LIVING OUR CORE VALUES

The University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) consists of 6.5 million gross square feet of space across 55 buildings on 65 acres in West Baltimore. We have seven amazing schools — dental, graduate, law, medicine, nursing, pharmacy, and social work — over 7,200 students, and more than 7,000 faculty and staff. These are all great figures, but is that what makes us UMB?

What binds us together is a shared mission — to improve the human condition — and our unique culture. I’m surrounded by creative people, people committed to improving the health and well-being of our community, and folks willing to step up when asked. This is a place where I want every person to have a sense of belonging and feel supported to succeed. We create that place together, at all levels of the institution. By living our core values, we create the UMB culture that we want for today and tomorrow.

From the 2022-2026 strategic planning process, we heard the overwhelming response that our core values should evolve, and so they have. They are:

- **Respect and Integrity**: We value each other and hold ourselves accountable for acting ethically and transparently using compassion and empathy.
- **Well-Being and Sustainability**: We care about the welfare of our people, planet, communities, and University.
- **Equity and Justice**: We embrace and are committed to diversity, and we value inclusive and just communities. We oppose racism and oppression in all their forms.
- **Innovation and Discovery**: We imagine and explore new and improved ways to accomplish our mission through education, research, clinical care, and service.

We know that core values can’t just be words — they require action and certain behaviors by every person at UMB. To that end, the Core Values Implementation Committee has met over the past few months to help define what it means to live out the values. Creating the culture that makes UMB what we want it to be is every person’s charge. Denise Lee Yohn shared the following in her article “Company Culture Is Everyone’s Responsibility” in Harvard Business Review:

A new culture-building approach is already in place at some organizations, one in which everyone in the organization is responsible. Importantly, this model doesn’t relegate culture-building to an amorphous concept that everyone influences but no one leads or is accountable for. Shared responsibility for culture throughout an organization involves different people and functions within the organization playing different roles in developing and maintaining the culture.

April is Core Values Month at UMB, and I want each of you to take time this month to review the core values, look at the examples of how to act on them, and use them to guide your decisions.

We develop and maintain a strong, welcoming UMB culture by living our core values, using them to guide our everyday interactions. To that end, the implementation committee has put together language that explains how to be a catalyst for each core value [at this link](#). For example, one way we live out Respect and Integrity at UMB is by promoting open communication. That means in our day-to-day interactions with anyone at UMB, we are honest and transparent, speak with sincerity and act with compassion, and learn and practice good listening. This type of behavior should happen from the front door of our buildings to the boardrooms and classrooms where we meet.

It was the late Roy E. Disney of Walt Disney Co. who said, “When your values are clear to you, making decisions becomes easier.” April is Core Values Month at UMB, and I want each of you to take time this month to review the core values, look at the examples of how to act on them, and use them to guide your decisions. Together, we are UMB, and together, we make UMB what we want it to be in the future.

Sincerely,

Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS
PRESIDENT
Virtual Face to Face with President Bruce Jarrell ended its nearly two-year run as a bi-monthly program in March. The program will transition to periodic episodes that will be scheduled when President Jarrell has impactful topics to discuss Universitywide.

Read more about the transition at this link.

Watch previous episodes at this link.
Patty Alvarez, PhD, MS, assistant vice president of student affairs, co-facilitated “Navigating the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) Annual Conference as a Vice President of Student Affairs (VPSA)” on March 20 and the “VPSA Colleague Conversation on Advancing an Anti-Racist Agenda” on March 21 as part of the 2022 NASPA Annual Conference in Baltimore.

Rosemary Ferreira, MEd, associate director, Intercultural Center, and Gregory Brightbill, MBA, MEd, associate director of student leadership and involvement, served on the Baltimore Experience Committee and helped organize the opening reception of the 2022 National Association of Student Personnel Administrators Annual Conference.

Courtney J. Jones Carney, DPA, MBA, executive director of intercultural leadership and engagement and director, Intercultural Center, served on “The Rise of Racist Rhetoric: Implications for Education and Democracy” panel during the Conference of Minority Public Administrators Annual Conference on March 4.

Qoot Alkhubaizi, MS, ABGD, program director, Advanced Education in General Dentistry; Howard Strassler, DMD, professor, and Mary Anne Melo, DDS, MSc, PhD, interim chair, all from the Department of General Dentistry, co-authored “Errors in Light-Emitting Diodes Positioning When Curing Bulk Fill and Incremental Composites: Impact on Properties After Aging,” which was published in the Journal of Restorative Dentistry & Endodontics.

Aleah Cho, DDS, assistant general practice director, and Nisha Ganesh, DDS, MEd, vice chair, both from the Department of General Dentistry, co-authored “Dental Students’ Perception of a Blended Learning Approach to Clinic Orientation,” which was published in the Journal of Dental Education.

Mary Anne Melo, DDS, MSc, PhD, interim chair, Department of General Dentistry; Huakun Xu, MS, PhD, FADM, professor and division chief, Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering; and Michael Weir, PhD, research assistant professor and lab manager, Department of Advanced Oral Therapeutics, were among the co-authors of “Magnetic-Responsive Photosensitizer Nanoplatform for Optimized Inactivation of Dental Caries-Related Biofilms: Technology Development and Proof of Principle,” which was published in ACS Nano.
**GRADUATE SCHOOL**

Christina Cestone, PhD, associate professor and executive director, UMB Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning, and Michelle Pearce, PhD, professor and program director, Integrative Health and Wellness Graduate Certificate, co-authored “How an Online Teaching Community Supports and Equips Interprofessional Graduate Faculty,” which was published in the *Future Healthcare Journal*.

