I speak frequently about UMB’s commitment to the state of Maryland and the city of Baltimore, most recently in my President’s Message column in December and my State of the University Address in November. In both instances, I said that I hope to see even more positive change in Baltimore and around the state. And, because of UMB’s commitment as an anchor institution and commitment to our West Baltimore neighbors, I want to take this opportunity to highlight some of the inspiring ways that UMB created some “holiday magic” for our neighbors.

Every November, UMB’s Staff Senate and Office of Community Engagement (OCE) collaborate to provide Thanksgiving meals for our neighbors in West Baltimore. In 2022, UMB combined efforts with the University of Maryland Medical Center (UMMC) — another important anchor institution in Baltimore — and WJZ-TV to maximize the reach and impact of the annual Thanksgiving Drive. The goal was to raise $45,000, which the team of UMB, UMMC, and WJZ-TV surpassed by raising $54,769. Because of this effort, 1,484 families in West Baltimore received Thanksgiving baskets that contained a frozen turkey, a box of fresh produce from Hungry Harvest, and a booklet of heart-healthy recipes.

In December, UMB opened its annual Christmas Store at the Community Engagement Center (CEC). The store, which is a collaboration between the CEC and the Foundry Church, added WJZ-TV as a partner in 2022. The Christmas Store works directly with parents so they can pick toys and gifts for their families. Donors purchased more than 1,000 full-priced toys through an online gift registry, then parents were allowed to buy the toys at a steep discount, with most of them between $1 and $5. This model allows neighbors to select gifts for their loved ones and makes parents the “heroes of Christmas.” The money collected from the purchase of toys is donated back to the West Baltimore community, with the 2022 recipients being youth organizations such as 10:12 Sports and the Safe Alternative Foundation for Education. In addition, the Maryland Book Bank set up at the Christmas Store and allowed every shopper to pick a book for each of their children and a holiday-themed book to read as a family at no charge.

To top it off, on Dec. 19, children and families from West Baltimore received free tickets to ride the Polar Express Experience, an immersive holiday-themed train ride at the B&O Railroad Museum based on the book and animated

Continued on p. 2
movie “The Polar Express.” The 76 tickets were provided by a sponsorship from UMB in a collaboration between OCE and the Office of Communications and Public Affairs. Each participating child received a copy of “The Polar Express” book and a set of Christmas pajamas in their size to wear for the ride. Dancing chefs brought out hot chocolate and cookies for everyone, and the ride culminated with a visit from Santa Claus and the gift of a silver bell from Santa’s sleigh. Once off the train, families could explore the museum’s Roundhouse, which was decorated like the North Pole, and get a photo-op with Santa. It was a joyful experience not only for the families who participated, but also for the UMB folks who made it happen.

These are but three instances of how UMB made a little holiday magic happen for our neighbors, but there are countless other ways we can support one another throughout the year. As we start a new year, I am energized in thinking about how UMB will continue to expand our impact to create positive change in West Baltimore and throughout the state.

We are committed to Maryland, to Baltimore, and to our neighbors — and I hope that you are committed to getting involved.

Sincerely,

Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS
PRESIDENT

Watch a video and read more about the Polar Express Experience at this link.

Watch a video and read more about the Christmas Store at this link.

---

**1807 AN ART AND LITERARY JOURNAL**

**SUBMISSIONS: OPEN THROUGH FEB. 14**

*Share your favorite original creation:*

Painting | Drawing | Photography | Sculpture | Clay | Metal | Glass | Wood
Illustration | Digital Art | Textiles | Jewelry | Narratives | Short Story | Essay | Poetry

UMB faculty, staff, students, alumni, and retirees, as well as University of Maryland Medical Center employees and our West Baltimore neighbors, are encouraged to submit their work.*

Submissions accepted, online only, through Feb. 14, 11:59 p.m.

[www.umaryland.edu/arts/journal]

Scan this QR code with your phone camera or QR code app, then click the link to be directed to our website to get more information.

*Submission does not guarantee publication.

UMB Council for the Arts & Culture
WELCOME TO UMB!

