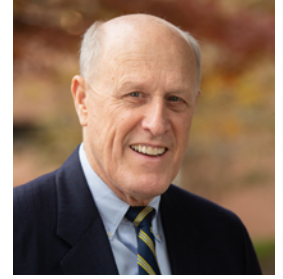


the PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

JULY/AUGUST 2023



EXTENDING HEARTFELT GRATITUDE TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

The University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) community is full of generous supporters who understand the importance of our mission to improve the human condition and serve the public good. I want to take the opportunity to celebrate the tremendous impact of philanthropic giving on our University community. These acts of philanthropy have enriched UMB, supported our faculty and students, and propelled our research and innovation forward.

I am continually inspired by the dedication of our donors, who recognize the transformative power of education and invest in our students' futures. This philanthropic leadership ignites a ripple effect, inspiring others to join in the pursuit of excellence and create a lasting positive impact on the world. I want to share some of the major gifts we've received across the seven schools over the past year.

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

- Nobel Biocare has committed \$1.5 million over three years as a gift in-kind of dental implants and componentry, helping to keep the cost of dental care in our clinics affordable while simultaneously providing our students with essential clinical experience.
- The Delta Dental Community Care Foundation has given the School of Dentistry \$375,000 in patient care funds for underserved and underinsured children and seniors participating in the Maryland Healthy Smiles Dental Program, augmenting dental services not covered or that they may not be able to afford. The Delta Dental Community Care Foundation works with nonprofit partners across 15 states and Washington, D.C., to strengthen communities through increasing access to dental care, providing access to oral health education, and supporting the organizations doing this vital work.

GRADUATE SCHOOL

- The Maryland E-Innovation Initiative Fund Authority is providing \$500,000 in matching funds for the newly established Leslie S. Robinson, MD, Endowed Professorship in Health Professions Education (HPE). The endowed professor will hold a research leadership role in the Graduate School's PhD and MS in Health Professions Education programs and take the lead in the acceleration of the HPE program.



PHOTO BY MATTHEW D'AGOSTINO

THESE CONWAY SCHOLARS FROM THE SCHOOL OF NURSING ARE AMONG THE STUDENTS WHO ARE BENEFITING FROM THE PHILANTHROPY OF UMB DONORS SUCH AS BILL AND JOANNE CONWAY.

- Marco and Debbie Chacón have given \$255,000 to support the Alicia and YaYa Global Fellowship in Aging Research, a collaborative effort between UMB and the University of Costa Rica to recognize and support outstanding predoctoral or postdoctoral students pursuing aging research and to reinforce diversity in aging research. The fellowship, the first collaborative program between the two universities, allows

Continued on p. 2

Continued from previous page

fellows from Costa Rica to spend six months to one year in Baltimore, and fellows from UMB to spend six months to one year in Costa Rica, engaging in an immersive experience at the host campus with exposure to research, education, culture, and leadership in science.

FRANCIS KING CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW

- The Oscar S. Gray Teaching Fellowship has been created through a \$750,000 bequest from Sheila Gray. It will support individuals with a demonstrated commitment to and capacity for legal scholarship who are engaged in teaching the core curriculum at the School of Law, with a preference that the selection of fellows reflects Gray's commitment to social justice in civil and military law. Professor Gray was one of the nation's preeminent tort scholars from the 1970s until the time of his death and taught at the law school from 1971 to 1996.
- Brian and Martha Gibbons have made a \$500,000 pledge that will provide seed funding for the law school to launch a Community Development Clinic in collaboration with UMB's Community Engagement Center.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

- The Kahlert Foundation provided a \$10 million gift to fund the Kahlert Institute for Addiction Medicine. The new Kahlert Institute will bring together leading addiction experts to transform the prevention, treatment, education, and research of addiction and create the synergies necessary to make long-term systemic change in this critical area.
- Joseph and Corinne Schwartz provided a \$1.5 million gift to establish the Joseph and Corinne Schwartz Professorship in Surgical Sciences Research in Transplantation within the Department of Surgery. This endowment will support translational research in transplantation to ensure the best patient outcomes and discover new and improved methods of treatment.

SCHOOL OF NURSING

- Bill and Joanne Conway's gift of \$7.145 million will create 218 additional Conway Scholarships over the next four years, increasing the total number of UMSON Conway Scholars to more than 1,000. The gift also will support the creation of a full-time faculty position dedicated to preparing entry-into-nursing students for the Next Generation NCLEX, the newest version of the National Council Licensure Examination. In addition, a portion of the new funding is from the Conway Innovation Challenge, which will fund a pilot of the school's Nursing Professional Residency for Outstanding Faculty.

