ONE YEAR AS PRESIDENT: BY THE NUMBERS

On Sept. 11, 2021, I marked one year as president of the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB). By now, you’ve heard me share how grateful I am to be at such an amazing, resilient, and powerful institution. I thought I’d also share with you some of the past year’s highlights by the numbers:

$1.1 billion in total research expenditures led to the University of Maryland’s (UMB and the University of Maryland, College Park) combined research enterprise being ranked 14th overall nationally and eighth among all public institutions in research and development spending.

$666 million has been given toward the Catalyst Campaign, which is 89 percent of its fundraising goal of $750 million.

$23 million more in National Institutes of Health funding was secured for Fiscal Year 2021, compared to the previous year. Much of this is related to growth in the School of Medicine, despite the COVID-19 pandemic.

$13.8 million, the largest gift to date to the School of Nursing, was donated by Bill and Joanne Conway through their Bedford Falls Fund to create 345 Conway Scholarships and support renovation of the nursing building at the Universities at Shady Grove.

$5 million was donated by Marco and Debbie Chacón to establish the Chacón Center for Immigrant Justice at the Francis King Carey School of Law.

$500,000 was pledged by Eddie and Sylvia Brown for their CURE Scholars Challenge.

40,000 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine were distributed at the SMC Campus Center to faculty, staff, students, and others.

13,560 mentions of UMB in the news media.

7,244 students are currently enrolled in our seven schools.

1,432 community lunches were served at the Community Engagement Center (CEC).

1,400 alumni joined me for a conversation with actor, producer, and writer (and doctor!) Ken Jeong.

132 graduated from the nation’s first Master’s in Medical Cannabis Science and Therapeutics program at the School of Pharmacy.

97 percent of UMB employees and students on campus are vaccinated against COVID-19.

75 percent decrease in infant mortality over 10 years recorded by B’more for Healthy Babies, a program operated by the School of Social Work’s Promise Heights initiative.

63 West Baltimore children got their Back to School vaccinations at the CEC last month.

21 Virtual Face to Face programs aired, ranging from a conversation with Mayor Brandon Scott to art during the pandemic, mental health, and the new Lexington Market.

17 horses were on campus when the CEC and City Ranch brought a free horseback riding program to West Baltimore youths ages 10 to 15.

11 UMB startups were launched.

9 #UMBTogether Welcome Back Events, where we were able to gather safely with folks on campus.

8 consecutive years that the School of Dentistry’s Student National Dental Association chapter has won first or second place in the national competition.

8 new degree or certificate programs at the Graduate School, which — along with other degrees and certificates — are covered by tuition remission for employees.

3rd among all universities and 13th overall in Forbes magazine’s America’s Best Large Employers survey.

1 chief equity, diversity, and inclusion officer was hired. Welcome, Diane Forbes Berthoud, PhD, MA.

0 The number of days I haven’t been proud to be your president.

You all continue to impress and inspire me with your dedication to your studies, your work, your community, and one another.

Sincerely,

Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS
PRESIDENT
LAURELS
OCTOBER 2021

UNIVERSITYWIDE

Tony Nguyen, MLIS, AHIP, executive director, Network of the National Library of Medicine (NLM), Region 1, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, was selected as a fellow in the 2021-22 NLM/Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries Leadership cohort.

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

Patrik M. Bavoil, PhD, professor, Department of Microbial Pathogenesis, was named to the executive committee of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases’ Biomimetics Cooperative Research Center Network for a five-year term, as well as to UMB’s Transition Advisory Committee of the Animal Care and Use Program.

Cailin Gollubier, president, Dental Hygiene Class of 2022, was awarded an undergraduate scholarship for the 2021-2022 academic year by the University of Maryland Alumni Association-International, Inc.

CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW

Peter Danchin, JD, professor and associate dean, research and faculty development, presented “Recognition or Regulation? Reflections on South Africa’s Single Marriage Bill,” at the University of Cape Town Department for the Study of Religions’ virtual seminar Aug. 18.

Radi Masri, BDS, MS, PhD, professor, Department of Advanced Oral Sciences and Therapeutics, received a Fiscal Year 2022 Wilson H. Elkins Professorship from the University System of Maryland in support of his investigations into the barriers that prevent adult minorities in the Baltimore area from improving their oral health with the aim of increasing access to advanced dental care.

Abraham Schneider, DDS, PhD, associate professor, Department of Oncology and Diagnostic Sciences, was senior author of “Fatty Acid Synthase Mediates High Glucose-Induced EGFR Activation in Oral Dysplastic Keratinocytes,” which was published in the Journal of Oral Pathology and Medicine in August.

Leigh Goodmark, JD, professor and co-director, Clinical Law Program, was quoted in “Is Criminalization the Right Response to Domestic Violence?” which was published by the New Internationalist on Aug. 26.

Mark Graber, JD, professor, wrote “A ‘Review’ of Justice Breyer’s Manuscript,” which was published by Balkinization on Aug. 14.

Michael Greenberger, JD, professor and founding director, Center for Health and Homeland Security, was quoted in “Federal Judge Temporarily
Blocks Texas and Gov. Abbott from Restricting the Transportation of Migrants,” which was published by Houston Public Media on Aug. 5.