NEW HIRES: DECEMBER 2022

UMB

STAFF
Ashley Bishoff
Brittney Brookins
Kisha Brown-Tuck
Emily Chappell
Marlene Cheeks
Wei Ming Dariotis
Aikerra Dixon
Anthony Eades
Antwuan Fletcher
Kaitlyn Haley
Mable Hargrove
Tijay Hart-Alderman
Constantine Hortis
Jennifer Hull
Antwone Jones
Melisa King
Kelly Lehner
Donta Lewis
Maverte Molar
Kendra O'Neil
Katie Park
Shaila Quick
Vinod Rama
Shamia Speight
Ronald Stokes
Shannon Sussman
Candice Taylor
Keith Whitaker
Tanika Wilson

GRADUATE SCHOOL

STAFF
Joan Evans
Richard Koris
Joan Lambard
Alonzo Lamont

FRANCIS KING CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW

FACULTY
Daniel Rosenberg

TRAINEES
Sareem Streeter

STAFF
Terrance Mitz

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

FACULTY
David Feliciano

TRAINEES
Abdolreza Ardeshirylajimi
Fariba Badrzadeh
Md. Mahadi Hassan
Md. Firoz Kabir
Muhammad Ajmal Khan
Eswara Puppala
Alishba Sadiq

STAFF
Lesley Azike
Vayda Ballard
Brandon Boone
Deangelo Brown
Lauryn Butler
Shelly Byrd
Devin Carter
Erik Cruz
Jamie Daum
Leslie Drummond
Mary Hoyt
Jeffrey Ingram
Ioanna Karambelas
Joseph Kousouros
Daniel Lee
India Mason
Sabrina McNeal
Nicole Mikologic
Babu Muhamed
Oluwaseun Ogubajo
Tiana Palmer
Mercedes Raphael
Paul Renn
Tia Stone
Rachel Viqueira
Joy Walker
Rebecca Welsh
Nadia West
Shaelyn Wishop

SCHOOL OF NURSING

STAFF
Allison Brown
Susan Hindle
Dajah White-Dumpson

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

TRAINEES
Junsik Sung

STAFF
Zelalem Abate
Krystie Boone
Chih Chun Tung

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

STAFF
Alyssa Cosentino
Shakira Rahman

THIS LISTING OF NEW HIRES IS PROVIDED BY UMB HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES. TRAINEES INCLUDE CLINICAL FELLOWS, POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS, RESEARCH FELLOWS, AND RESIDENT GI FELLOWS.
LAURELS
JANUARY 2023

UMB received the Indian Health Service (IHS) Director’s Award for COVID-19 Pandemic Heroism for its work in offering COVID vaccines to American Indian/Alaska Natives from Baltimore and Washington, D.C., in 2021. The award recognizes exceptional, dedicated work and selfless responses during the pandemic that advanced IHS’ mission and vision.

Tiffany N. Chavis, MSW, MLIS, LCSW-C, health literacy librarian, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, co-presented the discussion “Safety in Numbers: Portraits of East Baltimore’s ‘Reservation’,” which featured photographs of American Indian people who were part of Baltimore’s “reservation” in its heyday, on Nov. 15 at Enoch Pratt Free Library.

Sarah Weirich, MLIS, metadata librarian, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, presented the virtual lightning talk “Managing Conference Posters: A Lifecycle Overview from Printing Service to Digital Repository Discovery” at the Medical Institutional Repositories in Libraries Symposium on Nov. 17.

Fotini Anagnostopoulos-King, DMD, clinical assistant professor; Jeffery Behar, DDS, clinical instructor, Advanced Education in General Dentistry; Robert Windsor, DDS, director of clinical operations, and Mary Anne Melo, DDS, MS, PhD, professor and chair, all in the Department of General Dentistry, were honored with fellowship in the American College of Dentistry.

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

LAURELS ARE SUBMITTED BY THE COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENTS OF THE SCHOOLS AS WELL AS BY REPRESENTATIVES IN VARIOUS UNIVERSITYWIDE OFFICES. THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ERRORS IN THESE SELF-SUBMITTED LAURELS.
Glenn Canares, DDS, MSD, clinical assistant professor and assistant director, Advanced Specialty Education Program, Division of Pediatric Dentistry, was a guest on the UMB “Moving the Needle” podcast episode “Culture of Kindness in Academia,” where he talked about nurturing the culture of kindness within the Division of Pediatric Dentistry.

Gary D. Hack, DDS, clinical associate professor, Department of Advanced Oral Sciences and Therapeutics, was among the co-authors of “The Occipito-Atlantal Cistern,” which describes the effect of the myodural bridge on changes in cerebrospinal fluid pressure during head movement and was published in *Scientific Reports* in November.

William F. Hoffman Jr., MAS, research administrator, moderated the panel discussion “Same Goal, Different Paths: NIH and a Recipient Organization Talk About Grants,” at the Society of Research Administrators International’s Annual Meeting on Nov. 29.

Lamia Mokeem, BDS, MSD, doctoral candidate, Dental Biomedical Sciences Program; Michael Weir, PhD, research assistant professor, Division of Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering,

Department of Advanced Oral Sciences and Therapeutics; and Mary Anne Melo, DDS, MS, PhD, professor and chair, Department of General Dentistry, were among the co-authors of “Core-Shell Nanostructures for Improving Dental Restorative Materials: A Scoping Review of Composition, Methods, and Outcome,” which was published in *Smart Materials in Medicine*.