- Sharon Michael, BSN '71, committed an additional \$775,000 to the Sharon Michael Scholarship endowment through her estate plans. This new commitment increased Michael's total bequest to \$1 million. Her endowed scholarship will support undergraduate students at the school.

"I am continually inspired by the dedication of our donors, who recognize the transformative power of education and invest in our students' futures."

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

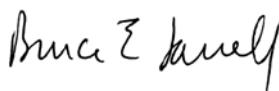
- Ellen H. Yankellow, PharmD '96, BSP '73, UMB Foundation Board trustee and Correct Rx Pharmacy Services president and CEO, announced a new \$500,000 gift to the school in honor of Natalie Eddington, PhD, FAAPS, FCP, who stepped down as dean this year.
- School of Pharmacy alumna Jill R. Molofsky, RPh, BSP '81, has committed \$200,000 in 2023 to be spent outright on an awareness marketing campaign for the school's exclusive Pharmapreneurship initiative.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

- Margaret and Sam Woodside have committed \$500,000 to create an endowment to support a School of Social Work Professorship in Economic Justice and Financial Social Work, the first such endowed professorship in the United States. Additional matching gifts will bring the total fund to over \$1.5 million.
- An anonymous donor has given \$400,000 to provide multiyear funding for the director of the Positive Schools Center in the school's Center for Restorative Change.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to all of the generous donors above and every donor not mentioned here who have made a difference in the lives of our students and the success of our University. Their generosity helps build a community where learning thrives, ideas flourish, and lives are forever changed.

Sincerely,



Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS
PRESIDENT

WELCOME TO UMB!

NEW HIRES: JUNE 2023

UMB

STAFF

Marshae Allen
Lorri Angelloz
Donielle Atkins
Aniya Buckland
Brian Cashion
Shawnette Christian
Paula Coffman
Brione Daniel
William Diggs
Dajuan Dooley
Beverly Ellerbe
Eric Gu
Jacob Gulso
Peter Henderson
Barbara Holloway
Jermaine Jones
Antonio Lanzo
Christopher Mack
Kairee McCain
Christopher Musoke
Delayn Partlow
Antonio Pennix
Donald Preston
Tony Price
Kori Scott
Jeremy Simpson
Anney Smith
Steven Staton
Brandon Stokes
Daijona Sturgis
Aaron Thompson
Kenesha Williams

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

FACULTY

Alfredo Garzino-Demo

TRAINEES

Abbasi Yasaman
Yishai Brown
Igor Rafael Correia Rocha
Naftali Price

STAFF

Seungjoon Hwang
Erin Maurantonio
Beverly Milchling

FRANCIS KING CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW

STAFF

Jason Cook
Natalie Ferrara
Frederick Hiers
Terrell Moore
Erica Smith

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

FACULTY

Lillian Assatourian
Mackenzie Heywood
Nasita Islam
Thomas Jhou
Ethan Sandler
Xiangbing Wu

TRAINEES

Aishwarya Anand
Jacob Brooks
Zachary Hough
Yijia Li
Nagarajan Maharajan
Rachel Massalee
Martha Rondon
Analisa Stevens
Shan Wang
Bradley Wilhelmy

STAFF

Nana Amponsaah-Opoku
Taylor Balovich
Alice Bell
Andrea Berkheimer
Carly Blair
Emma Bolton
Megan Broussard
Angelina Burkett
Sera Chase
Yuji Chen
Kyle Christoff
Jena Conner
Julia Conroy
Ceanna Cooney
Caroline Crone
Lian Cui
Trisha Samson David
Alexandra DiGiovanni
Dasia Edwards
Akipu Ehoche

Yasmine Farah
Star Fernandez
Joy Foster
Bryce Fowble
Trinity Gourdin
Emma Gudmundsson
Jacqueline Hendricks
Yushu Huang
Tyler Jackson
Soorya Janakiraman
Virginia Jeppi
Tavon Jones
Daniel Kadji
Adway Kanhere
Ria Kapoor
Ryan Kim
Da'Neal Knight-McCoy
Maheder Kore
Vivian Li
Joshua Libby
Danielle Matheny
Ryan McFarland
Maura McGinn
Prathibha Meesala
Adriana-Isabela Melendez-Munoz
Leslie Mohler
Kristina Monari
Abigael Muchenditsi
Vyas Muralidharan
Laura Nnadi
Oluwakemi Okiji
Cynthia Paige-Desi
Megan Palmer
Samir Patel
Ananya Patri
Claire Pfaeffle
Dominique Pittman-Kidd
Cassidy Reandeau
Peyton Roberts
Belinda Rodriguez
Abigail Rosenberg
Colleen Russell
Nicholas Schaffer
Hannah Shen
Lauren Staub
Merel Verhoeven
Mikolaj Walczak
Vaughn Waldron
Jane Wang
Shigang Wang
Daniel Yamoah
Mohammad Yousof
Timothy Zhang