Michelle Pearce, PhD, professor and program director, Integrative Health and Wellness Graduate Certificate, wrote “Professional Development Coaching for Health Professions Graduate Faculty: A Pilot Implementation,” which was published in the *Journal of Continuing Education in the Health Professions*.

**CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW**

Kristina Alayan, JD, associate professor and associate dean for library and technology, was a panelist for the Private Law Librarians and Information Professionals 2022 Diversity Summit: The Power of Intersectionality on Feb. 25.

Sarah Everhart, JD, senior research associate and legal specialist, Agriculture Law Education Initiative, was quoted in “Court

**SUMMARY**

Christina Cestone, PhD; and Gerald Kayingo, PhD, MBA, PA-C, DFAAPA, all from the Physician Assistant Leadership and Learning Academy, co-authored “Forecasting the Physician Assistant/Associate workforce: 2020–2035,” which was published in the *Bay Journal* on Feb. 7.

Donald Gifford, JD, professor, co-authored “2022-2 Cumulative Supplement to Harper, James and Gray on Torts.”

Michael Greenberger, JD, professor and founding director, Center for Health and Homeland Security, was quoted in “Why the Impact of Russian Cyberattacks on Ukraine Could Be Felt Around the World,” which was published in *Forbes* on Feb. 24.

Kathleen Hoke, JD, professor and director, Network for Public Health Law, Eastern Region, was interviewed about mask mandate lawsuits in Maryland and Delaware by WBOC-TV of Salisbury, Md., on Feb. 18.

Paula Monopoli, JD, professor and director, Women, Leadership,
Will Moon, JD, associate professor, presented “Anonymous Companies” at the International Economic Law Colloquium hosted by Brooklyn Law School on Feb. 28.

Robert Percival, JD, professor and director, Environmental Law Program, wrote, “The U.S. Supreme Court and Environmental Law,” which was published in the American Law Institute’s Environmental Law 2022 Continuing Legal Education Program.

Amanda Pustilnik, JD, professor, co-authored “Mind the Gap: Lessons Learned from Neurorights,” which was published online in Science & Diplomacy on Feb 28.

Maneka Sinha, JD, assistant professor, was a guest on the “The Untold Story: Criminal Injustice” podcast Feb 22.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

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

Sally Adebamowo, MBBS, MSc, ScD, associate professor, and Clement Adebamowo, BM, ChB, ScD, FWACS, FACS, professor, both from the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, were among the co-authors of “Dietary Intake and Cancer in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Critical Review of Epidemiological Studies,” which was published in Nutrition and Cancer on Feb. 1.

Kathryn Hughes Barry, PhD, MPH, assistant professor, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, and Shisi He, MS, a molecular epidemiology doctoral student, were featured on ABC-TV’s Good Morning America and other news outlets about their study that found avoiding weight gain in adulthood may help lower the risk of developing colon cancer.

Ilia Baskakov, PhD, professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, received a one-year, $250,000 grant from the Infectious Diseases Society of America Foundation for “Infectious Etiology of Late Onset Alzheimer’s Disease.”

Andrea Berry, MD, associate professor, Department of Pediatrics, received a one-year, $1,077,650 grant from the National Institutes of Health for “Social, Ethical, and Behavioral Factors in the Return to School Among Underserved Communities in Maryland.”

Elizabeth Clayborne, MD, MA, adjunct assistant professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, was interviewed on CNN in January regarding the challenges of being a parent with children under 5 years old during the pandemic and about advocating for hazard pay and student loan forgiveness for front-line health care workers.

Nisita Dutta, MSE, a student in the Medical Scientist Training Program, received the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation’s prestigious Gates Cambridge Scholarship to fund her PhD studies at Cambridge University in England.

Howard Eisenberg, MD, professor, Department of Neurosurgery, was interviewed by the Focused Ultrasound Foundation for the article “Investigator Profile,” which was published online Jan. 13.
Eric Goldwaser, DO, PhD, resident, Department of Psychiatry, received the 2022 Society of Biological Psychiatry Domestic Travel Fellowship Award for his potential for scholarly growth in biological psychiatry and clinical neuroscience.

Scott Jerome, DO, FACC, FASNC, FSCCT, assistant professor, Department of Medicine, presented the lecture “Cardiovascular Health Update: A Broad Look,” to the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory on Feb. 3.

Stanley Liu, MD, assistant professor, Department of Medicine, was selected to attend and participate in the American College of Cardiology 2022 Rick Nishimura, MD, MACC, and Patrick T. O’Gara, MD, MACC, Emerging Faculty Leadership Academy on May 1-3 in Washington, D.C.

Mervyn Monteiro, PhD, professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, received a $2.2 million RFI grant for the first three-year portion of a five-year, $3.654 million competing continuation grant from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke and National Institute on Aging for “Mechanistic Studies and Therapeutics for ALS/FTD Linked to UBQLN2 Mutations.”

Vincent Njar, PhD, professor, Department of Pharmacology, was elected to the rank of National Academy of Inventors (NAI) Fellow by the NAI Fellows Selection Committee and Board of Directors.

Gloria Reeves, MD, associate professor, Department of Psychiatry, was appointed to the Innovation, Research, and Education Committee of the University of Maryland Medical Center’s Board of Directors to help direct innovative research and education missions.

James Waltz, PhD, associate professor, Department of Psychiatry, was promoted to full membership in the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology.