Diane Hoffmann, JD, professor and director, Law and Health Care Program, was interviewed for the “Skimm This” podcast about vaccine mandates Aug. 5.

Kathleen Hoke, JD, professor and director, Network for Public Health Law-Eastern Region, was interviewed on WBFF-TV about vaccine and mask mandates Aug. 5.

Paula Monopoli, JD, professor and founding director, Women, Leadership, and Equality Program, discussed her book “Constitutional Orphan: Gender Equality and the Nineteenth Amendment” at the Southeastern Association of Law Schools’ New Books on Women’s Rights panel July 30.


Max Stearns, JD, professor, wrote a letter to the editor titled “Vaccine-Mandate Lawsuit Rests on Faulty Premise,” which was published in The Wall Street Journal on Aug. 16.


Cheri Hendrix, DHEd, MSBME, PA-C, associate professor, was promoted to assistant dean of physician assistant education and director, Physician Assistant Program.

Gerald Kayingo, PhD, MBA, PA-C, DFAAPA, professor, was promoted to assistant dean of research and executive director, Physician Assistant Leadership and Learning Academy.

James Kucher, DPA, MBA, associate professor and director, MS in Health and Social Innovation Program, was accepted into the Babson College Fellows Program for Entrepreneurship Researchers and was awarded the Lilly Research Fellowship by Villanova University’s Center for Church Management.

Violet Kulo, EdD, MS, MA; Shani Fleming, MS, MPH, PA-C; Karen L. Gordes, PhD, PT, DSCPT; Hyun-Jin Jun, PhD, MSW; and Gerald Kayingo, PhD, MBA, PA-C, DFAAPA, all faculty members, along with James Cauley, MPH, PA-C, visiting professor and Scholar-in-Residence, co-authored “A Physician Assistant Entry-Level Doctoral Degree: More Harm Than Good?” which was published in BMC Medical Education.

James Wright, MFA, adjunct faculty member and associate director, UMB Writing Center, and a University of Maryland, Baltimore County colleague won a UMB Interprofessional Education Faculty Award for “Language, Power, and Identity: The Baltimore Writing Center Project and Interprofessional Education Through the Learning and Teaching of Writing.”
Zubair Ahmed, PhD, and Saima Riazuddin, PhD, both professors, Department of Otorhinolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, received a five-year, $2,432,728 R01 grant from the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases for “Molecular Determinants of Pigmentation (mDoP).”

Omer Awan, MD, MPH, associate professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, was first author of “Resident Clinician Educator Leadership Pathway Tracks in US Radiology Programs: An ADVICER 2021 Survey Study,” which was published in Current Problems in Diagnostic Radiology in June.

Michael Bond, MD, FACEP, FAAEM, professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, received the 2021 American College of Emergency Physicians National Emergency Medicine Faculty Teaching Award.

Matthew Ferris, MD, assistant professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was among the co-authors of “ASO Visual Abstract: Impact of Metastasectomy and Aggressive Local Therapy in Newly Diagnosed Metastatic Soft Tissue Sarcoma: An Analysis of the NCDB,” which was published in Annals of Surgical Oncology.

Vicki Gray, MPT, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, co-authored “Re-vascularization for Asymptomatic Carotid Artery Stenosis Improves Balance and Mobility,” which was published in the Journal of Vascular Surgery.

Anuj Gupta, MD, FACC, FSCAI, associate professor, and Diljon Chahal, MD, assistant professor, both from the Department of Medicine, are two of the medical leaders of the TAVR (Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement) Program, which received certification from the American College of Cardiology.

Ronna Hertzano, MD, PhD, professor, Department of Pharmacology, received a three-year, $1,515,970 grant from the Department of Defense for “Accelerating Translation of Estrogen Signaling as a Treatment for Noise-Induced Hidden Hearing Loss in Both Sexes.”

Charles Hong, MD, Endowed Melvin Sharoky Professor and director of cardiology research, Department of Medicine, received the Maryland Innovation Initiative Award from the State of Maryland Technology Development Corporation for “Small Molecule Therapeutics for ARDS.”

Peter Hu, PhD, associate professor; Shiming Yang, PhD, assistant professor; and Colin Mackenzie, MB, ChB, MD, Professor Emeritus, all from the Department of Anesthesiology, and Hegang Chen, PhD, professor, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, received approval for a U.S. patent for “Method and Apparatus for Predicting a Use for a Blood Transfusion.”

Lauren Jackson, PhD, associate professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was appointed to the American Association for Cancer Research’s
Radiation Science and Medicine Working Group Steering Committee.

Michy Kelly, PhD, associate professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, was senior author of “A Genetic Basis for Friendship? Homophily for Membrane-Associated PDE11A-cAMP-CREB Signaling in CA1 of Hippocampus Dictates Mutual Social Preference in Male and Female Mice,” which was published in *Molecular Psychiatry* on July 28.