SCHOOL OF NURSING

FACULTY

Yvette Conyers
Carrie Kirkpatrick
Mayra Munoz
Amber Nowak
Catherine O'Malley
Marleen Thornton
Pang-Yen Tseng

STAFF

Lillian Abraham
Amatullah Ali
Kelly Armstrong
Barbara Cornman
Caitlin Corona
Arcelia Duque
Karen Lynch
Stephen Mage
Frank Pecoraro
Kade Randall
Stefan Specian
Kendra Welborn

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

TRAINEES

Derek Edwards
Erik Nordquist

STAFF

Makenzie Blackstone
Kelly Hoang
Patricia Hoye
Judith Martinak
Arianna Piluk
Lydia Stoehr
MaryKatherine Weigman
Janet Zhang

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

STAFF

Cindy Baez
Maya Montenegro
Nayely Rivera-Lavaire

THIS LISTING OF NEW HIRES IS PROVIDED BY UMB HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES. TRAINEES INCLUDE CLINICAL FELLOWS, POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS, RESEARCH FELLOWS, AND RESIDENT G1 FELLOWS.

LAURELS

JULY/AUGUST 2023

UNIVERSITYWIDE



JESSIE BAUER

Jessie Bauer, library services specialist in resources, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, presented “Book It Forward: Library Outreach to West Baltimore”

at the Maryland Library Association Annual Conference in Cambridge, Md.

Tiffany N. Chavis, MSW, MLIS, LCSW-C, health literacy librarian, Region 1 of the Network of the National Library of Medicine, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, had her review of the book “Indigenous Public Health: Improvement Through Community Engaged Interventions” published in the *Journal of Consumer Health* in June.



THOMAS LEONE

Thomas Leone, MSL, assistant vice president for public safety and chief of police, received the 2022-2023 International Association of Campus Law Enforcement

Administrators (IACLEA) Award for Innovations in Community Policing at the IACLEA Conference in June.



CHRISTINE NIEMAN HISLOP

Christine Nieman Hislop, data management librarian, Region 1 of the Network of the National Library of Medicine, Health

Sciences and Human Services Library, presented “Data for All: Lessons Learned from a Mini-Course on Data Accessibility and Inclusivity” at the 48th Annual International Association for Social Science Information Service and Technology Conference in Philadelphia.

Faith Steele, MLS, AHIP, outreach and education librarian, Region 1, Network of the National Library of Medicine, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, was promoted to librarian level 3.

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY



OKSANA MISHLER

Oksana Mishler, RDH, MS, DHSc, clinical instructor, Division of Periodontics, received the Teacher of the Year Award from the graduating

dental hygiene Class of 2023.



SUEPHIE NAZEMIAN

Suephie Nazemian, fourth-year dental student, was the lead author of “What Every Dentist Needs to Know About the Use of Artificial

Intelligence in Dentistry,” which was published in *General Dentistry*. The co-authors included fourth-year dental students **Steven Boggs**, **Esther Jung**, **Heba Abu Shakra**, and

Yasmin Lotfalikhhan-Zand; third-year dental student **Elvia Jimenez Ciriaco**; and UMSOD faculty members **Jeffery B. Price, DDS, MS**, and **Nasir Bashirelahi, PhD**.



ALISON SCOTT

Alison Scott, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Microbial Pathogenesis, and colleagues received a \$2.8 million grant from the National Institutes

of Health to research lipid droplet homeostasis in Alzheimer’s disease.



SHEREECE F. SINGLETON

Shereece F. Singleton, MS, office manager, Department of Microbial Pathogenesis, was a finalist in the Loyalty Award category of the 2023

Philadelphia Admin Awards, which recognize the achievements, dedication, and important roles played by administrative professionals.

GRADUATE SCHOOL



DONALD DONAHUE

Donald Donahue, DHEd, MBA, MSJ, professor, was elected president of the World Association for Disaster and Emergency Medicine.

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.

