions, our culture and climate. You are the ones whom colleagues seek out when they need the impossible. And during the past year, you have done the impossible."

#### CECIL S. KELLY MEMORIAL EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARD

Aly Kwon, MS, regulatory affairs specialist for the University of Maryland School of Medicine's (UMSOM) Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health (CVD), stepped up in early 2020 after a colleague resigned, leading to her recognition as UMB's 2020 Employee of the Year.

Kwon, who works with ethics committees to get approvals for domestic clinical trials and monitors them as they continue, took on the additional task of overseeing the Vaccine and Treatment Evaluation Unit (VTEU) contract with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, essentially doing a second job for five months.



FROM LEFT, ALY KWON WAS NAMED 2020 UMB EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR; RACHEL LAUFER RECEIVED THE JAMES T. HILL SCHOLARSHIP; AND JOSH HISCOCK WON THE COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD.

VTEU is a large federal contract that has 18 active task orders, totaling over \$22 million in direct costs, according to Kwon's supervisor, James Campbell, MD, MS, professor of pediatrics and chief of the pediatric clinical trials program at CVD.

Campbell said there was panic when the previous VTEU manager resigned, but it quickly subsided thanks to Kwon volunteering her services to keep the program running.

"During those five months, not one deliverable was missed. Not one report went in late. There was no interruption in the functioning of the VTEU program," he said. "And there was no slide in Aly's normal everyday regulatory work. She accomplished



#### Continued from previous page

this voluntarily, without complaint of the extra stress this was adding to her life, and always with a smile on her face."

Kwon said she was shocked to have won the award, given the accomplishments of her fellow nominees who were all UMB Employees of the Month in 2020, and plans to put her \$1,500 prize money toward a much-needed vacation with her husband and children.

"This honor is amazing," Kwon said. "I'm just a small cog in a very big machine at CVD."

#### JAMES T. HILL SCHOLARSHIP

This year's recipient, Rachel Laufer, MPH, lead research analyst at CVD, prides herself on finding new avenues for learning and professional development.

In 2019, she attended the Respiratory Syncytial Virus Network (ReSViNET) conference in Ghana to present her master's thesis, "A Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of RSV Preventive Interventions in Mali," to global experts in public health. RSV is a major childhood disease responsible for more than 60,000 deaths in children under 5 every year worldwide, most of them in low- and middle-income countries. The presentation helped attract funding support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the nonprofit PATH.

In 2020, she attended the Summer Institute in Statistics and Modeling in Infectious Diseases (SISMID) hosted by the University of Washington, taking three courses, each focused on a different aspect of modeling disease dynamics. She plans to attend the 2021 event as well.

"The James T. Hill Scholarship will afford me the opportunity to enroll in valuable courses from SISMID and learn advanced techniques in mathematical modeling that will better prepare me not only for my current position, but also for the rest of my career in global health," Laufer said of the \$2,000 scholarship.

#### **COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD**

Josh Hiscock, PhD, MA, executive director of annual giving and alumni relations at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry (UMSOD), is passionate about serving the community, volunteering over 25 hours a month with the Kiwanis Club of Ellicott City.

He joined Kiwanis, a global service organization that works to strengthen communities and serve children, in 2010 and has served in several leadership roles with the Howard County club including president in 2017-2018.

He also is a longtime volunteer with Key Club International, mentoring and advising young leaders in the student-led high school service organization that is sponsored by Kiwanis. On the international level, Hiscock is chair of a seven-member Visionary Leadership Team creating a leadership development program for the 180,000-plus members of Kiwanis in 80 nations around the world.

In fall 2019, Hiscock founded a service initiative titled Backpacks for Breaks, which addresses food insecurity in Howard County, specifically at two schools in Columbia with low-income students. The past two Decembers, the program provided backpacks filled with food for students to eat during winter break, when free and reduced-price lunches are unavailable. In total, Backpacks for Breaks provided nearly 6,400 meals.

"I saw a way for our club to make a meaningful difference and knew that we had to act," Hiscock said. "We wanted to alleviate the stress on families so that kids could just be kids and enjoy their school breaks without worrying where their next meal would come from.

"It's inspiring to work for an institution that values community engagement and service," he added, "and it's an honor to be recognized by UMB and its leaders with the Community Service Award."