Ingrid Santamaria, DDS, PhD, assistant professor, Division of Operative Dentistry, Department of General Dentistry; Frederico Martinho, DDS, MSc, PhD, clinical associate professor and director, Predoctoral Endodontics, Division of Endodontics, Department of Advanced Oral Sciences and Therapeutics; and Mary Anne Melo, DDS, MS, PhD, professor and chair, Department of General Dentistry, co-authored "Evaluation of a Novel Restorative Protocol to Treat Non-Carious Cervical Lesion Associated with Gingival Recession: A 2-Year Follow-Up Randomized Clinical Trial," which was published in *Clinical Oral Investigation*.

Violet Kulo, EdD, MS, MA, associate professor and program director, MS in Health Professions Education, and Christina Cestone, PhD, MA, associate professor, assistant vice provost of faculty affairs, and program director, PhD in Health Professions Education, co-authored “A Continuing Professional Development Imperative? Examining Trends and Characteristics of Health Professions Education Doctoral Programs,” which was published in *BMC Medical Education Journal*.

Chaz Arnett, JD, associate professor, was a discussant at the 15th Annual Criminal Justice Roundtable at Vanderbilt Law School on Nov. 4-5.

Doug Colbert, JD, professor, co-authored “A Butterfly in COVID: Structural Racism and Baltimore’s Pretrial System,” which was published in the *Maryland Law Review*.

Karen Czapanskiy, JD, professor emerita, was appointed to the transition team of Maryland Comptroller-Elect Brooke Lierman.
Leigh Goodmark, JD, professor and director, Clinical Law Program, wrote the opinion article “Criminalized Survivors Deserve Sentencing Reform,” which was published in the Gotham Gazette on Dec. 5.

Mark Graber, JD, professor, was a guest on “The News with Paul DeRienzo” discussing the future of democracy on Nov. 7.

Kathleen Hoke, JD, professor, was quoted in “Allentown Abortion Ban in Limbo as City Council Members Worry About Legal Challenges,” which was published in The Morning Call on Nov. 18.

Renée McDonald Hutchins, JD, dean and professor, was quoted in “3 Top Law Schools Quit US News Rankings Over Equity Concerns,” which was published in The Daily Record on Nov. 18.

Don Gifford, JD, professor, co-authored “2023-1 Cumulative Supplement to Harper, James and Gray on Torts.”

Will Moon, JD, associate professor, presented “Extraterritorial Corporate Governance” at the American Society of International Law Midyear Meeting at the University of Miami School of Law on Nov. 11.

Robert Percival, JD, professor and director, Environmental Law Program, was the keynote speaker at the Vermont Journal of Environmental Law’s Fall 2022 Symposium on Nov. 5.

Amanda Pustilnik, JD, professor, was quoted in “What Does It Mean to Be ‘Competent to Stand Trial?’” which was published on WUSA9.com on Nov. 30.

Maneka Sinha, JD, associate professor, was quoted in “Under the Microscope: Maryland High Court Considers Limiting Ballistics Evidence Used to Link Guns to Shootings,” which was published in The Baltimore Sun on Dec. 2.

Donald Tobin, JD; Michael Pinard, JD; and Larry Gibson, JD, all professors, were appointed to the transition team of Maryland Attorney General-Elect Anthony Brown.

Liza Vertinsky, JD, professor, co-authored “Righting a Reproductive Wrong: A Statutory Tort Solution to Misrepresentation...”
by Reproductive Tissue Providers,” which was published in the Houston Law Review.

Marley Weiss, JD, professor, presented the paper “Post-Bostock Developments Regarding Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Discrimination Under Title VII: ‘Because of Sex,’ RFRA, and the First Amendment” at the American Bar Association Section of Labor and Employment Law Conference in Washington, D.C., on Nov. 12.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Jennifer Albrecht, PhD, associate professor, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, was among the co-authors of “Comparison Groups Matter in Traumatic Brain Injury Research: An Example with Dementia,” which was published in the Journal of Neurotrauma in November.

Jill Bohnenkamp, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Psychiatry, gave the keynote address “School Mental Health on the National Scale” at the Minnesota School Behavioral Health Conference on Nov. 3. She also presented on the “Balancing Public Health Interventions with Social, Emotional, and Academic Outcomes” panel at the “K-12 COVID-19 Response Across the Nation: What Worked, What We Learned, and What’s Next” event in Chicago in November.

Vasken Dilsizian, MD, professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, was among the co-authors of the editorial “Disturbances in Brain-Heart Neuronal-Metabolic Axis Are Associated with Major Arrhythmic Events in Heart Failure,” which was published in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology in November.

Ethan Feder, PT, DPT, OCS, FAAOMPT, assistant professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, was recognized as a fellow of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapists.