LAURELS

JULY/AUGUST 2023



CHERI HENDRIX

Cheri Hendrix, DHEd, MSBME, PA-C, associate professor and assistant dean for physician assistant education, completed the UMB President's

Leadership Program, an eight-month program designed for associate and assistant vice presidents and associate and assistant deans who have demonstrated strong potential to lead and are motivated to advance and grow at the University.



COURTNEY JONES CARNEY

Courtney Jones Carney, DPA, MBA, program director, Intercultural Leadership Postbaccalaureate Certificate and MS in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Leadership, and **Shani Fleming, MSHS, MPH, PA-C**, associate professor and chief equity, diversity, and inclusion officer, conducted the session "The Professionalization of DEI Practice Through Academic Programs" at the 2023 National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in New Orleans. Jones Carney also facilitated "Train-the-Trainer: Intergroup and Caucus Dialogue" at the conference.

Melissa Murfin, PharmD, MPAS, PA-C, associate professor, and **Jeanine Gargiulo, MPAS, PA-C**, assistant professor, presented "Pharmacogenetics in Clinical Practice:



SHANI FLEMING



MELISSA MURFIN



JEANINE GARGIULO

Focus on Opioids" at the 2023 American Academy of Physician Associates Conference in Nashville.

Teresa Rogers, MMS, PA-C, assistant professor, presented "Motivational Interviewing: A Tool to Help Resolve Ambivalence in Those with Substance Use Disorder" at the 2023 American Academy of Physician Associates Conference in Nashville.

CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW



PATRICIA CAMPBELL

Patricia Campbell, JD, professor and director, Intellectual Property Law Program, was appointed to the National Academies of

Sciences, Engineering and Medicine's Global Microelectronics: Models for the Department of Defense in Semiconductor Public-Private Partnerships Research Committee.



DEBORAH EISENBERG

Deborah Eisenberg, JD, professor and associate dean for academic affairs, presented "Leading Change in Law

Schools Through ADR Skills" at the American Bar Association Dispute Resolution Conference on May 10.



SARA EVERHART

Sara Everhart, JD, visiting assistant professor and managing director, Agriculture Law Education Initiative, wrote "Growing Carbon Credits:

Strengthening the Agricultural Sector's Participation in Voluntary Carbon Markets Through Law and Policy," which was published in the *NYU Environmental Law Journal*.

Larry Gibson, JD, professor, was quoted in "For Seat, the City Might Be Wild Card," which was published in *The Baltimore Sun* on May 21.



LEIGH GOODMARK

Leigh Goodmark, JD, professor and co-director, Clinical Law Program, co-authored the op-ed "Prison Can't Prevent Domestic Abuse. Transformative

Accountability Programs Can," which was published in *Truthout* on May 13.



MARK GRABER

Mark Graber, JD, professor, received the 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Law & Courts Section of the American Political Science Association.

LAURELS

JULY/AUGUST 2023



MICHAEL GREENBERGER

Michael Greenberger, JD, professor and founding director, Center for Health and Homeland Security, was named to the *Maryland Daily Record's* Power List for Cybersecurity/Technology.



DIANE HOFFMANN

Diane Hoffmann, JD, professor and director, Law and Health Care Program, was quoted in "Maryland Stem Cell Research Commission Announces Over

\$14 Million in Awards to Accelerate Cures," which was published in *Business Insider* on May 9.



RENÉE MCDONALD HUTCHINS

Renée McDonald Hutchins, JD, dean and professor, was quoted in "How Lawyers Can Take Advantage of ChatGPT and Other Large Language

Models Disrupting the Legal Industry," which was published in the *ABA Journal* on May 11.



PAULA MONOPOLI

Paula Monopoli, JD, professor and founding director, Women, Leadership & Equality Program, was quoted in "SPLC Lawyer Nancy Abudu

Confirmed to the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals," which was published on the Southern Poverty Law Center website May 18.



AADHITHI PADMANABHAN

Aadhithi Padmanabhan, JD, assistant professor and director, Federal Appellate Immigration Clinic, wrote the op-ed "The Border Comes

to Baltimore," which was published in *The Baltimore Sun* on May 22.



ROBERT PERCIVAL

Robert Percival, JD, professor and director, Environmental Law Program, presented "Enforcement of International Environmental Law" at the

Comparative Enforcement of International Law Workshop at Rutgers Law School-Newark on May 15.



MICHAEL PINARD

Michael Pinard, JD, professor and co-director, Clinical Law Program, was a moderator for the session "Excavating Hope Through Clinical Teaching

and Substantive Practice" at the Association of American Law Schools Conference on Clinical Legal Education on April 28.