#### **50 YEARS AND OTHER MILESTONES**

UMB annually recognizes employees who have hit service milestones in five-year increments between 20 and 50 years. In 2020, there were 121 such employees whose service time to the University totaled 3,115 years. One of them celebrated 50 years at UMB: Carol Stillwell, executive administrative assistant in UMSOD's Division of Pediatric Dentistry.

Employees who celebrated milestones of 40 or 45 years in 2020 are:

- 45 years: Paula Barkon, Center for Information Technology Services, UMB; Catherine Brown, UMSOM; Deborah Horstman, UMSOD; Nolene Taylor, University of Maryland School of Nursing; Darlene Watkins, UMSOD.
- 40 years: Sharon Bowser, UMSOM; James Gardner, University of Maryland School of Pharmacy; Bryan Soronson, UMSOM; Mary Travers, UMSOD; Lynn Vogelsang, UMSOM.

— Lou Cortina and Jen Badie

Watch a video of the event.



MAY 2021

#### FORMER BALTIMORE MAYOR SCHMOKE REFLECTS ON OPPORTUNITY

University of Baltimore President Kurt L. Schmoke, JD, had opportunity when he was growing up in West Baltimore that he tried to bring into the lives of children and other residents of his hometown when he was mayor from 1987 to 1999.

Schmoke discussed wide-ranging topics from education, housing, systemic racism, and drug decriminalization with University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, on April 28 during the President's Panel on Politics and Policy. The conversation, titled "Social Justice and Structural Racism in Baltimore," repeatedly came back to opportunity.

Schmoke attended kindergarten in city schools the year they were integrated by the *Brown v. Board of Education* Supreme Court decision. He said he had supportive parents, was involved in the Lancers Boys Club, and attended Douglas Memorial Community Church.

"I was blessed by having a lot of people who encouraged me at a very early age to achieve more than I thought I could achieve," he said. "And when you think about that, so many of our young people growing up now don't have that kind of encouragement, and they end up drifting off into bad activities. If they had that kind of encouragement, we would probably see more productive citizens from them."

Schmoke, who was state's attorney for Baltimore before becoming the city's first African American elected as mayor, said education was the key issue for him because he wanted to create those opportunities for students.

"I tried to get lessons from the five years that I was state's attorney. As you looked at the people who were coming through the criminal justice system, one of the things that you saw was huge deficits in their education," Schmoke said.

"I wanted to be the education mayor and ran on a platform of making Baltimore known as 'The City That Reads' to encourage people to be involved in lifelong learning."

He said he thought if he could improve elementary and secondary education as well as the Enoch Pratt Free Library and Baltimore City Community College, "it would have a huge impact on opportunities for young people, and my hope was that it would also lead to fewer and fewer people engaged as a part of the criminal justice system."

Schmoke lamented that while he was able to make some



UMB PRESIDENT BRUCE JARRELL (LEFT) TALKS WITH KURT SCHMOKE, PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE AND A FORMER THREE-TERM MAYOR OF BALTIMORE.



"I was blessed by having a lot of people who encouraged me at a very early age to achieve more than I thought I could achieve. And when you think about that, so many of our young people growing up now don't have that kind of encouragement."

- Kurt Schmoke

improvements during his three terms, it was not the lasting change he had wanted. "By the time I left office, I wanted our public education system to have excellence as the rule, not the exception," he said. "There are still some really exceptional schools, exceptional instruction, but, unfortunately, we did not make the complete structural change that I had hoped for."

Schmoke, who was praised in the 1990s by then-President Bill Clinton for his programs to improve public housing and enhance community economic development, also discussed the high-rise housing complexes, including two in West Baltimore near UMB, that were often viewed as "warehouses of poverty."

"President Clinton saw the city as the center for expanding opportunity and urged us to be creative in thinking about how to address the problems, particularly these high rises," Schmoke said. "We were able to tear down the high rises [during his administration and his successors'] and create nice neighborhoods. Near UMB's campus, now you have two nice-looking communities rather than these hulking high rises that were attracting all kinds of criminal activity. So it did make a difference, and it continues to make a difference."

He pointed out that the city doesn't have the resources to solve problems on its own and needs to partner with the federal and state government. He said he told current Mayor Brandon Scott, "You'll have more will than wallet."