Anupama Kewalramani, MD, assistant professor; Jaylyn Waddell, PhD, assistant professor; and Elaine Puppa, RN, clinical research specialist lead, all from the Department of Pediatrics, co-authored “Telemedicine During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 Pandemic for Pediatric Patients with Eosinophilic Esophagitis,” which was published in the *Annals of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology* on June 20.

David Marcozzi, MD, MHS-CL, MHS-CL, FACEP, professor; Ricardo Pietrobon, MD, PhD, MBA, adjunct associate professor; and Brian Browne, MD, professor and chair, all from the Department of Emergency Medicine, were among the co-authors of “The Application of a Hospital Medical Surge Preparedness Index to Assess National Pandemic and Other Mass Casualty Readiness,” which was published by the *Journal of Healthcare Management* on June 18.

Kathleen Neuzil, PhD, MPH, FIDSA, Myron M. Levine, MD, DTPH, Professor in Vaccinology and director, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, was appointed as a representative of the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases to the Advanced Course of Vaccinology Scientific Committee. She also was appointed to the BactiVac Network Advisory Board and the Advisory Group for the Global Typhoid Genomics Consortium.

Marc Simard, MD, PhD, professor, Department of Neurosurgery, was awarded the Ralph Dacey Jr. Medal for Outstanding Research by the American Association of Neurological Surgeons/Congress of Neurological Surgeons Cerebrovascular Section for his research on upregulation of the Sur1-Trp4 channel in stroke and ways to limit cerebral edema.

Marco Venniro, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, was selected as a Travel Awardee for the 2021 American College of Neuropsychopharmacology’s Annual Meeting in December in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Yuji Zhang, PhD, associate professor, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, co-authored “Calcium-Induced Autonomic Denervation in Patients with Post-Operative Atrial Fibrillation,” which was published in the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*.
UMSON virtually hosted its 30th annual Summer Institute in Nursing Informatics (SINI) July 15-16 with the theme “Real-World Evidence and the Changing Landscape of Health Informatics.” With an undertone of celebrating its history, SINI also focused on the future by reflecting on lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic. SINI was attended by more than 200 participants from around the world.

UMSON’s Doctor of Nursing Practice Nurse Anesthesia specialty debuted high-fidelity pediatric simulation July 19. This simulation was made possible through efforts by Priscilla Aguirre, DNP, CRNA, CRNP-AC, assistant professor; Richard P. Conley, DNP ’20, CRNA, assistant professor and assistant director, Nurse Anesthesia Specialty; and Anup Patel, MS, senior instructional technology specialist, Clinical Simulation Labs.

Jie Chen, PhD, RN, postdoctoral fellow, was selected to participate as a “Rising Star” at the Cancer and Cardiovascular Disease Conference in Washington, D.C., in October. Chen will be recognized during the conference and paired with a senior conference attendee for a one-on-one mentoring meeting.

Rose Delaney, program management specialist, Nurse Anesthesia Program, was named UMB’s August Employee of the Month for her stellar efforts in managing various aspects of the specialty and volunteering to help another program with scheduling prospective student interviews.

Sarah Holmes, PhD, MSW, assistant professor, was awarded a four-year, $150,000 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grant for the project “Meaningful Activity for Residents with Dementia in Assisted Living.” The co-investigators are UMSON faculty members Elizabeth M. Galik, PhD ’07, CRNP, FAAN; Barbara Resnick, PhD, RN, CRNP, FAAN, FAANP; and Shijun Zhu, PhD, DrE.

Tara Stoudt, MS, RNC-NIC, clinical instructor, was named interim director, Clinical Nurse Leader Option, after Sherrie Lessans, PhD ’10, RN, retired in August.
for “State of Maryland Foster Care Psychotropic Monitoring.”

Agnes Ann Feemster, PharmD, associate professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, and assistant dean of experiential learning, received the Maryland Society of Health-System Pharmacy’s W. Arthur Purdham Award for significant contributions to health-system pharmacy in Maryland.

Sean Fleming, graduate student, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, received the department’s 2021 Donald O. Fedder Memorial Fellowship.

Steven Fletcher, PhD, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a one-year, $397,258 grant from the National Institutes of Health for “Synthetic Strategies to Restore the Efficacy of Venetoclax in Acute Myeloid Leukemia.”

Mathangi Gopalakrishnan, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, received a three-month, $7,500 contract from Wockhardt for “Proposal for Additional Glargine Analysis to Answer Regulatory Queries.”

Mojdeh Heavner, PharmD, associate professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, was named chair-elect of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy’s Critical Care Practice and Research Network.

C. Daniel Mullins, PhD, professor and chair, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, received a one-year, $100,000 contract from Patients Like Me for “Treatment Preferences, Stigma, and Unmet Needs of PLWHA in Support of Long-Acting Islatravir.”

Jannat Saini, graduate student, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, received the department’s 2021 Harris Zuckerman Scholarship and the American Public Health Association’s 2020-2021 Regional Student Liaison of the Year Award.

Yan Shu, PhD, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a nine-month, $115,000 grant from the Maryland Technology Development Corporation for “Novel Axin Stabilizer YA6060 Is a Promising Therapy for Nonalcoholic Steatohepatitis.”

James Trovato, PharmD, professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, was elected chair of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists’ Section of Pharmacy Educators.