NATALIE RAM

Natalie Ram, JD, professor, wrote "The Ethics of Human Sequences in Environmental Samples," which was published in *Nature Ecology & Evolution* on May 15.



DONALD TOBIN

Donald Tobin, JD, professor, wrote "A Preliminary Analysis of the New U.S. News Law School Rankings," which was published on the "TaxProf Blog" on May 10.

Liza Vertinsky, JD, professor, was interviewed on "CBS Saturday Morning" for its story "How Lawsuits Against Opioid Manufacturers, Sellers Are Making an Impact."



MARLEY WEISS

Marley Weiss, JD, professor, presented "From the Shop Floor to the Bargaining Table: The Resurgent Labor Movement in the US and Globally" at

the American Bar Association International Labor and Employment Law Committee Mid-Year Meeting in Amsterdam on May 2.

LAURELS

JULY/AUGUST 2023

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



MAUREEN BLACK

Maureen Black, PhD, professor emerita, Department of Pediatrics, was among the co-authors of “Association Between Material Hardship in

Families with Young Children and Federal Relief Program Participation by Race and Ethnicity and Maternal Nativity,” which was published in *JAMA Health Forum*.



MIRIAM BLITZER

Miriam Blitzer, PhD, professor, Department of Pediatrics, was among the co-authors of “The 2019 Medical Genetics Workforce: A Focus on

Laboratory Geneticists,” which was published in *Genetics in Medicine*.



JAMES CAMPBELL

James Campbell, MD, MS, professor, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, received an 18-month, \$1,062,081 grant from the National

Institutes of Health’s Division of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases for “A Phase 2 Randomized, Open-Label, Multisite Trial to Inform Public Health Strategies Involving the Use of MVA-BN Vaccine for Mpx.”



SIDDHARTHA DANTE

Siddhartha Dante, MD, assistant professor, Department of Pediatrics, was the second author of “Treatment Guideline Nonadherence Pretransport

Associated with Need for Higher Level of Care in Children Transferred to a Pediatric Tertiary Care Center for Status Epilepticus,” which was published in *Pediatric Emergency Care*.

Emily DeMarco, graduate student, Program in Neuroscience, received a three-year, \$122,178 F31 Individual National Research Service Award Fellowship from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke for “Elucidating the Dynamic Role of PTP σ in Synaptic Nano-Organization and NMDA Receptor Function.”

Megan Deming, MD, PhD, assistant professor, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, received the Early Career Investigator Award from the Infectious Diseases Clinical Research Consortium.

Jonathan Fay, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, was the co-corresponding author of “Ligand and G-Protein Selectivity in the K-Opioid Receptor,” which was published in *Nature*.

Roy Film, PT, MPT, DPT, OCS, FAAOMPT, assistant professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, presented “Shelter from the Storm: Mitigating the Risk of Chronic Postsurgical Pain”

as the keynote speaker at the Society of Opioid-Free Anesthesia Annual Congress in Panama City Beach, Fla.



MEAGAN FITZPATRICK

Meagan Fitzpatrick, PhD, assistant professor, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, was interviewed for “Federal Public Health Emergency: What’s Next,” a series of videos published on the *SciLine* website.



MARTIN FLAJNIK

Martin Flajnik, PhD, professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, gave the lecture “Whence the Adaptive Immune System?” at the Harvard

University School of Medicine.



KAREN KOTLOFF

Karen Kotloff, MD, professor, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, was interviewed by Montgomery Community Media for “Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine Update.”

Miriam Laufer, MD, MPH, professor, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, was appointed to the Scientific Consultant Group of the USAID Malaria Vaccine Development Program.

LAURELS

JULY/AUGUST 2023



MARY KAY LOBO

Mary Kay Lobo, PhD, professor, Department of Neurobiology, presented “Molecular and Cellular Basis of Preclinical Mental Health and Substance

Use Disorders” at the 20th Annual Mariann Blum Memorial Lectureship in the Neurosciences at UT Health San Antonio.



KIRSTEN LYKE

Kirsten Lyke, MD, professor, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, received the Best Scientific Publication Award of 2022-2023 from the

Infectious Diseases Clinical Research Consortium for “Homologous and Heterologous COVID-19 Booster Vaccinations,” which was published in *The New England Journal of Medicine*.



ROSANGELA MEZGHANNI

Rosangela Mezghanni, PhD, associate professor, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, presented “Early Controllers of *Salmonella* Infection:

An Organoid Perspective” at the 2nd Annual Herman and Walter Samuelson Foundation Symposium in Stem Cell Research.