In discussing structural racism, Jarrell said UMB has been working to identify structures and policies that disadvantage certain groups such as changing the composition of admissions committees to address bias. Schmoke praised Jarrell and UMB for facing structural racism head-on. He recommended hiring people who are committed to achieving the University's goals and to make those issues part of annual performance reviews.

"It is one of those issues that won't be resolved, that there's no final victory on it, but a commitment by everybody who's a part of the institution is what has to be encouraged," said Schmoke, who has been the University of Baltimore president for almost seven years. "I think that you're taking a huge step in doing that, and I know that in our institution that is so vital to assuring some success in these areas."

Schmoke also took audience questions, many focused on decriminalizing drugs. As mayor, Schmoke first spoke out in 1988 about decriminalizing drugs and said he's satisfied at the pace the discussion is going now, adding that "the war on drugs should be a public health war rather than a criminal justice war."

He was asked about Marilyn Mosby, the city state's attorney, and her recent decision not to prosecute arrests for drug possession.

"I think State's Attorney Mosby is trying to get us to distinguish between people who are hooked on drugs and those who are hooked on drug money, because the sellers are still a serious problem for our whole community," he said. "And that's where her attention is at this point."

He cautioned that the country needs to move at a slow pace with legalizing marijuana, for example, because society doesn't want underage children to abuse it.

"I'm pleased to see that more and more elected officials are talking about treatment alternatives or the use of public health initiatives," he said. "We still have a long way to go. Slow but sure steps are being taken, and I do think that the community is going to be better off."

— Jen Badie

Watch a video of the event.







# FOOD FOR OUR FRONT LINES

**UMB Providing Free Lunches to Essential Personnel Working at the SMC Campus Center Vaccination Clinic** 

Last year, the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) established the Food for Our Front Lines initiative to purchase lunches for UMB's essential front-line workers and support local restaurants during the COVID-19 pandemic. Hundreds of employees and community members donated to this initiative, and as a result of their generosity, thousands of meals were served and numerous businesses survived.

This year, UMB has relaunched the Food for Our Front Lines initiative with a mission to provide free lunches to employees and students who are staffing UMB's Vaccination Clinic at the SMC Campus Center. Behind the scenes, these volunteers have been working tirelessly to vaccinate UMB students, employees, and community members. At the same time, community restaurants have had to find new ways to sustain business in the face of COVID-19-related restrictions. Each meal costs \$13 and is ordered from West Baltimore businesses at no cost to our front-line heroes.

Become a hero to our heroes in the Vaccination Clinic and to our valued restaurants in the community by making a gift to the Food for Our Front Lines initiative. Your generous support can make a difference!

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.



## **DIVERSITY**

MAY 2021

### FIRST CDEIO/VP BRINGS VAST AND VARIED EXPERIENCE TO UMB

The University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) has hired its first chief diversity, equity, and inclusion officer and vice president (CDEIO/VP), Diane Forbes Berthoud, PhD, MA, who will begin her duties July 1, 2021.

Forbes Berthoud was hired after a national search for an individual to steward UMB's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), catalyze the institutional change necessary for deepening and strengthening that commitment, and design and put into operation a transparent accountability framework to measure and evaluate the impact and effectiveness of the University's DEI initiatives at every level of the institution.

"The work of equity, diversity, and inclusion is not a solo job," said Forbes Berthoud, who will report directly to UMB President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS. "It's not the chief diversity officer saying, 'This is the way.' It is really understanding both the principles and the values, sharing those in a leadership role, and bringing everyone into that picture to achieve a cohesive vision and have outcomes that will really move the institution toward greater excellence."

Jarrell said he was impressed with the way Forbes Berthoud interacted with her future UMB colleagues during the search process, adding, "I'm eager to work with her to identify issues and improve structures and systems at our University to continue to build a culture that is truly inclusive and equitable for every member of our community."

Forbes Berthoud comes to UMB from the University of California, San Diego (UCSD), where she served as associate vice chancellor for equity, diversity, and inclusion since 2011. In that role, she led the management of the university's first Strategic Plan for Inclusive Excellence, directed central aspects of an accountability process involving senior leadership, provided leadership in the development of accountability data dashboards to track key metrics, and oversaw the creation of an equity, diversity, and inclusion best practices resource and a diversity strategic planning toolkit to guide the planning and implementation processes.