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Four UMSON faculty members were named Maryland state New Nurse Faculty Fellows, two faculty members have been awarded Nurse Educator Doctoral Grants (NEDG) for Practice and Dissertation Research, and Joan Davenport, PhD ’00, RN, received a Nurse Faculty Annual Recognition Award. All awards are part of the Nurse Support Program II, a statewide initiative funded by the Health Services Cost Review Commission and administered by the Maryland Higher Education Commission. The New Nurse Faculty Fellows are Laura Allen, MA, MS ’15, BSN ’06, RN; Trina Kumodzi, PhD, RN, CCRN; Ngozi Osuagwu, DNP ’19, MS ’08, BSN ’03, CRNP, PNP, FNP; and Catherine Hood, DNP ’18, FNP-C. The NEDG recipients are Richard P. Conley Jr., DNP ’20, CRNA, and Claire Regan, DNP ’20, AGPCNP-BC.
Hershaw Davis Jr., MSN, BSN ’09, RN, was appointed to the inaugural Emergency Nurses Association Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee.

Megan Doede, PhD, RN, assistant professor, wrote “Homelessness: What’s the Emergency?” which was published in February on the Journal of Emergency Nursing’s “On the Other Side of the Rails: Exploring the Heart of Nursing” blog.

Claire Regan, DNP, AGPCNP-BC, assistant professor, co-authored “Cardiac Rehabilitation for Older Adults: Current Evidence and Future Potential,” which was published in Expert Review of Cardiovascular Therapy in February.

Ebere Onukwugha, PhD, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, and executive director, Pharmaceutical Research Computing, was named program committee co-chair for the 2022 annual meeting of ISPOR: The Professional Society for Health Economics and Outcomes Research.

Iulia Opran, Chenchu Vignesh Pernati, and Belinda Tamrakar, all second-year students, won the Maryland Center of Excellence in Regulatory Science and Innovation’s 10th annual “America’s Got Regulatory Science Talent” competition for their proposal to develop a QR code for over-the-counter acetaminophen and prescription medication.

Lori Russell, a student in the MS in Palliative Care Program and a palliative care nurse coordinator at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center-Western Maryland, received the Maryland Rural Health Association’s 2021 Outstanding Rural Health Practitioner Award.

Julia Slejko, PhD, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, received a one-year, $16,859 contract from the National Health Council for “Recommendations for Patient-Centered Value Assessment.”

Victor Smith, moving and storage specialist, was named UMB’s February Employee of the Month for being an integral part of the University’s COVID-19 response and a reassuring presence on campus during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ifeanyi Egbuyike-Chukwuma, PharmD, BCPS, BCACP; Kristen Fink, PharmD, BCPS, BCACP, CDGES; and Patricia A. Ross, PharmD, MEdHP, BCACP, received 2021 Preceptor of the Year Awards from the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.

Andrew Coop, PhD, associate dean of academic affairs and professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was named to the UMB Leaders in Education: Academy of Presidential Scholars Council of Schools.

Julie Jeong, a third-year student, received the 2022 Boyle Family Scholarship from the American Pharmacists Association Foundation.

Julia Slejko, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, won the Maryland Center of Excellence in Regulatory Science and Innovation’s 10th annual “America’s Got Regulatory Science Talent” competition for her proposal to develop a QR code for over-the-counter acetaminophen and prescription medication.

Ester Villalonga Olives, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, was named an Early Investigator Advancement Program Scholar by the National Institutes of Health.
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Kerri Evans, PhD, assistant professor, was among the co-authors of “Unaccompanied Children’s Education in the United States: Service Provider’s Perspective on Challenges and Support Strategies,” which was published in Cultura Educación y Sociedad.

Jodi Frey, PhD, professor, and Dale Masi, PhD, professor emeritus, were among the co-authors of “Data Game Changer: Current Utilization Figures Inaccurate,” which was published in the Journal of Employee Assistance.

Ericka Lewis, PhD, assistant professor; Bethany Lee, PhD, professor; Richard Barth, PhD, professor; and Kim Williams, a PhD student, were among the co-authors of “Relationships Matter: Exploring the Implementation of the Quality Parenting Initiative and the Foster Parent Experience,” which was published in Child and Family Social Work.

Judy L. Postmus, PhD, ACSW, dean and professor, was selected as one of 64 members of the 2022 class of The Leadership, a nonprofit committed to strengthening Baltimore by developing and connecting the region’s civic leaders.

Roderick Rose, PhD, assistant professor, was among the co-authors of “The Impact of Strong Families, Strong Communities on Relationship Functioning in Low-Income African American and Hispanic Individuals: Findings from a Federally Funded Randomized Control Trial,” which was published in Family Process.

Theda Rose, PhD, associate professor, was among the co-authors of “Ethnic-Racial Socialization as a Moderator of Associations Between Discrimination and Psychosocial Well-Being Among African American and Caribbean Black Adolescents,” which was published in Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology.

Corey Shdaimah, PhD, LLM, professor, and her two co-authors received the 2022 Most Promising New Textbook Award from the Textbook & Academic Authors Association for “Social Welfare Policy in a Changing Society.”

Melissa Smith, PhD, associate professor, and Wendy Shaia, PhD, clinical assistant professor and executive director, Social Work Community Outreach Service, were among the co-authors of “Experiences of Personal and Vicarious Victimization for Black Adults with Serious Mental Illnesses: Implications for Treating Socially-Engineered Trauma,” which was published in Smith College Studies of Social Work.

Darren Whitfield, PhD, associate professor, will lead the study “Project Transcendence: HIV PrEP Uptake, Use, and Adherence Among Black Transgender Women,” which has received more than $351,000 in funding from Gilead Sciences.

Michelle Zabel, MSS, assistant dean and director, and Marlene Matarese, PhD, clinical associate professor and deputy director, both from The Institute for Innovation and Implementation, were among the co-authors of “Evaluation of a Systems-Level Technical Assistance Program to Support Youth with Complex Behavioral Health Needs,” which was published in Evaluation and Program Planning.
WELL-BEING AND SUSTAINABILITY
APRIL 2022

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGIC PLAN OUTLINES GOALS FOR 2022-2026

The University of Maryland, Baltimore’s (UMB) Office of Sustainability is up and running, getting its word out, and beginning to make an impact. Over the past eight months, the office has put together a three-person team, formed four advisory working groups, launched a monthly newsletter, and finalized UMB’s 2022-2026 Sustainability Strategic Plan.