Roy Film, PT, DPT, OCS, FAAOMPT, assistant professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, was sworn in as president-elect of the American Physical Therapy Association’s Maryland chapter.

Jeffrey Galvin, MD, professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, was among the co-authors of “Mosaic Attenuation Pattern: A Guide to Analysis with HRCT,” which was published in Radiologic Clinics of North America in November.

Sharon Hoover, PhD, professor, Department of Psychiatry, was on the “Violence Prevention: Mental Health, School Climate, and De-Escalation” panel at the National Summit on K-12 School Safety and Security, hosted by the U.S. Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency in November.

Mary Kay Lobo, PhD, professor; Asaf Keller, PhD, professor and chair, both in the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, and Seth Ament, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Psychiatry, were awarded a five-year, $3,310,000 R01 grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse for “Lasting Neurological Effects of Perinatal Opioids.”
Margaret McCarthy, PhD, the James and Carolyn Frenkil Dean’s Professor and chair, Department of Pharmacology, received the 2022 Sarah Gund Prize for Research and Mentorship in Child Mental Health from the Child Mind Institute.

Kathleen Neuzil, MD, MPH, FIDSA, the Myron M. Levine, MD, DTPH Professor of Vaccinology and director, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, was interviewed by the New England Journal of Medicine for its podcast episode “Developing New COVID-19 Vaccines” on Oct. 12.

Rebecca Nowak, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, was awarded $3,684,018 from the National Cancer Institute for “Integrated Model for the Prevention of Anal Cancer Using Screen and Treat for HSIL (IMPACT).”

Lynn Schriml, PhD, associate professor, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, was awarded $3,726,982 from the National Human Genome Research Institute for “The Human Disease Ontology: An Integrated, Mechanistic Knowledge Resource for Biomedical Research.”

Michelle Shardell, PhD, professor, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, was awarded $2,224,522 for “Statistical Models and Mechanisms Linking Biomarkers of Aging to Cognitive-Physical Decline and Dementia,” and $3,555,760 for “Statistical Methods for Kidney Markers as Shared Determinants of Dementia and Physical Disability in Older Adults,” both from the National Institutes of Health.

Marco Venniro, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, participated in the joint National Institute on Drug Abuse and National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism’s Early Career Investigator Showcase in November.

Melissa Liriano Vyfhuis, MD, PhD; Mariana Guerrero, PhD; Christine Bang, MD; Mark Mishra, MD; Zaker Rana, MD; Pradip Amin, MD; Young Kwok, MD; and Jason Molitoris, MD, PhD, all in the Department of Radiation Oncology, were among the co-authors of “Racial Analysis of Clinical and Biochemical Outcomes in Prostate Cancer Patients Treated With Low-Dose-Rate Brachytherapy,” which was published Nov. 3 ahead of print in the International Journal of Radiation Oncology, Biology, Physics.

Laura Allen, MA, MS ’15, RN, program director; Robyn Gilden, PhD ’10, MS ’01, RN, associate professor and director, Environmental Health Certificate; Martine Kirwin, MS, RN, program manager; Katie McElroy, PhD ’16, MS ’10, BSN ’97, RN, assistant professor; and Rachel White, MSN ’22, BSN, RN, nurse specialist, made presentations about the grant-funded Community and Public Health Environmental Initiative at the American Public Health Association Annual Conference in Boston in November.
Rachel Blankstein Breman, PhD ’18, MPH, RN, assistant professor, was quoted in the article “Home Births Rose During the Pandemic, Study Shows,” which was published in TIME on Nov. 17.

Andrea Brassard, PhD, FNP-BC, FAANP, FAAN, CNE, associate professor, was selected as an “Excellence in Nursing” advanced practice honoree by What’s Up? Eastern Shore. The awards, announced in the magazine’s November issue, celebrate exemplary nurses practicing in the Greater Chesapeake Bay Region.

Jillian Dreicer was promoted to senior marketing specialist, Office of Communications.

Tara Howard was promoted to academic services coordinator, Office of Student and Academic Services.

Amy Nahley, MS ’17, RN, OCN, program manager, presented on reimagining health promotion in early childhood education at the Maryland Nurses Association Annual Conference in Linthicum Heights, Md., in October.

Janette North-Kabore, MPH, was promoted to community program director, Department of Partnerships, Professional Education, and Practice.

Charlotte Nwogwugwu, DrPH, MPH, MSN, HIV PCP, CPH-BC, assistant professor, co-authored “A Hero and a Friend: A Fight Against Bullying,” a children’s book that tells the story of an impactful day for a Nigerian and Sudanese pair of friends who attend the same school and are bonded by similar interests and by being children of foreign-born parents.