Kathleen Neuzil, MD, MPH, FIDSA, professor and director, Center for Vaccine Development and Global

Health, was a panelist for the 2023 Women in Medicine Breakfast for Edwards Vaccinology and Infectious Diseases Symposium at Vanderbilt University in Nashville.



KATHLEEN NEUZIL



MARCELA PASETTI

Marcela Pasetti, PhD, professor, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, received a one-year, \$201,792 grant from the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency

for “Measures for Establishment of Memory Signatures in Early Activated Lymphocytes (MEMSEAL).”

Stephanie Pollitt, PhD, postdoctoral fellow, Department of Physiology, received a three-year, \$202,746 F32 Individual National Research Service Award Fellowship from the National Institute of Mental Health for “Mechanisms of Cell Adhesion Molecule LRRTM2 in Basal and Potentiated Synaptic Signaling.”



MILAGRITOS TAPIA

Milagritos Tapia, MD, professor, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, presented “A Phase II Study to Evaluate the Safety, Immunogenicity and Effect on

Infant Immune Responses of a Single Dose of Tdap in Pregnant Women in Mali” at the 2023 Infectious Diseases

Clinical Research Consortium Annual Meeting in Bethesda, Md.

Jinghao Zhou, PhD, associate professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was among the co-authors of “An Improved 3D KiU-Net for Segmentation of Liver Tumor,” which was published in *Computers in Biology and Medicine*.



JINGHAO ZHOU

SCHOOL OF NURSING



OLUREMI ADEJUMO



CHARLOTTE NWOGWUGWU

Oluremi Adejumo, DNP '19, RN, FIAAN, and **Charlotte Nwogwugwu, DrPH, BSN, HIV PCP, CPH-BC**, both assistant professors, were named the fall 2023 UMSON Dean's Scholarship Scholars, which recognizes their outstanding achievements and potential in research.

Jamal Beale was promoted to senior maintenance mechanic.



JAMAL BEALE

LAURELS

JULY/AUGUST 2023



AMANDA J. BILLIG

Amanda J. Billig, DNP '23, CRNA, was named the Student Registered Nurse Anesthetist of the Year by Baltimore Veterans Affairs.

Candyce Bracey was promoted to senior accountant.



CANDYCE BRACEY

Andrea Brassard, PhD, FNP-BC, FAANP, FAAN, CNE, associate professor, wrote the op-ed “Nurse Staffing Standards Act Is First Step in Solving Nursing Shortage,” which was published on the *American Journal of Nursing's* “Off the Charts” blog May 11.



RACHEL BREMAN

Rachel Breman, PhD '18, MPH, RN, assistant professor, received the 2022 Outstanding Peer Reviewer Award from the *Journal of Midwifery and Women's*

Health, honoring those with the highest quantity and quality of peer reviews over the past year.



STACEY CONRAD

Stacey Conrad, MBA, associate dean for development and alumni relations, was one of 12 UMB employees who

comprised the fourth cohort to graduate from the UMB President's University Leadership Program.

Yvette Conyers, DNP, RN, FNP-C, CTN-B, CFCN, CFCS, was appointed associate dean for equity, diversity, and inclusion and assistant professor.

Hershaw Davis Jr., MS, BSN '09, RN, clinical instructor, was quoted in “A Target on My Back: New Survey Shows Racism Is a Huge Problem in Nursing,” which was published on *StatNews.com* on May 30.



HERSHAW DAVIS JR.



MEGAN DOEDE

Megan Doede, PhD '19, MS '13, RN, assistant professor, was recognized in the Educator category in *Baltimore* magazine's Excellence in Nursing Awards.



KELLY DORAN

Kelly Doran, PhD '11, MS '08, RN, FAAN, associate professor, is the co-investigator on the “Preventing Early Career Burnout and Attrition in Early

Career Behavioral Health Professionals in Social Work and Nursing: A Qualitative Pilot Study,” which received a one-year, \$50,000 Science to Systems pilot grant from the University of

Maryland Center for Addiction Research, Education, and Service.



ERIKA FRIEDMANN



ROBYN GILDEN

Erika Friedmann, PhD, professor and associate dean for research, and **Robyn Gilden, PhD '10, MS '01, RN,** associate professor and director, Environmental Health Certificate Program, were among the co-authors of “Systematic Review: Association of Pesticide Exposure and Child Wheeze and Asthma,” which was published in *Current Pediatric Reviews* in May.