The strategic plan, which was developed by UMB students, faculty, and staff with feedback from groups across the University, expanded on a draft produced by the former UMB Sustainability Committee. It outlines overarching sustainability goals and strategies for the next five years and will guide sustainability initiatives at UMB, especially as legislative requirements evolve based on changes in Maryland law.

In October and December 2021, the strategic plan was shared with various UMB stakeholders and groups as well as Baltimore’s Office of Sustainability to gain feedback, then was presented to President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, in February. The plan has four focus areas — Utilities and Emissions; Campus Planning and Design; Waste and Procurement; and Education and Engagement — that include goals, sub-goals, metrics targets, challenges, and more.

Among the goals: minimizing greenhouse gas emissions while aiming to reach campus carbon neutrality by 2050; incorporating climate resilience considerations into campus planning and operations; promoting source reduction, reuse, recycling, and composting across the University; and ensuring that students leave UMB with an understanding of climate change and knowledge about sustainability.

“Many of these goals are metric-driven, and we’ll be tracking the progress toward those goals,” said Anna Borgerding, MA, who leads the Office of Sustainability as director of operational excellence and sustainability. “For example, one of our goals is to increase UMB’s renewable energy source percentage to 65 percent by 2030. We are currently at 10 percent renewable energy from existing power purchase agreements made through the University System of Maryland’s energy consortium. We are researching different renewable energy options on and off campus.”

Elizabeth Main, who joined the office in September 2021 as associate director of sustainability, says the office’s goals regarding outreach, engagement, and awareness might be more difficult to measure but are no less important.

“A preliminary measure of success for these goals is name recognition,” Main said. “As a new office on campus, one of our first initiatives is to build awareness for what’s already going on and to build partnerships across UMB, so tracking metrics like the number of campus groups we collaborate with is a good way for us to show progress in areas that are less data-driven.”

Regarding such outreach to the UMB community, the office has launched a monthly newsletter that includes news, events, green tips, and resources (subscribe here); established a website; and will share more regular updates via Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram — @SustainableUMB.
COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY

The office is building upon a commitment to sustainability made by Jarrell that serves as a catalyst to move UMB toward a more sustainable future.

“UMB recognizes its responsibility for careful and considered stewardship of the built environment and is committed to preserving the world’s natural resources,” Jarrell said in detailing his commitment. “The University is in a unique position of leadership and influence in the community to serve as a model to promote progressive ideals in the areas of energy conservation, the elimination of global warming emissions, and the use of green design.”

This commitment is solidified in the University’s 2022-2026 Strategic Plan, which features the integration of new core values that include Well-Being and Sustainability and the statement: “We care about the welfare of our people, planet, communities, and University.”

“Incorporating sustainability into our operations through policies and mandates can obviously have an enormous impact, but what’s equally important is a change in culture,” Main said. “Having sustainability as one of UMB’s new core values is an excellent first step in embedding sustainability into the fabric of our University and starting to shift our community’s mindsets and behaviors in support of our shared planet.”

THE PANDEMIC’S IMPACT

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a profound effect on UMB’s sustainability efforts, Borgerding says. In fact, the office is a byproduct of UMB’s Energy Reduction Team, which was formed by the Office of Administration and Finance (A&F) in 2020 and tasked with reducing campus energy use during the pandemic. The team implemented innovative building system programming that resulted in more than $2 million in savings in utilities and operating costs. A portion of these funds was used to create the new office under A&F’s Office of Facilities and Operations.

“The pandemic has created a sense of urgency for more visible and impactful sustainable actions,” Borgerding said. “The COVID-19 crisis made us change how we operate, work, and live. With those changes, we could see more clearly the impact those decisions were having on the environment and our health. The Office of Sustainability has received support from all over UMB, showing an overdue appetite for environmentally focused resources and change at our University.

“We also are seeing several bills being proposed this session in the Maryland legislature that are highlighting the need for more aggressive action toward carbon neutrality and waste reduction,” she added. “UMB has a great opportunity to advance its mission in a sustainable manner. Our goal is to assist the University and each department within it to achieve their goals, and to do it in a way that has a positive impact on people and the planet.”

ADVICE AND LEADERSHIP

The office has formed four working groups — Reduction; Resiliency; Engagement and Education; and Green Labs — that include students, faculty, and staff and will help provide direction and leadership to UMB’s sustainability efforts.

“The groups meet every other month and are asked to provide feedback and conduct research between meetings,” Borgerding said. “For example, the Green Labs Working Group is reviewing other green labs programs at higher education peer institutions and identifying ways to engage labs and principal investigators in our sustainability programs.”

UMB students have shown a particular interest in the sustainability mission, and nine are participating in the working groups, says Angela Ober, senior specialist of sustainability, who joined UMB in August 2021 and is the third member of the office’s team.

“Environmentally minded student organizations have reached out to us since we’ve formed, and we hope to continue to build those relationships,” Ober said. “As our office continues to build momentum, we hope to reach more students whether they are involved in environmental initiatives at UMB or not.”

— Lou Cortina

Read the 2022-2026 Sustainability Strategic Plan at this link. 🌍
Throughout April, please stop by a table in the lobby of your UMB building to learn about the University’s new set of core values, share which of the values speaks to you the most, and win some swag.