Susan dosReis, PhD, professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, received a three-year, $48,539 contract from the Research Institute at Nationwide Children’s Hospital for “Improving Quality and Outcomes for Low Income Children with Depression in the US,” and a one-year, $55,400 contract from Cytokinetics, Inc., for “Patient-Driven Priorities for Reldesemtiv.”

Vijay Ivaturi, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, was named president-elect of the International Society of Pharmacometrics.

Sarah Michel, PhD, professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, and associate dean for graduate programs, was named...
chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Paul Shapiro, PhD, professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was appointed associate dean for research and advanced graduate studies.

Jodi Frey, PhD, professor and associate dean for research, will serve as co-investigator on a grant with University of Maryland School of Nursing colleagues to study the utilization and impact of Employee Assistance Program (EAP) services among nurses with substance use disorder and the relationship of EAPs with nursing boards. This study is funded for two years by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing.

Richard Barth, PhD, professor, was named the No. 2 global contributor to social work journal scholarship by Research on Social Work Practice.

Iris Cardenas, PhD, assistant professor, was among the co-authors of a paper published in Violence Against Women that synthesizes the evidence on the link between patriarchy and intimate partner violence as a key element for asylum claims.

Kerri Evans, PhD, assistant professor, and a research team that included doctoral student Morgan Pardue-Kim, MSW, co-authored a paper published in the Journal of Mental Health and Social Behaviour that explores outcomes of unaccompanied refugee minors in terms of their social well-being in the United States.

Jon Gilgoff, PhD student, and Fernando Wagner, PhD, and Jodi Frey, PhD, both professors, co-authored a paper published in Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior that explores formal and informal help seeking among working-aged men who used the online intervention “Man Therapy.”

Laurie Graham, PhD; Kyla Liggett-Creel, PhD; and Mariel Pfister, MSW, all faculty members, along with community partners, received a $1.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Justice to implement, expand, and evaluate a Community-Based Violence Prevention Project in West Baltimore that employs “credible messengers” to offer residents violence prevention messaging, violence intervention, mental health services, and more.

Howard A. Palley, PhD, professor emeritus, wrote the book “The Public/Private Sector Mix in Healthcare Delivery,” which was published in December by Oxford University Press.
UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS DISCUSS LEADERSHIP, TAKING RISKS, AND MORE

Valerie Sheares Ashby, PhD, has a tough act to follow.

The new president of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) succeeded Freeman Hrabowski III, PhD, MA, who served in the role for 30 years and helped transform UMBC into a leading research institution.

But does Ashby think about living up to Hrabowski’s legacy as she leads a university with more than 13,000 students and 2,000-plus faculty and staff members?

Not at all.

“People ask me all the time, ‘Was it a risk to follow Freeman?’ ” said Ashby, who counts the former UMBC president as one of her mentors. “I understand the question, but when you are doing the job, you don’t think about that. I have to get up and go to work every day, and I don’t have time to think about following Freeman.

“When I do think about Freeman, I think, ‘Oh, what a gift he left me — to build upon,’ ” Ashby said, adding that her rule of thumb is to stay in one position for no longer than 10 years. “I’m a strong believer in rotation of leadership. Yes, it’s great that we get to come down and lead this institution, but there’s going to be a moment when we’re going to level out and know that it’s time to go.”

This was just one of the insights that Ashby and Salisbury University President Carolyn Ringer Lepre, PhD, MS, shared with a University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) audience Dec. 6 at the SMC Campus Center in the UMBrella Speaker Series event “A Presidents’ Panel Discussion.” The talk was moderated by Renée McDonald Hutchins, JD, dean of the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law, who asked questions on topics such as gender differences, leadership, mentoring, authenticity, and innovation.

“TAKING RISKS

Ashby’s thoughts about succeeding Hrabowski were in response to the question, “What’s the biggest risk you’ve ever taken?” Lepre said her biggest risk was agreeing to take the helm at Salisbury after serving as interim president, provost, and vice president for academic affairs at Radford University in Virginia, adding that making difficult decisions or proposing change carries risk through all endeavors.

“I can think of moments throughout my career where I’ve had to stick myself out there and people may not like what I’m about to propose or what I’m going to be doing,” she said. “When I was a faculty member, it might have been a proposal I was putting forward. When I was the director of an honors program, I proposed an entirely new curriculum to a campus that I wasn’t sure would appreciate why we needed to change.”