At UMB, Forbes Berthoud will work with the provost and other senior University officials to develop a strategic action plan that will leverage current efforts and create a sustainable infrastructure that affects every aspect and every level of UMB.

Before serving in UCSD's associate vice chancellor role, Forbes Berthoud oversaw academic planning, strategic planning, and implementation as academic director of the university's 4,000-student Sixth College. She served on the Chancellor's Committee on the Status of Women, developed and enhanced the global education program, and was honored with a university-wide diversity award for outstanding efforts in advancing UCSD's

academic and institutional goals in DEI.

In 2020, Forbes Berthoud was named a San Diego Woman of Distinction by San Diego Woman Magazine for her contributions to higher education, community, and society. She also has considerable history in the Baltimore-Washington region, serving as faculty and lecturer at five universities — George Washington, George Mason, Howard, the University of Maryland, College Park, and Trinity, where she was associate professor and chair of the Department of Communication.

Forbes Berthoud received PhD and MA degrees in Organizational Communication and Social Psychology from Howard University and a BA in Communication and a certificate in Spanish Translation and Interpretation from Barry University. She holds a management certificate from the University of California, a certificate in mediation from the National Center

for Conflict Resolution, and is a graduate of the UC-Coro Systemwide Leadership Collaborative.

"Dr. Forbes Berthoud brings a rich array of experiences working with students, faculty, and staff in higher education as well as a proven track record of effectively engaging community stakeholders in initiatives focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion," said Jane M. Kirschling, PhD, RN, FAAN, the Bill and Joanne Conway Dean of the University of Maryland School of Nursing and co-chair of the CDEIO/VP search committee.



DIANE FORBES BERTHOUD WILL ASSUME HER UMB DUTIES JULY 1.

— Alex Likowski



## **CHAMPIONSOFEXCELLENCE**

MAY 2021

## ON THE FRONT LINES, COLLABORATION WAS KEY

The University of Maryland, Baltimore's (UMB) On the Front Lines: Champions of Excellence campaign features 24 inspirational stories and videos about UMB employees who've done exemplary work since the COVID-19 pandemic unfolded in March 2020.

From Alana Kyriakakis, JD, the University Counsel who provided sage advice to help UMB navigate legal matters related to the pandemic, to the University of Maryland Pathology Associates (UMPA) laboratory services team, which worked around the clock to help ramp up COVID-19 testing capabilities, these individuals and teams embody the University's core values of accountability, civility, collaboration, diversity, excellence, knowledge, and leadership.



The campaign highlighted the work of employees from a variety of UMB departments and schools, including the School of Medicine's (SOM) Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, the School of Social Work's Promise Heights, the School of Nursing's facilities team, the School of Dentistry's emergency oral health care team, and the Center for Health and Homeland Security, which partners with the Francis King Carey School of Law.

The School of Pharmacy's director of facilities and laboratory services, Pamela Crowe, MS, was featured for her role in keeping the school's buildings and operations running smoothly during the pandemic. UMB's Community Engagement Center (CEC) leaders — Ashley Valis, MSW, and Tyrone Roper, MSW — were honored for their work in transitioning CEC programs and services to virtual platforms. Stacy Holmes, business services senior specialist for Parking and Transportation Services (PTS), was recognized for

staying "ahead of the curve" and working to ensure the safety of PTS staff and customers even before the pandemic began.

A common thread in these stories is the level of collaboration that was needed to help UMB not only survive, but also thrive during this unprecedented health and economic crisis. For instance, two of the Champions teams — laboratories from SOM's Institute for Genome Sciences and UMPA — worked together to create a large-scale COVID-19 testing platform that eventually would process up to 10,000 samples a day from collection sites around the state.

"It's really amazing how we were able to bring everybody together in such a short period of time," said Jeff Parker, director of laboratory services for UMPA, which is operated by SOM's Department of Pathology and is part of Faculty Physicians, Inc. (FPI). "It's such a testament to the University of Maryland Medical System, the School of Medicine, FPI, and all the employees we brought in."