The tables will be set up Tuesdays and Thursdays between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on the following dates:

- **April 5:** SMC Campus Center lobby
- **April 7:** School of Pharmacy lobby
- **April 12:** School of Law lobby
- **April 14:** School of Nursing lobby
- **April 19:** School of Dentistry lobby
- **April 21:** School of Social Work atrium
- **April 26:** Health Sciences Research Facility II lobby
- **April 28:** Lexington Building lobby

**RESPECT and INTEGRITY | WELL-BEING and SUSTAINABILITY**  
**EQUITY and JUSTICE | INNOVATION and DISCOVERY**

#UMBtotheCore  
umaryland.edu/corevalues
JARRELL UPDATES UMB ON DEAN SEARCHES, CORE VALUES MONTH

University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, highlighted the University’s search for two new deans, its updated core values, and the status of COVID-19 during his first in-person President’s Q&A on March 22.

“It’s nice to be here in person. I’ve been coming in pretty much every day, and it just feels very good to me to be here. I feel like I connect with people again,” he told the crowd of about 70 in the Health Sciences Research Facility III lobby.

He added that while COVID-19 levels are low, the University, which had lifted its mask mandate and restrictions on gatherings three weeks earlier, continues to keep a close eye on the situation.

Jarrell updated the community on the dean searches for the University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM) and the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law during the hybrid event, which was also watched by about 50 people on Webex. Four candidates recently appeared at town halls for the UMSOM dean position, and town halls were being planned for the Maryland Carey Law dean job.

“We don’t have a deal until we have a deal, but I hope soon to be able to announce a new dean of medicine, and that’ll be a very exciting time,” Jarrell said.

Jarrell also spoke about UMB’s updated core values, which will be celebrated in April as Core Values Month: Respect and Integrity; Well-Being and Sustainability; Equity and Justice; and Innovation and Discovery.

“It’s not just about what we stand for, it’s how we behave. And so there will be a major initiative to talk about how do we live up to these core values? And I think that’s a wonderful way to look at this,” he said.

Jarrell highlighted several other initiatives related to the core values, introducing the director of the new Office of Sustainability, Anna Borgerding, MA, whose team has put together a strategic plan on how to approach and promote sustainability at UMB. (See story, Page 9)

“There are a number of things on that list that I think you should be aware of about how we’re going to reduce our fossil fuel use, how we’re going to get more electric cars, and how we can reduce our greenhouse gases,” said Jarrell, adding that he’d like to see the University’s fleet of cars be all electric.

He also provided an update on the work of the 1807 Commission on Slavery and Racism, a group of leaders outside of UMB tasked with evaluating research into the names of University buildings and providing recommendations, as necessary, on the appropriate reparative actions UMB should consider.

Jarrell said the commission received a report on the names, but it was deemed unsatisfactory.

“We don’t have an answer for you yet, because the results were not conclusive, not reliable,” he said. “We’re in the midst of looking for a second research organization to look at the names on our buildings and give us additional information.”
Jarrell then took wide-ranging questions, which he and other University leaders answered, from audience members in-person and online, touching on topics such as COVID-19 vaccines and trials and telework.

An audience member asked when it will be time for another COVID-19 booster.

“This is a very valid question that I think most of America is thinking about,” said Wilbur Chen, MD, MS, professor of medicine and chief of the adult clinical studies section at the Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health (CVD) at UMSOM. “My best projection is that we will probably have to have some sort of booster in time for the fall/winter. Think of it like something that coincides with a flu shot.”

Jarrell, who participated in CVD’s Moderna vaccine trial, asked Chen to talk about the needs for current trials. Chen said the National Institutes of Health is planning studies for additional booster doses that address COVID-19 variants such as Delta.

“We’re still looking at healthy volunteers. We still want to continue to look at older adults, children, people who have underlying medical conditions, because that’s where COVID hits the hardest,” Chen added.

There were several questions about the University’s telework policy. Results of a Staff Senate survey indicated that many employees want to telework as much as possible.

“We’ve taken the approach that the University isn’t all-knowing and all-seeing on this, that it needs to be the individual school to determine what makes the most sense in that school,” Jarrell said. “We have and will continue to rely on the schools to make this determination about what’s in the best interest of them and their workers.”

He added that there is an appeal process in place for employees. Dawn M. Rhodes, DBA, MBA, senior vice president and chief business and finance officer, called the telework policy flexible.

“The way it is being implemented in your specific unit may be what you’re frustrated with. But your frustration shouldn’t be targeted at the policy because it does allow for a broad range of agreements,” she said.

Roger J. Ward, EdD, JD, MSL, MPA, provost, executive vice president, and dean of the Graduate School, also pointed out that the telework policy issues are not unique to UMB, because “higher education is grappling with what we have learned through COVID.”

“We’re working through a fundamental shift and change in the way we always worked. And that is going to have an impact on our culture and the way we engage with our employees. So I just encourage people to be patient, to exercise some grace,” he said. “We are trying to, as quickly as we can, be a model institution as it relates to the flexibility we extend to employees to telework. We have to find our way, because our culture is important. We have to come up with policies and practices that are consistent with those core values.”

— Jen Badie
WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH

APRIL 2022

ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM ADDRESSES POST-PANDEMIC WORLD

University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, welcomed nearly 300 registrants to UMB’s Women’s History Month Symposium on March 9 with a look back and a look forward. And as has been the case for two years, the COVID-19 pandemic was central to the message.

“I know all of us have seen that the pandemic has been difficult,” Jarrell said. “And I believe that it’s been particularly difficult for working women, those of you at this symposium, and many others throughout UMB. But we’ve made it this far, and we’ve survived. And that in itself is a cause for celebration. But I know you will all agree surviving is not our main objective. Our objective is to thrive and to have a culture that advantages all of our members.”