FROM LEFT, RENÉE MCDONALD HUTCHINS MODERATED THE DISCUSSION WITH CAROLYN RINGER LEPRE AND VALERIE SHEARES ASHBY.
Both presidents began their terms this past summer and are among five women leading University System of Maryland (USM) institutions. One of them, Towson University’s Kim Schatzel, PhD, had been scheduled to take part in the panel but was named president of the University of Louisville on Nov. 30 and did not attend. The other two female USM presidents are Aminta Breaux, PhD, MS, of Bowie State University, and Heidi Anderson, PhD, MS, of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

The presentation was livestreamed, and it was the first UMBrella event since 2019 to feature an in-person component, noted Jennifer Litchman, MA, senior vice president for external relations and founder and chair of UMBrella (UMB Roundtable on Empowerment in Leadership and Leveraging Aspirations), which works to support the success of women and those who identify as women at the University.

**BEING YOURSELF**

On the subject of authenticity, Hutchins asked Lepre and Ashby if they thought that women, once expected to assimilate to a male-dominated workplace and adapt to a masculine vision of leadership, can now present their authentic selves and be successful.

“I would say yes, but with an asterisk,” Lepre said. “I think trying to be someone who you are not is exhausting. The biggest piece of advice I would give to somebody who’s thinking about moving into any leadership role is this: If you go in and try to be someone else, you are setting yourself up for failure. If you’ve built all the skills that are important to being a leader, they really just want you for you.

“Parts of our job as leaders is showing up and being as much as our whole selves as we can, not because it’s about us, but because it gives permission to other people to show up as themselves, too.”

Ashby, who previously served as dean of Duke University’s Trinity College of Arts & Sciences, agreed with Lepre, adding that her mentors, all men, have insisted that she always just be herself.

“When I was interviewing for the Duke job, I thought the first interview went pretty well but was so nervous about the next one, thinking, ‘I’m not sure I’m really what they want.’ But one of my mentors said, ‘They invited you back for a second interview!’ And then he started to joke with me, ‘Oh, yeah, next time go as somebody else.’

“So that is my authenticity, and the comfort that I feel in this job is not because I’m arrogant, it’s because I’m always going to be me, and I know how to be me, and then we’re going to see what happens.”

Both presidents said they are enjoying their new roles despite the added responsibilities, day-to-day challenges, and email inboxes that “mushroom overnight,” Lepre joked. And both agreed that staying connected to students is critical.

“When we say we’re going on a listening tour, we need to really, really listen,” Lepre said. “Don’t just talk to the people and the students who are recommended by others, go to the dining hall and just sit down and talk to them. And if someone comes up to you on campus and wants to talk, then you stop, and you listen.”

Ashby said she enjoys talking with students while walking around campus but also has office hours for one-on-one meetings on Thursdays, and “the students come in droves.”

“That’s not the only time I see students, but I see a lot of them on Thursdays,” she said. “They say, ‘I heard you have office hours, and I’ve brought six of my friends.’ This is where I get to see who they are, where they are, and then I can reconcile what I think we’re doing with what they are actually experiencing.”

— Lou Cortina

View a photo gallery and watch a video of the event at this link. 📹
THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE COMMEMORATES
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Black History Month 2023

TUESDAY, FEB. 7
Noon to 1:30 p.m.  |  MSTF Leadership Hall
Reception/light lunch to follow in the Atrium

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Sharon Fries-Britt, PhD
Professor of Higher Education
University of Maryland, College Park
“Unraveling the Threads of Social Inequality: Continuing King’s Legacy of Consciousness Raising and Racial Equity in America”

Register to attend at this link.

LAUNCH YOUR LIFE 2023 KICKOFF

Rejuvenate Your Mind, Body, and Spirit!
Starting the week of Jan. 17, you will have a chance to participate in events related to your well-being. Attend any two activities and be entered in a drawing to win a free one-hour massage.

Week 1: For Your Mind (Jan. 17-20)
Week 2: For Your Body (Jan. 23-27)
Week 3: Spirit Week (Jan. 30-Feb. 3)

Learn more at: umaryland.edu/launch-your-life
About half of working baby boomers expect to or are already working past age 70 or do not plan to retire, according to an October 2022 survey by the Transamerica Center for Retirement Studies. Perhaps most telling: Only 59 percent say their employers are age-friendly.

At the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB), baby boomers, the generation born after World War II between 1946 and 1964, represent 19.7 percent of faculty members and 19.3 percent of staff. In addition, about 50 UMB faculty and staff members are part of the Silent Generation, born between 1925 and 1945.

UMB was designated an Age-Friendly University (AFU) in fall 2019. The designation means that UMB has endorsed the 10 AFU principles that resulted from the work of an international interdisciplinary team to identify the distinctive contributions institutions of higher education can make in responding to the interests and needs of an aging population. The endorsement of the AFU principles means that the University is committed to a culture of age-inclusivity in its programs and policies.

A sampling of UMB faculty and staff members who are baby boomers think that UMB is on the right path to age-friendliness but still has work to do.