Vashti Adams, PhD student, was selected to join the 2021-2022 cohort of the Council on Social Work Education’s Minority Fellowship Program.

Haksoon Ahn, PhD, associate professor, was among the co-authors of research published in the Journal of Public Child Welfare that explores the Child and Family Services Review and child welfare outcomes in the United States.

Todd Becker and Kim Leffler, PhD students, and Lauren McCarthy, PhD candidate, are co-authors of “Individual Characteristics Associated with Color-Blind Racial Attitudes in Master of Social Work
Students,” which was published in the Journal of Social Work Education.

**Sarah Clem**, PhD student, was accepted into the 10th cohort of the Association for Gerontology Education in Social Work’s Pre-Dissertation Fellows Program, which offers support to pre-candidacy students by providing mentorship, professional development trainings, and networking opportunities.

**Brenda Jones Harden**, PhD, Alison Richman Professor for Children and Families, and **Lisa Berlin**, PhD, professor, were among the co-authors of “Maternal Psychological Risk Moderates the Impacts of Attachment-Based Intervention on Mother-Toddler Mutuality and Toddler Behavior Problems: A Randomized Controlled Trial,” which was published in Prevention Science.

**Karen Hopkins**, PhD, and **Megan Meyer**, PhD, both associate professors; **Jenny Afkinich**, PhD, lead research analyst; and **Eva Bialobrzeski**, research assistant, were co-authors of a paper published in Human Service Organizations: Management, Leadership & Governance that explores key benefits, effectiveness, and challenges of facilitated peer coaching for leadership learning application among a diverse sample of female human service professionals in a leadership certificate program.

**Amanda Lehning**, PhD, associate dean for academic affairs and associate professor, was among the co-authors of “Exploring Neighborhood Social Environment and Social Support in Baltimore,” which was published in Social Work Research.

**Corey Shdaimah**, PhD, Daniel Thursz Distinguished Professor of Social Justice, co-authored “I’m Doing Everything Right All Over Again’: How Women Manage Exiting Street Prostitution Over Time,” which was published in the Journal of Qualitative Criminal Justice & Criminology.

**Everett Smith**, PhD, clinical instructor, and **Roderick Rose**, PhD, assistant professor, presented “The Impact of Discrimination and Racial-Ethnic Identification on School-Based Outcomes in a Multicultural Sample of Rural Youth in the United States” at the 22nd Biennial Conference of the International Consortium for Social Development, held virtually in July.

**Nia Speaks**, program management specialist, Social Work Community Outreach Service, was named to UMB’s Diversity Advisory Council.

**Darren Whitfield**, PhD, associate professor, was named to the ALIVE! Maryland Interprofessional Advisory Board.

**Christopher Wirt**, LCSW-C, was promoted to director, Title IV-E Education for Child Welfare Program. Wirt and **Caroline Long**, PhD, associate professor, co-authored the chapter “Motivational Interviewing in Child and Family-Serving Systems,” which will be published in the book “Child and Family-Serving Systems: A Compendium of Policy and Practice.”
Each year the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) celebrates the achievements and successes of our students, faculty, staff, alumni, and philanthropic supporters and pays tribute to UMB’s rich history with a series of Founders Week events.

VIRTUAL GALA
DREAMS in the MAKING
Saturday, Oct. 23 | 7-8 p.m.

From the Hippodrome Theatre, UMB President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, and emcee Denise Koch of WJZ-TV host a live-streamed event featuring Founders Week award winners, a live performance by “The Voice” runner-up and Maryland native Toneisha Harris, and much more. Tickets are $100 and include a gourmet dinner that can be picked up at several area locations. Register at umaryland.edu/gala-register.

STAFF LUNCH
Monday, Oct. 25
11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.
School of Nursing Courtyard
Grab-and-go boxed lunches.
UMB staff only.

DAVID J. RAMSAY ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR VIRTUAL PRESENTATION
Tuesday, Oct. 26
4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

STUDENT LUNCH
Wednesday, Oct. 27
Noon to 1:30 p.m.
School of Nursing Courtyard
Grab-and-go boxed lunches.
UMB students only.

RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR VIRTUAL PRESENTATION
Wednesday, Oct. 27
4 to 5 p.m.

Find event registration links at umaryland.edu/founders/schedule-of-events.

2021 FOUNDERS WEEK AWARD WINNERS

The following members of the UMB family will be honored during the virtual Gala:

DAVID J. RAMSAY
ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR
Vincent Njar, PhD
School of Medicine

RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR
Ronna P. Hertzano, MD, PhD
School of Medicine

STUDENT OF THE YEAR
Jazmin Jones
School of Dentistry, Class of 2022

PUBLIC SERVANT OF THE YEAR
Joshua M. Abzug, MD
School of Medicine

EDUCATORS OF THE YEAR
Renaissance Curriculum Team
School of Medicine

STUDENT OF THE YEAR
Emily M. Smith
Graduate School, Class of 2022

SPECIAL COVID-19 PANDEMIC AWARD
Wilbur Chen, MD, MS
Kathleen Neuzil, MD, MPH, FIDSA
David Marcozzi, MD, MHS-CL, MHS-CL, FACEP
School of Medicine

Visit umaryland.edu/founders to find more information about the Founders Week events and other award winners.
UMB FACULTY AND STAFF ARE MAKING A BIG IMPACT TOGETHER

WHY PARTICIPATE?
Our collective support has the potential to make a big impact on the future of the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB). Support from our UMB community also demonstrates an internal commitment that can send a powerful message to our external supporters.