Jarrell’s remarks kicked off the symposium, “Retool and Refuel Your Career in the Post-Pandemic Era,” a virtual event that was sponsored by the UMBrella Group. He was followed by Jennifer B. Litchman, MA, senior vice president for external affairs, who introduced the morning keynote speaker.

Litchman is the founder and chair of UMBrella, which works to support the success of women and those who identify as women at UMB by helping them achieve their personal and professional goals, enhancing their leadership skills, and championing women at all levels of the organization.

“We are here because we are curious about how to retool and refuel our careers in a post-pandemic era,” Litchman said. “It might not quite be post-pandemic today, but that day will come, and there’s no time like the present to prepare for it.”

Litchman described the morning keynote speaker, Tashni-Ann Dubroy, PhD, MBA, executive vice president and chief operating officer at Howard University, as a “fast-rising star in the higher education community.”

At Howard, Dubroy oversees areas including facilities management, information technology, campus safety, and university strategy. Before joining Howard, she was the president of Shaw University in Raleigh, N.C., where she was named Female President of the Year by HBCU Digest, 2017 CEO of the Year in the Triangle region, and one of the “40 Under 40: Excellence in Leadership” honorees by the Triangle Business Journal.

“But I don’t want it to seem as if I’ve only had successes,” Dubroy said. “I’ve had a lot of failures, too. And I want to talk about how it is that I’ve bounced back from them and maintained a character of resilience that has allowed me to progress.”

Dubroy, who emigrated from Jamaica at 17, found her love for chemistry in the ninth grade, encouraged by a young teacher and many trips to the library for her own research after struggling with the concept of a mole, a unit of measurement used by chemists.

“My life rotates around chemistry, even to this day, because I’m still using the analytical thinking that has been infused in me over the years as I face the various levels of obtaining a PhD in chemistry. I’ve used chemistry in academia, in my family. I’ve used it in the cosmetology industry. I’ve used it in entrepreneurship. Chemistry has been good to me.”

Dubroy relayed her struggles and triumphs, from being a bench chemist for chemical company giant BASF, to co-founding Tea and Honey Blends, a hair care company that manufactured and retailed natural hair care products, to becoming president of her alma mater at 34, to her current position at Howard. As an entrepreneur and an academic, she kept many notebooks reflecting on lessons she’s learned, among them: sometimes business deals are made on the golf course and not in the boardroom, and a woman will be judged by her clothing in an interview whereas a man’s attire is often overlooked or forgiven.

TASHNI-ANN DUBROY (LEFT) AND GLORIA MAYFIELD BANKS DELIVERED KEYNOTE SPEECHES DURING THE VIRTUAL WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH SYMPOSIUM.
“There’s one theme that I want everybody here to understand, and it is that I believe in the power of positivity,” Dubroy said. “There is no challenge that I’ve ever come across and there is no failure that I’ve ever had without being able to turn it for the good. A door closes, another one opens.”

In the afternoon, attendees heard from Gloria Mayfield Banks, MBA, a motivational success strategist and entrepreneur who was born in Detroit and overcame dyslexia, domestic violence, and a painful divorce.

Banks began her career as a sales representative for IBM and later joined Stratus Computers as a manufacturing marketing manager. She went on to become assistant director of admissions at Harvard Business School. In 1988, Banks began selling Mary Kay products to supplement her income. Within a year, she set company sales records and, within a few years, her business had grown to over $24 million in retail sales and a sales group of more than 6,000 consultants.

Her ascent to national sales director was accomplished faster than anyone else in the company’s 50-year history. In addition to her position with Mary Kay, Banks is an internationally renowned motivational speaker and sales trainer, communications consultant, and one of the founding partners of Charisma Factor, Inc., a corporate event planning company.

Noting how women tend to feel they must be superheroes at home, work, and in their communities, Banks encouraged attendees to block out distractions and focus on spending the afternoon on their own confidence-building journeys.

“We’re retooling, and we are refueling, and I think this is a perfect time to do so. So, I want you to relax,” Banks said. “We’re always doing different things all the time. So, we have to be reminded to stay present. We have to be reminded that this it’s OK for you to take this time for just you. It’s OK for you to refuel, to retool, to find out what it is that you might want to do to go to the next level.”

Banks describes herself as a confidence-building expert. She reminded attendees that building confidence never happens in a linear fashion. Rather, it is something that requires constant attention.

“You get to a place, you build your confidence, and — bam! — you end up in another place,” she said. “And then you have to rebuild the confidence again, and you rebuild the confidence again, and you rebuild the confidence again. So, what I talk about is becoming super bad all day long.”

The symposium also featured five breakout sessions with topics such as “The Great Invitation: New Year, New You, and a New Job, Too!” and “Heels of Power: Boosting Your Professional Presence and Influence,” and closed with a workshop that featured a series of breathing and stretching exercises.

“What an amazing symposium facilitated by intelligent and inspiring women,” said attendee Tierra Major Kearny, prevention and outreach program coordinator, UMB Student Counseling Center. “Tashni-Ann Dubroy gave us the seed that we could be both entrepreneurs and work in higher education all while wearing our high heels. Gloria Mayfield Banks reminded us to embrace our gifts and that there is enough abundance for everyone, we just have to go and get it. … I left the symposium feeling ready to take on the world.”

— Mary Therese Phelan

Read more about the event and watch the keynote speeches at this link.