Collaboration was critical as well for a team formed from the UMB Police Department and Human Resource Services that was tasked with improving the security presence on campus and around the University of Maryland Medical Center. It's mission — hire, train, and deploy 30 security officers within 90 days. — was accomplished, with time to spare.

"After all of their effort, our goal was completed three weeks before the due date," said Dawn M. Rhodes, DBA, MBA, chief business and finance officer and vice president. "A true testament to collaboration."

During the early stages of the pandemic, a nearly 200-person team from Environmental Services (EVS) worked tirelessly five days a week to deep-clean every UMB campus building during the day and evening hours. EVS associate director Denise J. Meyer said the staff came together by holding each other to a high standard for cleanliness, hygiene, and respect, and by valuing the concept of shared responsibility.

"They really are the stewards of campus," Meyer said. "This effort is truly a partnership. While we have our part to do on the service end, it truly comes down to everybody doing their part to keep the campus safe and our community healthy."

Those are just a few examples of the compelling stories the campaign brought to life, and UMB looks forward to the next Champions of Excellence campaign in the years ahead. You can read about all of the honorees on the *UMB Champions of Excellence website*.

- UMB Staff



## LIVENEARYOURWORK

MAY 2021

#### NEW HOMEOWNER: 'IT WAS MEANT FOR ME TO BE IN BALTIMORE'

The moment when 25-year-old Rajaniece Thompson felt like a real homeowner came shortly after signing the title of her new two-bedroom, three-bathroom home in the Pigtown neighborhood of Southwest Baltimore. On Feb. 15, 2020, about a month after moving in, her mom and grandmother flew in from Detroit and her aunt drove up from Silver Spring, Md., to help her get settled.

Thompson gave her family a tour of her new home, then they sat down for a vegetarian dinner cooked by Thompson's aunt. It was a small housewarming, but it was enough to make Thompson feel at home.

"Being able to sit down and eat dinner with my family in my new home really made everything feel real,"

Thompson says. "Normally, my family and people who are close to me invite me into their homes and cook for me and make me feel welcome. Now, I get to do the same for them. That moment definitely made me feel proud."

Thompson is a program specialist at the Institute for Innovation and Implementation at the University of Maryland School of Social Work (UMSSW) and a recipient of a University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) Live Near Your Work (LNYW) Program grant. LNYW is a homebuying assistance benefit for University employees that offers \$16,000 toward the down payment and closing costs of homes in select Southwest Baltimore neighborhoods to promote community revitalization and stabilization. Recipients also are eligible for a matching grant of \$2,500 from the city of Baltimore.

Before her UMSSW job, Thompson spent a year working at UMB's Community Engagement Center (CEC) as an AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteer in Service to America). She coordinated weekly food markets with UMB student and community member volunteers and was involved in the CEC's free exercise classes. These experiences gave her a unique opportunity to build relationships with neighbors in the area.

"All the individuals introduced to me at the CEC have shaped my experience in Baltimore," Thompson says. "I really feel so rooted in this community, and I'm grateful for that experience. It put me in the mindset of wanting to invest in this community and buy a home here. Now I am truly a part of the community that I have grown so much in."

Thompson says she received support from people living in the area and colleagues who also took advantage of the LNYW grant.

They advised her on factors to consider in her home search such as parking, nearby food spots, and which streets were the quietest.

"If you just look at a map of the city, you may overlook these really great neighborhoods," Thompson says. "I was so lucky to have made connections in the community because I immediately thought, 'Wow, a lot of great things are happening here. I would love to live here.'"



PHOTO BY MATTHEW D'AGOSTIN

RAJANIECE THOMPSON STANDS IN FRONT OF HER NEW HOME IN PIGTOWN.

Now settled into her new home, Thompson is not just a UMB employee but also a student at the University of Maryland School of Medicine getting her master's degree in public health with a concentration in community and population health.

She says she feels like she was always meant to settle down in Baltimore.

"When I started applying to the AmeriCorps program, I was hoping to work in the D.C. area because I had family there," she says. "I had a couple of interviews but kept getting turned down, until one of the interviewers recommended me to UMB's Community Engagement Center. One thing led to another, and three years later here I am as a homeowner. I really felt like it was meant for me to be in Baltimore."

- Jena Frick

Learn more about UMB's LNYW Program.