WHERE WILL MY GIFT GO?
The choice is yours! The University has many funds that directly benefit students, faculty, schools, and programs. You may direct your “Proud to Work Here, Proud to Give Here” gift to the fund of your choice, or simply support the area of greatest need.

BY THE NUMBERS
500 employees GIVING $5 PER PAY PERIOD through payroll deduction = $65,000 in one year going to great causes at UMB.

1,000 employees MAKING A ONE-TIME GIFT OF $25 = $25,000 that could support public service projects, scholarships, or research activities.

GIVING IS EASY
Recurring credit card: Visit www.umaryland.edu/giving/proud.
Payroll deduction: Visit www.usmd.edu/give.

WHAT HAVE EMPLOYEE DONORS SUPPORTED IN THE PAST?
- Student Scholarships and Endowments
- Professorships
- Research Activities
- Public Service Projects
- Institutional Programs
- Areas of Greatest Need

ARE YOU A UMB ALUMNUS?
That’s ANOTHER reason to participate!

> Interested in Legacy or Planned Gift Options?
Contact John McKee or Elizabeth Connors at plannedgiving@umaryland.edu.

> Any Other Questions?
ContactLisa Vuolo,director of annual giving, at annualgiving@umaryland.edu.
Virtual FACE to FACE with PRESIDENT BRUCE JARRELL

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

OCT. 7 | 2 P.M.  
Advancing Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion at UMB  
GUEST: Diane Forbes Berthoud, PhD, chief equity, diversity, and inclusion officer and vice president, UMB

OCT. 21 | 2 P.M.  
Community Engagement in West Baltimore  
GUESTS: Ashley Valis, MSW, executive director, community engagement and strategic initiatives, UMB; Wendy Shaia, EdD, MSW, clinical assistant professor and executive director, Social Work Community Outreach Service, University of Maryland School of Social Work

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

The UMB Pulse Podcast  
"The UMB Pulse" podcast is a topic-driven show that shares interesting and engaging stories from around the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) and helps listeners stay up to date on changes, guidelines, and University events.

UPCOMING EPISODES

Oct. 7: Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Part 2  
GUEST: Diane Forbes Berthoud, PhD, MA, chief equity, diversity, and inclusion officer and vice president

Oct. 21: Donaldson Brown Riverfront Event Center  
GUEST: Jennifer Coolahan, business services specialist, Donaldson Brown

Learn more at umaryland.edu/pulse.
NEW ISSUE OF ‘1807’ CAPTIVATES FROM COVER TO COVER

The hazy sunrise, the soft collage of colors, the ethereal mood, and the leading lines conjure a feeling of peace on the cover of this year’s issue of 1807, the University of Maryland, Baltimore’s (UMB) art and literary journal. Likewise, the art within does not disappoint.

Sixty-seven artists’ creations were chosen for the third issue from over 235 pieces of artwork submitted, said Dana Rampolla, creative director and managing editor of 1807 and director of integrated marketing, Office of Communications and Public Affairs.

“I am most proud that each publication to date has resulted in a random representation of artists from across all of UMB,” Rampolla said. “For the third consecutive year, the artwork — chosen by a blind jury — is representative of UMB in its entirety: each school, alumni, affiliates, faculty, staff, students, University leadership, and the Southwest Baltimore neighbors we serve. Our constituency is diverse, and the final selections are equally as varied.”

The journal also showcases a variety of different types of art including photography, images of varied and visual arts, and written works. The engaging cover image, “Tranquil Morning,” is a photograph by Christopher Frisone, MSN, CRNA, a certified registered nurse anesthetist and alumnus of the University of Maryland School of Nursing.

Frisone said he was “absolutely floored” that his image was selected. The first UMB graduate to have artwork chosen for an 1807 cover, Frisone describes himself as a landscape photo hobbyist. His subdued sunrise image of what remains of a pier near Nags Head, N.C., spoke volumes to this year’s review team.

“The image was captured using a 10-stop neutral density filter to smooth out the large ocean waves,” said Frisone, who has been an amateur photographer for many years and is drawn to landscape portraiture.

Primarily a self-taught digital photographer, Frisone enjoys traveling with his wife, which affords him many quiet mornings and evenings to find solace in nature. He said he often finds himself looking for the “perfect shot” at sunrise and sunset, when the sun is low in the sky and provides the perfect warm light that photographers seek.

Frisone keeps busy working at Sinai Hospital and pulling double duty as a freelance nurse anesthetist. He is a member of the Baltimore Camera Club and says that membership and the camaraderie of photographic peers (novice to professional) help him nurture his passion for photographic excellence.