**2022 UMBRELLA AWARD WINNERS**

The UMBrella Award winners were announced during this year’s Women’s History Month Symposium, recognizing the contributions made by individuals who espouse the UMBrella Group’s mission and goals:

**PERSON OF THE YEAR — ON THE RISE**

Carin Morrell, MA
Public Information Officer,
Office of Emergency Management and Police
Department, UMB

**PERSON OF THE YEAR — LEADING THE WAY**

Thelma Wright, MD, JD
Assistant Professor,
Department of Anesthesiology, School of Medicine

**CHAMPION OF THE YEAR**

Patty Alvarez, PhD, MS
Assistant Vice President of
Student Affairs, Office of
Academic Affairs, UMB

*Read about the winners at this link.*
PRESIDENT’S PANEL on POLITICS AND POLICY

A Conversation with CHRIS WALLACE
Journalist, Presidential Debate Moderator, and CNN+ Anchor

THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2022 | 9 A.M.
A UMB VIRTUAL EVENT
Register to attend at this link.

This season, “The UMB Pulse” podcast’s theme is “Change Makers,” featuring stories about how the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) is taking creative action to overcome barriers and solve social problems.

Be sure to tune in — new episodes drop on the FIRST FRIDAY of the month.

APRIL EPISODE

The PATIENTS Program

GUESTS: C. Daniel Mullins, PhD, professor and executive director, and Rodney Elliott, engagement specialist, both from the PATIENTS Program, School of Pharmacy

Mullins and Elliott talk about the partnerships and projects of the PATIENTS Program, which works to engage West Baltimore community members in patient-centered outcomes research. They also discuss the new PATIENTS Professors Academy and promote the 10th Annual IPE Day.

Learn more at umaryland.edu/pulse.
The Joint Steering Council of the University of Maryland Strategic Partnership: MPowering the State (MPower), a formal collaboration between the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) and the University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP), has awarded funding to 17 targeted collaborative research seed grants led jointly by UMB and UMCP researchers.

After a review and ranking of 52 submissions by faculty peers from UMB and UMCP, the council awarded a total of $3 million to invest in the future and kick-start new research in areas of paramount importance to the state and the nation. The funding of projects ranges from $49,000 to $250,000 per award, for durations of six to 24 months.

The six targeted research areas are:

- Artificial Intelligence and Medicine
- Cybersecurity and Homeland Security
- Neuroscience and Aging
- Pandemic Readiness, Resilience, and Mitigation
- Racial and Social Justice
- Violence and Crime Reduction

“These seed grant awards highlight the outstanding interdisciplinary and high-impact research that faculty in Baltimore and College Park are conducting to address the most complex challenges society is facing,” said Gregory F. Ball, PhD, vice president for research at UMB and UMCP. “My hope is that these grants strengthen current collaborations, promote new ones, and lead to future funding opportunities to support innovative and transformative research.”

A look at the winning projects:

**ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) AND MEDICINE**

- “AI Discovery and Sensing for Biomarkers of Chronic Pain,” Robert Ernst, PhD, professor, School of Dentistry, UMB, and Pamela Abshire, PhD, professor, A. James Clark School of Engineering, UMCP
- “Applying Natural Language Processing to Electronic Health Records to Prevent Infections with Highly Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria,” Katherine Goodman, PhD, JD, assistant professor, School of Medicine, UMB, and Philip Resnik, PhD, professor, College of Arts and Humanities, UMCP
- “AI to Determine Alterations of 4-Dimensional Erythrocyte Flow in the Retina,” Osamah Saeedi, MD, associate professor, School of Medicine, UMB, and Yang Tao, PhD, professor, A. James Clark School of Engineering, UMCP
- “Precision Therapy for Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome (NOWS),” Amber Beitelshees, PharmD, MPH, associate professor, School of Medicine, UMB, and Ritu Agarwal, PhD, Distinguished University Professor, Robert H. Smith School of Business, UMCP
“Exploring the Hidden Links Between Cannabis and Cardiovascular Health Using Deep Learning,” Jean Jeudy, MD, professor, and Timm-Michael Dickfeld, MD, professor, both from School of Medicine, UMB, and Eleonora Tubaldi, PhD, assistant professor, A. James Clark School of Engineering, UMCP

“Blended Reality Immersion for Geriatric Head Trauma: The BRIGHT Study,” Mira Ghneim, MD, assistant professor, School of Medicine, UMB, and Donald Bolger, PhD, associate professor, College of Education, UMCP

**CYBERSECURITY AND HOMELAND SECURITY**

“Tackling Terror in the Homeland: An Empirical and Legal Analysis of the Debate Over a New Domestic Terrorism Law,” Michael Vesely, JD, senior research associate, Francis King Carey School of Law, UMB, and Michael Jensen, PhD, senior researcher, National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START), UMCP

**NEUROSCIENCE AND AGING**

“Predicting Clinical Features of Parkinson Disease Using Machine Learning Analysis of Mobility Data from a Wearable Sensor,” Rainer von Coelln, MD, assistant professor, School of Medicine, UMB, and Michael P. Cummings, PhD, professor, College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences, UMCP

“A Patient Data-Driven Approach to Improve Counseling and Hearing Health,” Ronna Hertzano, MD, PhD, professor, School of Medicine, UMB, and Matthew Goupell, PhD, professor, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, UMCP

“Ubiquitin-Proteasome System Mechanisms Underlying Abstinence-Dependent Methamphetamine Craving,” Marco Venniro, PhD, assistant professor, School of Medicine, UMB, and Xuan “Anna” Li, PhD, assistant professor, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, UMCP

“Noradrenergic Dysfunction Impairs Olfaction-Mediated Social Interaction in Alzheimer’s Models,” Joseph Kao, PhD, professor, and Adam Puche, PhD, professor, both from School of Medicine, UMB, and Ricardo Araneda, PhD, professor, College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences, UMCP

**PANDEMIC READINESS, RESILIENCE, AND MITIGATION**

“Development of Vaccines Against Emerging Avian Influenza Viruses for Use in Humans and Poultry: A One-Health Approach to Prevent Zoonotic Virus Spillover Events and Support Pandemic Preparedness,” Lynda Coughlan, PhD, assistant professor, School of Medicine, UMB, and Andrew Broadbent, PhD, assistant professor, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, UMCP