LINDA J. HICKMAN

Linda J. Hickman, PhD, MBA, RN, FACHE, assistant professor, received the University of Maryland School of Nursing Colleague Award at the

University of Maryland Medical Center's Nursing Excellence Awards Ceremony on May 9.

Maeve Howett, PhD, APRN, CPNP-PC, CNE, associate professor and associate dean, Baccalaureate Program, was quoted in “Some Schools Have Boycotted U.S. News & World Report College Rankings. Do Maryland Educators, Students Care?” which was published in *The Baltimore Sun* on May 18.

LAURELS

JULY/AUGUST 2023



KIM MOONEY-DOYLE

Kim Mooney-Doyle, PhD, RN, CPNP-AC, assistant professor, gave two podium presentations at the 16th International Family Nursing Conference

on June 21-23 in Dublin, Ireland: “Family Impact of Serious Pediatric Illness: A Scoping Review” and “Ethics in Family Education, Practice, Research, and Policy: A Survey of IFNA Members.”



MARY ETTA MILLS



KRISTIN L. SEIDL

Eun-Shim Nahm, PhD '03, RN, FAAN, FGSA, professor and associate dean, PhD Program; **Mary Etta Mills, ScD, MS '73, BSN '71, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN**, retired professor; and **Kristin L. Seidl, PhD, RN**, assistant professor, presented during a virtual Nursing Ground Rounds on March 22 as part of the UMNursing Care Coordination Implementation Collaborative.

Veronica “Ronnie” Quattrini, DNP, MS '99, BSN '85, FNP-BC, assistant professor and senior director, Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, and **Amanda Roesch, DNP, MPH, FNP-C**, assistant professor, delivered the presentation “Addressing Nurse Practitioner Role Core Competencies



VERONICA “RONNIE” QUATTRINI



AMANDA ROESCH

in Advanced Health Assessment” at the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties Annual Conference in Orlando, Fla., in April.



JANET SELWAY

Janet Selway, DNSc, AGNP-C, CPNP-PC, FAANP, associate professor and director, Doctor of Nursing Practice Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner

Specialty, was quoted in “How a Bill That Sounds Good and Has Lots of Support Gets Quietly Killed, with Good Reasons,” which was published on *MarylandReporter.com* on May 9.

Shari L. Simone, DNP '11, MS '96, RN, CPNP-AC, APRN-BC, FAANP, FCCM, FAAN, assistant professor, was selected for the Society of Critical Care Medicine’s (SCCM) Best of SCCM Congress for her presentation “How to Implement Delirium Screening in the PICU and What to Do with Your Results?”



NICOLE E. SMITH

Nicole E. Smith, PhD, MS '14, RN, CNE, CHSE, CNE-cl, assistant professor, received the 2023 Kendall Service Award

for Excellence in Teaching at the Universities at Shady Grove.

B. Elias Snyder, MS '14, FNP-C, ACHPN, director, Office of Global Health, received a \$20,000 seed grant from the UMB Center for Interprofessional Education for “Ethics, Decolonization, and Social Justice in Global Health.”



NANCY CULPEPPER

Rebecca Weston, EdD, MSN, RN, CNE, assistant professor; **Patricia Schaefer, DNP, RN, CNE-cl, CHSE, CNE**, assistant professor and director, Simulation Lab at

the Universities at Shady Grove; and **Nancy Culpepper, MBA**, director, Standardized Patient Program, received a \$25,000 seed grant from the UMB Center for Interprofessional Education for “Collaborating Across Disciplines to Recruit, Train, Retrain, and Effectively Utilize People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities as Standardized Patients.”



KARI WHEELER

Kari Wheeler, DNP '23, RN, CPHON, BMTCN, CPN, received the 2023 Outstanding DNP Project Award at the DNP Poster Day event May 9 for

her work focusing on enhancing self-management of chemotherapy-induced vomiting with patient-reported outcome measures.

LAURELS

JULY/AUGUST 2023

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

Claudia Baquet, MD, MPH, affiliate professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, received a two-year, \$550,000 cooperative agreement from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for “Racial and Ethnic Minority Acceleration for Health Equity Consortium.”



NICOLE BRANDT

Nicole Brandt, PharmD, MBA, BCPP, CGP, FASCP, professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, and executive

director, Peter Lamy Center on Drug Therapy and Aging, received a two-year, \$170,000 contract from Enterprise Community Development for “Contract with Enterprise Community Development, Inc.”



ANDREW COOP

Andrew Coop, PhD, professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, and associate dean of academic affairs, was named interim associate dean for graduate programs.