1807 editor-in-chief Jennifer B. Litchman, MA, senior vice president for external relations and special assistant to the president, extended warm congratulations to Frisone and all of the artists who took the time and had the courage to submit this year. Many submitted artwork created during and/or reflective of the COVID-19 pandemic and/or recent social or political strife.

In the foreword, Litchman wrote, “I think that we all deserve a hallelujah — for what we have been through, alone and together, and for how we have come together to endure the last year and a half, as a society, as a community, as a family. And for how art has helped transform our grief and isolation into a celebration of healing, renewal, and hope for the future.”

— UMB Staff
RENOVATED SUITES AFFIRM COMMITMENT TO STUDENT SUCCESS

The University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) has officially unveiled a renovated and reimagined space at the SMC Campus Center that's dedicated to student success, well-being, and inclusivity. The suites on the third floor include the Division of Student Affairs, Student Counseling Center, Intercultural Center, Student Food Pantry, and University Student Government Association (USGA).

“The vision statement for UMB Student Affairs is to advance the success of all students to be engaged and inclusive leaders,” Patty Alvarez, PhD, MS, assistant vice president, Student Affairs, said at a Sept. 9 ribbon-cutting event. “This renovation project has better positioned us to do just that.”

UMB leaders, faculty, students, and staff gathered in the SMC Campus Center’s second floor for the ceremonies, physically distanced and wearing face coverings per University policy, before heading to the third floor for ceremonial ribbon cuttings and a tour of the redesigned suites.

President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, praised the new space and noted that it included an expanded Student Counseling Center, which had been located in the Health Sciences and Human Services Library next door. He said the center’s expansion was well-timed because the COVID-19 pandemic has magnified the need for mental health services.

“The mental health part of this pandemic has been quite remarkable,” Jarrell said. “It’s pointed out disparities, and it’s pointed out vulnerabilities in all of us. I salute all of the services available in this beautiful new space. It’s going to continue to play a critical role in maintaining and improving the health and well-being of our students.”

Planning for the renovations began in 2017, under Jarrell’s predecessor, Jay A. Perman, MD. Now the chancellor of the University System of Maryland, Perman sent congratulations via videotaped remarks, noting that the project proved prescient, considering the pandemic’s health and economic challenges and the “racial reckoning” sparked by the murder of George Floyd in 2020.

“When I think of what these spaces contain — the Student Counseling Center, the Intercultural Center, the Student Food Pantry — it’s like you had a lens on the last year and a half and knew what was coming,” Perman said. “We knew we needed more counseling capacity, more food resources, more spaces for our underrepresented students, our vulnerable students.

“The fact that you’ve come through for these students is something to be incredibly proud of.”

A ribbon also was cut for the Intercultural Center, which launched in 2020 and is the byproduct of a task force created in 2018 based on feedback from University of Maryland School of Social Work students who advocated for support and resources for underrepresented students; undocumented students, faculty, and staff; and an increased focus on creating a more inclusive UMB community.

“The Intercultural Center will serve as a field placement site for social work students focused on social identity dialogues, and it will drive education initiatives that address student food insecurity,” Alvarez said. “The physical space will allow for the hosting of social identity and community-building initiatives as well as facilitate dialogue, share resources, and provide a safe space for historically underrepresented students.”

The Intercultural Center has worked with the UMB Police Department this year on pop-up food pantries that challenge the 30-pound boxes of shelf-stable food; a Student Food Security Fund was set up with the help of the Office of Philanthropy; and collaborations have been formed with Pompeian, Inc., and McCormick & Co. to supplement supplies received from the Maryland Food Bank.
Continued from previous page

“We’ve steadily increased our understanding of food insecurity at UMB through committees and surveys,” Alvarez said. “And we’ve been responsive to those needs, providing additional resources and creating partnerships inside and outside of the institution.”

Aishwarya Iyer, a University of Maryland School of Medicine MD/PhD student and president of USGA, was thankful that the student group maintained its dedicated space in the Student Affairs suite.

“Within this space, USGA holds small meetings between our officers, meets with students to discuss their ideas or concerns, and consistently thinks of ways to better advocate for students,” she said. “And, more importantly, it showcases the University’s commitment to fostering student leaders and listening to amplify their voices.”

Flavius R.W. Lilly, PhD, MA, MPH, vice provost, Academic and Student Affairs, and vice dean, University of Maryland Graduate School, said his primary focus is on student well-being. Offering expanded mental health services at the Student Counseling Center is critical to that mission, he added.

“In 2010 when I arrived, nationally around 7 percent of college students reported having a depressive episode in the past year,” Lilly said. “Now that number is around 20 percent. That’s a dramatic increase, and it was occurring before the pandemic. So, this is an important step toward addressing not just depression, but anxiety issues as well.

“We have a lot of people to thank for creating this amazing new space. It’s going to mean a lot to our students. I’m certain of it.”

— Lou Cortina

Read more and watch a video about this event at this link.

PHOTO BY MATTHEW D’AGOSTINO
AISHWARYA IYER, PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, SAYS SHE APPRECIATES UMB’S “COMMITMENT TO FOSTERING STUDENT LEADERS.”

2022 HEALTH BENEFITS
OPEN ENROLLMENT
OCT. 18 - NOV. 12

*Deadline on Nov. 12 is 5 p.m.