“Development of Vaccines Against Emerging Avian Influenza Viruses for Use in Humans and Poultry: A One-Health Approach to Prevent Zoonotic Virus Spillover Events and Support Pandemic Preparedness,” Lynda Coughlan, PhD, assistant professor, School of Medicine, UMB, and Andrew Broadbent, PhD, assistant professor, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, UMCP

“Viral and Host Determinants of SARS-CoV-2 Variant Replication,” Matthew Frieman, PhD, associate professor, School of Medicine, UMB, and Margaret Scull, PhD, assistant professor, College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences, UMCP

“Scalable Manufacture of mRNA Vaccines for Agile Pandemic Response,” Peter Swaan, PhD, professor, School of Pharmacy, UMB, and Don DeVoe, PhD, professor, A. James Clark School of Engineering, UMCP

**RACIAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE**

“Investigating Racial and Social Disparities in Health Outcomes Among Maryland Youth in Foster Care Exposed to Cross-State Air Pollution,” Roderick Rose, PhD, assistant professor, School of Social Work, UMB, and James Archsmith, PhD, assistant professor, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, UMCP

“Disproportionality in Communication Impairments: Leveraging Technology to Provide Individualized Language Assessments of Bilingual Children,” Michael Woolley, PhD, MSW, professor, School of Social Work, UMB, and Yi Ting Huang, PhD, associate professor, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, UMCP

**VIOLENCE AND CRIME REDUCTION**

“Comparing Firearm Violence from Trauma Units and Police,” Kyla Liggett-Creel, PhD, LCSW-C, clinical assistant professor School of Social Work, UMB, and Gary LaFree, PhD, professor, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, UMCP

— Rose Kendig
The accolades continue for the multidisciplinary team that set up the SMC Campus Center COVID-19 joint vaccination site in 2021. The team received a University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) Core Values Award for collaboration last year, and now its members have been honored by Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan.

In a ceremony at the Saratoga Building in February, members of the UMB community who assisted in the clinic’s successful operation were presented with Governor’s Citations on behalf of Hogan, who was unable to attend.

The clinic, established last year at the SMC Campus Center, was a joint effort among UMB, the University of Maryland Medical Center (UMMC), and Faculty Physicians, Inc. (FPI). Faculty, staff, and students from the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy (UMSOP) and the University of Maryland School of Nursing (UMSON) helped to administer the shots, resulting in more than 40,000 COVID-19 vaccinations.

“It surely was a stressful thing to set up,” UMB President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, said during the ceremony. “Our partners from UMMC and FPI did a marvelous job. But the people who did the really spectacular job are in this room today, because we made something work that I think was very difficult to make work.”

A significant percentage of people receiving vaccines at the clinic were from West Baltimore, Jarrell said. UMB faculty, students, and staff also filed through to get the shots, and the University partnered with the Indian Health Service and Native American LifeLines of Baltimore to provide vaccines to the Native American community. At the time, UMB’s site was the only clinic of its kind in the region, specially arranged to serve Native Americans from Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, D.C.

“It was a wonderful procedure to watch,” Jarrell said of the clinic’s operations. “I just remember how the Elm Ballroom transitioned into this marvelous machine. It’s just a remarkable achievement. And I think it’s fantastic that the governor actually recognized this with a set of citations, because that doesn’t happen every day.”

The honorees:

- Jonathan Bratt, MS, executive director, Office of Emergency Management (OEM)
- Laura Cathcart, PhD, training and exercise program manager, OEM
- James Chandler, MPA, critical resources and logistics program manager, OEM
- Brian Coats, ScD, associate vice president, technology operations and planning, Center for Information Technology Services
- Bill Crockett, MS, RCRSP, executive director, Division of Student Affairs
- Madison Haas, MSW, economic inclusion coordinator, Office of Community Engagement
• Jane M. Kirschling, PhD, RN, FAAN, Bill and Joanne Conway Dean, UMSON
• Cherokee Layson-Wolf, PharmD, BCACP, FAPhA, associate professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, and associate dean of student affairs, UMSOP
• Mario Majette, MD, former clinical instructor, Department of Family and Community Medicine, and director of student and employee health, University of Maryland School of Medicine
• Hayley Markman, MPA, continuity of operations program manager, OEM
• Jill A. Morgan, PharmD, BCPS, BCPPS, FNAP, professor and chair, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, UMSOP
• Carin Morrell, MA, public information officer, UMB Police Department and OEM
• Dana Rampolla, director of integrated marketing, Office of Communications and Public Affairs
• Christopher Stanton, MS, deputy director, OEM

— Mary Therese Phelan

Read more and watch a video about the ceremony at this link.

Each UMB recipient received a framed Governor’s Citation that was signed by Gov. Larry Hogan, Lt. Gov. Boyd K. Rutherford, and Secretary of State John C. Wobensmith. It reads:

“Be it known: That on behalf of the citizens of this State, in recognition of your leadership at the University of Maryland, Baltimore community Mass Vaccination Site, which greatly impacted and improved thousands of lives, including Baltimore City residents, underserved communities and vulnerable populations; your tireless commitment to the health and safety of Marylanders, overcoming enormous adversity during the COVID-19 pandemic; and your dedication to improving the human condition through innovation, equity and integrity, we are pleased to confer upon you this Governor’s Citation.”

CONGRATULATIONS TO UMB’S DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

UMB has been named one of the Most Promising Places to Work in Student Affairs for the fourth year in a row by Diverse: Issues In Higher Education magazine. This national award celebrates student affairs workplaces that are vibrant, diverse, supportive, and committed to staff work-life balance, professional development, and inclusive excellence.

Read more at this link.