Colette Beaulieu, office manager, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, and a past president of the Staff Senate, said one way UMB can become more age-friendly is by placing a premium on hiring and retaining experienced employees.

“A couple of years ago, when I wasn’t sure the grant I worked on would be renewed, I panicked. How would I compete for jobs on campus where other candidates are younger than me? Would my experience be valued? At times I was not so sure,” she said. “I felt someone younger or willing to work for less money to get experience would override my years of experience and service to the campus.”

UMB should make sure that hiring practices place a high value on experience and work hard to keep more experienced employees engaged and thriving even as they might be winding down their careers.

Michele Carter Hunt, MA, senior consultant, Organization and Employee Development, Human Resource Services, agreed, saying UMB can be more age-friendly by “educating managers and supervisors to see that older workers are good, reliable workers. And not to discriminate based on their own biases.”

GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

Jay Magaziner, PhD, MSHyg, professor of epidemiology and public health, University of Maryland School of Medicine, and director, Center for Research on Aging, is not only an expert on aging but also a baby boomer. He said that while employees who want and can afford to retire should, there are benefits to working later in life.

“The benefit is a meaningful role in life, a reason to get up in the morning. To stay healthy, mentally and physically, one needs to remain productive. And one needs to have a connection with the world that they live in,” he said. “If continuing to contribute to the educational, research, and service mission of the University allows this connection, it would make sense to continue working in an organization that values the contributions that can be made as a result of accumulated knowledge and experience.”

Jay Magaziner, Professor, School of Medicine, and Director, Center for Research on Aging

“We need to recognize age-friendliness on a lot of different planes. Many of our employees have older relatives that they care for. And we need to acknowledge that there’s caregiving responsibilities that go beyond caring for a sick child.”

— JAY MAGAZINER, PROFESSOR, SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, AND DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR RESEARCH ON AGING
acquire new skills and competencies, and creating an environment that promotes respectfulness and civility.”

Magaziner said UMB and its students can benefit from experienced faculty members.

“In terms of research and teaching, we’ve got a lot to gain from our older faculty. Some leaders have been very comfortable letting older faculty drift off rather than looking for ways of engaging them in the organization,” he said. “And oftentimes, it’s a low-cost way of engaging people who may not be in it for the money as much as for the opportunity to be involved in and contribute to the academic enterprise.”

Magaziner said caregiving and work flexibility are two things that are important to support as an age-friendly university.

“We need to recognize age-friendliness on a lot of different planes. Many of our employees have older relatives that they care for. And we need to acknowledge that there's caregiving responsibilities that go beyond caring for a sick child. While caring for parents is allowed, we need to make it part of our culture — that's just what we do,” he said.

EXPANDING RESOURCES AND TELEWORK

Beaulieu and Hunt said they would like to see more resources available to help employees who are caregivers for aging parents and spouses.

“Like me, employees in the later parts of their careers are finding themselves in roles they never imagined. Many still want and need to work; I know I do. It’s a lot to juggle sometimes,” Beaulieu said. “I see resources available for younger employees, like assistance with day care and maternity and paternity leave. Still, you rarely see any programs or additional leave practices targeted at employees who are caregivers for aging spouses and parents.”

A flexible work schedule was also important. Reynolds said he has felt supported as he transitioned to working three days a week.

And Beaulieu said UMB has changed for the better by allowing telework.

“If there is any upside to COVID, it has been that the University had to pivot fast at the beginning of the pandemic to accommodate a workforce that suddenly was forced to work from home. For many of us, the shift in policy to allow for working more from home has been a life-changer,” said Beaulieu, who expects to retire in a few years.

“I hope that the University continues to support a work atmosphere where if you can function at your job at the highest level while working from home and want to work from home, you are encouraged to do so. My teleworking schedule is probably the one thing that has kept me from wanting to retire, and I don’t think I am the only one.”

— Jen Badie

THE 10 AGE-FRIENDLY UNIVERSITY PRINCIPLES

1. To encourage the participation of older adults in all the core activities of the university, including educational and research programs.
2. To promote personal and career development in the second half of life and to support those who wish to pursue second careers.
3. To recognize the range of educational needs of older adults (from those who were early school-leavers through to those who wish to pursue master’s or PhD qualifications).
4. To promote intergenerational learning to facilitate the reciprocal sharing of expertise between learners of all ages.
5. To widen access to online educational opportunities for older adults to ensure a diversity of routes to participation.
6. To ensure that the university’s research agenda is informed by the needs of an aging society and to promote public discourse on how higher education can better respond to the varied interests and needs of older adults.
7. To increase the understanding of students of the longevity dividend and the increasing complexity and richness that aging brings to our society.
8. To enhance access for older adults to the university’s range of health and wellness programs and its arts and cultural activities.
9. To engage actively with the university’s own retired community.
10. To ensure regular dialogue with organizations representing the interests of the aging population.
JANUARY EPISODE

How UMB Alumna Kathryn Pawlak’s Summer Camp Inspires Future Dentists

GUEST: Kathryn Pawlak, DDS ’19, attending pediatric dentist, University Pediatric Dentistry, University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine

Each summer, University of Maryland School of Dentistry alumna Kathryn Pawlak returns to the UMB campus to inspire teenagers to become dentists through the Discovering Dentistry Camp, which she created through her nonprofit Planet Smilez. In this episode, Pawlak discusses why pediatric dentistry is near and dear to her heart and shares how two close family members inspired her to become a dentist.