You must take action if you want to change plans, change coverage levels, enroll for the first time, or participate in or continue participation in a flexible spending account.

To enroll, employees must log in to SPS Workday using their SPS ID (W#). You can find your SPS ID (W#) in the Payroll Online Service Center system. Visit the Open Enrollment website below to access information regarding SPS Workday and actions required during this enrollment period.

www.umaryland.edu/open-enrollment

ATTRACT. ENGAGE. DEVELOP.
NEW POLICE CHIEF AIMS TO ‘CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY’

Thomas Leone, MSL, greets a University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) employee from behind the plexiglass at the SMC Campus Center. His eyes crinkle as he laughs underneath his mask. You may not expect to see UMB’s new chief of police checking IDs, but that’s exactly what Leone is doing.

“It’s important to me that I make time to connect with our community,” Leone says. “And if I can give a hard-working security officer a break, I’m going to do it.”

Leone was named chief of the UMB Police Department (UMBPD) on Sept. 21 after a nationwide search. He joined UMBPD in 2016 after a 20-year tenure with the Frederick County (Md.) Sheriff’s Office and had served as interim chief of police since June 2020. In May 2021, Leone graduated with a Master of Science degree in Homeland Security and Crisis Management Law from the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law.

Leone may have a new title, but he’s not new to UMB. His friendly personality and unique turns-of-phrases make him an approachable leader. Leone is often one of the first faces new students see at orientation.

“UMBPD is a different kind of police department,” Leone says. “Policing doesn’t have to be ‘how it’s always been done.’ We’re leading the way in community engagement. We’re going to work every day to learn and improve.”

UMBPD’s Community Outreach and Support Team (COAST) is a cornerstone for the department. Founded in 2018 by former chief Alice Cary and now under the supervision of Lt. Matthew Johnson, COAST focuses on programs such as the Police Athletic/Activities League, comfort K-9, and crisis and intervention outreach. As interim chief, Leone developed a partnership between UMBPD and the University of Maryland School of Social Work (UMSSW); interns and clinical certified social workers will bring needed resources to vulnerable populations beginning this fall. COAST was awarded the 2020 Maryland Chiefs of Police Association’s Exceptional Police Performance by a Unit/Team/Collaboration Award and the 2021 International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)/Walmart Leadership in Community Policing Award.

Over the past year, Leone has developed workgroups focusing on diversity, equity, and inclusion with members of the UMB community. The conversations he’s having are directly impacting and changing the department.

“It’s one thing to have these important discussions, but we can’t stop there. This workgroup means nothing if we don’t walk the walk,” Leone says. “There’s no magic cure to fix hundreds of years of systemic injustices. All we can do is work together to do better moving forward.”

One of these changes includes a robust training program for all UMBPD officers. While the state of Maryland requires just 18 hours of police training and weapons qualifications each year, every UMB police officer completed at least 40 hours of mandatory training in 2020. In 2021, that number rose to 68 hours of training. As a department, UMBPD has completed 4,996 hours of training in 2021.

All UMB police officers complete the Police Executive Research Forum 30 Guiding Principles for Use of Force training, with a focus on the sanctity of human life, de-escalation, critical decision-making, increased transparency, and accountability.
Additional training includes Pro-LGBTQ+ Policing, Anti-Bias Training for Law Enforcement, Red Folder Training (Assisting Students in Distress), and more.

Partnerships with UMB students, faculty, and staff also have been critical to the department’s success. Police officers and police communication operators are receiving mental health first aid training through the University of Maryland School of Nursing. Police officers are receiving Trauma-Informed Policing training with Kyla Liggett-Creel, PhD, LCSW-C, clinical assistant professor, UMSSW. Security supervisors are attending Workplace Mediation training with the Center for Dispute Resolution at the Carey School of Law. Experts from the UMB schools of medicine, pharmacy, and nursing, and the University of Maryland, College Park Department of Computer Science will partner with UMBPD for the Resilience Project, which provides officers with training and strategies to combat stress and trauma.

Under Leone’s leadership, UMBPD has achieved dual accreditation for professional excellence in public safety from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., and the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators. Improved operations deployments led to a 54.7 percent reduction in crime in 2020. Deployed body-worn cameras have led to an increase in departmental transparency. Leone also created mentorship and advancement opportunities for security officers to attend the police academy; those recruits graduated in September and have joined UMBPD as police officers.

“Being your new chief is an incredible honor,” Leone says. “We’ve already accomplished so much. I can’t wait to see what the future holds.”

— Carin Morrell
In celebrating Hispanic/Latinx Heritage Month, the University of Maryland, Baltimore’s (UMB) Intercultural Center explored the differences between the terms “Hispanic,” “Latino,” and “Latinx” on an episode of its “The Table” podcast and in an online dialogue Sept. 15.

The Intercultural Center’s leaders, director Courtney Jones Carney, DPA, MBA, and associate director Rosemary Ferreira, MEd, were joined on the podcast by Isabel Rambob, DDS, clinical assistant professor at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry. Ferreira led the Sept. 15 dialogue along with Sandra Quezada, MD, MS, associate professor, associate dean for admissions, and assistant dean for faculty diversity and inclusion at the University of Maryland School of Medicine.

“The term ‘Hispanic’ was first adopted by the U.S. government in the 1970s to describe people related to Spain or any Spanish-speaking country, particularly those from Latin America,” Ferreira, a native New Yorker who is of Dominican descent, said on the podcast. She added that before the umbrella term was created, people of Latin American descent were generally identified by their nationalities, such as Mexican or Puerto Rican, and were classified as white by the U.S. Census.

“The creation and inclusion of ‘Hispanic’ in the Census was a win for activists fighting for more access to resources in Spanish-speaking communities,” Ferreira added. “However, for others, because the definition of ‘Hispanic’ emphasizes a connection to Spain, the country responsible for colonizing most countries in Latin America, ‘Hispanic’ was rejected for the more inclusive ‘Latino.’ Emphasizing both geography and language, the term ‘Latino’ includes groups typically excluded from being considered Hispanic, such as Brazilians and Haitians.”

Ferreira explained that the term “Latinx” is gender-neutral, encompassing those who fall outside of the gender binary of man and woman. “Although it’s steadily becoming mainstream in academia and popular culture, the term has received heavy opposition by those who believe that the placement of the ‘x’ is difficult to pronounce for Spanish-speaking natives and corrupts the Spanish language,” she said.

Rambob, a native of Brazil, said when she came to the United States she would mark “Hispanic” on forms even though she didn’t speak Spanish. “But when they included ‘Latino,’ I was very comfortable to check that,” she said. “And now that they incorporate ‘Latinx,’ I really like that because it’s neutral and it’s very inclusive, though I understand that it’s problematic in a manner that it puts all different cultures from Latin America into one monolith block.”

In another virtual event Sept. 23, “Latinas en Baltimore: A Digital Storytelling Project,” Tania Lizarazo, PhD, associate professor at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, discussed a digital storytelling project that seeks to break stereotypes about immigration through the diverse experiences of Latinas living in Baltimore.

On Oct. 7 at noon, the Intercultural Center will host a virtual “Building our Pathways: Latinx Professionals Panel,” where professionals in the fields of medicine and social work will discuss their experiences in navigating their careers.

On Oct. 11 at 5 p.m., the Intercultural Center will host a virtual “Latinx Community Social Hour,” where UMB students, faculty, and staff can enjoy community-building activities that celebrate Latinx heritage and culture.
SCHOLARS INSPIRED BY BECTON DICKINSON INTERNSHIP

The final year of high school is a pivotal time for students to enhance their college applications with extracurricular activities and unique experiences. That’s why Ayishat Yussuf, Markia Eubanks, Princaya Sanders, and Jaden Buggs — members of the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) CURE Scholars Program’s first cohort — spent their summer at a rewarding, professional internship with Becton Dickinson (BD), a Fortune 500 company that specializes in medical technology.

“I am blessed because many people don’t have opportunities like this at such a young age,” said Yussuf, a 12th-grader at Baltimore City College. “Many people are doing research like this when they’re much older, so having this experience before even graduating high school feels pretty good.”

The scholars were connected to this paid internship opportunity through the final leg of the UMB CURE Scholars Program, Career Navigator, which is designed to prepare 11th- and 12th-grade students for college through mentorship, SAT prep, professional internships, and college and financial aid application support.

During the eight-week internship, the scholars met with their BD mentors virtually to learn more about their respective topics, ask questions, and check in on their research progress.

Yussuf and Eubanks worked together researching how human papillomavirus and cervical cancer diagnostics and screenings were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Under the mentorship of Nikos Pavlidis, MSc, vice president and general manager of molecular diagnostics and women’s health at BD Lifesciences, they were able to identify barriers to access and provide recommendations for mitigating those barriers.

“I was sincerely impressed with their skill and how quickly they could learn these sophisticated concepts,” Pavlidis said. “When they presented their research, they were confident and professional, and they did a fantastic job.”

Sindhushree Raghunandan, PhD, a staff engineer at BD, echoed Pavlidis’ sentiments about her own CURE Scholar mentees, Sanders and Buggs. They spent their internship studying data science, cybersecurity, and computer-aided design and drafting (CADD).

“For Buggs, a 12th-grader at Green Street Academy, the internship inspired him to learn more about CADD and pursue engineering and design in college. He said that at the beginning of the internship he felt intimidated by computer coding, but with the help of his mentors he was able to tackle the concept very quickly.

“I truly didn’t think I was going to get it on my first try,” Buggs said. “But when I did it by myself, I was so excited that I got it right. I told my parents about it, and they were proud of me, too, which just hyped me up about my future in engineering.”

The internship ended with a formal presentation from the scholars about their research and what they learned during their internship. They presented their projects to CURE faculty and staff as well as their mentors and other professional researchers at BD.

“This is truly a jumping-off point for their academic and professional journeys,” Raghunandan said. “Exploration early in your career is pivotal to being able to find what it is that you really get excited about, and this has given them an opportunity to be able to explore at an early age.”

— Jena Frick

Read more and watch a video at this link.