Episode dropped Jan. 6
Learn more at umaryland.edu/pulse.

PRESIDENT’S PANEL on POLITICS AND POLICY

A Conversation with NPR’s NINA TOTENBERG

Join us for a discussion on the inner workings of the U.S. Supreme Court with National Public Radio’s award-winning legal affairs correspondent.

FEB. 14, 2023

8 a.m. breakfast, followed by discussion at 8:30 a.m.

SMC CAMPUS CENTER
621 W. Lombard St.
Elm Ballrooms

SPEAKER SERIES

The President’s Panel on Politics and Policy is a speaker series examining issues important to the University of Maryland, Baltimore community including health and higher education policy, federal budget priorities, and civil rights and social justice.
UMB LAUNCHING CENTER FOR NEUROSCIENCE DISCOVERY

Mark T. Gladwin, MD, dean of the University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM), has announced plans to launch a neuroscience institute that will accelerate translational research of the brain by facilitating interaction between basic and clinical scientists and enhancing collaborative research across UMSOM and the other schools at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB).

The institute, called the University of Maryland-Medicine Institute for Neuroscience Discovery (UM-MIND), will recruit new talent to campus, leverage the 120-plus leading neuroscientists at UMSOM under one umbrella, and elevate the prominence of UMSOM’s basic and clinical science research portfolio.

“There is an urgent need to better understand how the brain develops and ages and responds to inflammation and traumatic injury,” said Gladwin, who also is the vice president for medical affairs at UMB. “Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias, for example, afflict more than 5 million Americans and represent one of our great generational challenges associated with the aging of the world’s populations.

“Our institution has tremendous strengths around neuroscience, with faculty scientists across our academic departments, centers, institutes, and programs. Now is the ideal time to form a partnership across these entities in the study of brain science, with the goal of accelerating the discovery and translation of novel therapies and offer new hope for patients.”

UMSOM has more than $65 million in research funding for neuroscience research projects. Overall, UMB has about $107 million devoted to studies of the brain, with the research spread out across several schools, centers, and departments.

Funds supporting UM-MIND were provided through a partnership between Gladwin and department chairs, including Victoria Marchese, PhD, PT, professor and chair, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science; Peter Crino, MD, PhD, professor and chair, Department of Neurology; Graeme Woodworth, MD, professor and chair, Department of Neurosurgery; and Jill RachBeisel, MD, professor and chair, Department of Psychiatry.

“If we can create a cohesive structure and encourage multidisciplinary collaboration in this critical area of scientific research, with our depth and breadth of exceptional faculty, we have a tremendous opportunity to make a national and international impact and to raise the bar of excellence to the next level,” said Margaret McCarthy, PhD, professor and chair, Department of Pharmacology, who was named by Gladwin as the director of UM-MIND.

UM-MIND will be divided into three pillars of focus: Brain Development, Aging and Cognition, and Brain Injury and Disease.

The first pillar will address how the brain forms in the mother’s womb and how genetics, epigenetics, and sex and gender play a role in this development, as well as what happens when these processes go wrong and lead to neurodevelopment disorders such as autism or schizophrenia.

The second pillar will concentrate on healthy aging of the brain and neurodegenerative disorders of aging, such as dementia, Alzheimer’s, and Parkinson’s disease, that disrupt cognition and/or movement. This research pillar will encompass research on addiction, new fast-acting antidepressants, sleep, motor control, and neurodegenerative disorders.

The third pillar encompasses brain cancers, such as neuroblastoma and glioblastoma, traumatic brain injury, and stroke research. These studies will focus on the early, severe inflammation right after injury and how long-term damage accrues after the shift to chronic inflammation.

“In deciding on the three tracks, we looked at our existing strengths and limitations and looked to where the future of neuroscience is heading,” McCarthy said. “We have clear strengths in developmental biology, particularly when it comes to psychiatric disease, and we are strong in trauma and the brain tumor fields. In the field of aging and cognition for diseases like Alzheimer’s, we see great potential and importance in building this area.”

— Vanessa McMains

Read more about the new center at this link. 🌐