SUSAN DOSREIS

Susan dosReis, PhD, professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, was appointed to the

Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute’s Standing Reviewer Board.

Allison Dunn, PharmD, MS, research assistant professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, received a two-month, \$37,500 contract from NewAmsterdam Pharma for “Proposal for PK Analysis of Obicetrapib.”



JOGA GOBURRU

Joga Goburru, PhD, MBA, professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, and director, Center for Translational

Medicine, was named to UMB’s Digital Health Advisory Board.



MICHELLE MEDEIROS

Michelle Medeiros, MS, MA, CCRP, director of research, PATIENTS Program, Department of Practice, Sciences, and

Health Outcomes Research (PSHOR), and **Claudia Baquet, MD**, affiliate professor, PSHOR, received a one-year, \$499,998 grant from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for “Community-Defined Measures to Bridge Health Equity Gaps for COVID-19: Small Town and Rural Needs.”

Nick Montes, graduate student, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a National Institutes of Health Diversity Supplement Award.



JASON NOEL

Jason Noel, PharmD, MPA, BCPP, associate professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research,

received a two-year, \$276,264 contract from the Maryland Department of Health for “Facilities and Community Based Psychopharmacology Consultation.”



KATY PINCUS

Katy Pincus, PharmD, BCPS, associate professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, received a certified diabetes care and education specialist credential.



JAMES POLLI

James Polli, PhD, the Noxell/Shangraw Endowed Chair in Industrial Pharmacy and Pharmaceutics and co-director, Maryland Center of Excellence in

Regulatory Science and Innovation and the Center for Research on Complex Generics, received a five-year, \$50 million cooperative agreement from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for “University of Maryland Center of Excellence in Regulatory Science and Innovation.”

LAURELS

JULY/AUGUST 2023



JULIA SLEJKO

Julia Slejko, PhD, associate professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, received an eight-month, \$15,983

contract from the National Health Council for “Dissemination of Recommendations for Patient-Centered Value Assessment.”



DEANNA TRAN

Deanna Tran, PharmD, BCACP, FAPhA, associate professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research,

was appointed to the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy PioneerRx Workgroup.

Hongbing Wang, PhD, professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, and **Angela Wilks, PhD**, the Isaac E. Emerson Chair of Pharmaceutical Sciences, were named interim co-chairs of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Fengtian Xue, PhD, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a one-year, \$99,999 contract from Johns Hopkins University for “Developing Novel Therapeutics for ALS-Associated Proteotoxicity.”

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



RICHARD BARTH



BETHANY LEE

Richard Barth, PhD, and **Bethany Lee, PhD**, both professors, were among the co-authors of a paper that was published in *Residential Treatment for Children & Youth* and explores shared family care, which involves placing children and parent(s) together in out-of-home settings to avoid the complexities of family separation without diminishing safety.



CHRISTABEL CHEUNG

Christabel Cheung, PhD, assistant professor, was among the co-authors of “Excess Risk of Chronic Health Conditions in Hispanic Survivors of Adolescent

and Young Adult Cancers,” which was published in the *Journal of Cancer Survivorship*.



LAURIE GRAHAM

Laurie Graham, PhD, assistant professor, was among the co-authors of “Intimate Partner Violence Circumstances for Fatal

Violence in the US,” which was published in *JAMA Network Open*.



NANCY KUSMAUL

Nancy Kusmaul, PhD, associate professor, was among the co-authors of a paper that was published in *Social Work in Health Care* and explores what factors influence

nursing home social workers who report they are thriving at work.

Bethany Lee, PhD, professor, received the Dr. Patricia Sokolove Outstanding Mentor Award, which is selected by the University Student Government Association and recognizes a faculty member at UMB who provides outstanding mentoring to students.



NANCY FRANKE



TODD BECKER

Corey Shdaimah, PhD, the Daniel Thursz Distinguished Professor of Social Justice, and **Nancy Franke** and **Todd Becker**, both PhD students, were among the co-authors of a paper that was published in *Anti-Trafficking Review Special Issue: Home and Homelessness* and explores housing in the context of court-affiliated prostitution diversion programs in Baltimore and Philadelphia.

SAVE THE DATE

Please join President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS,
at the second annual

CONVOCATION

welcoming our

Outstanding Faculty

TO THE NEW ACADEMIC YEAR

THURSDAY, SEPT. 14, 2023 | 10 A.M.

Under the tent at 650 W. Lexington St. (Koester's Lot)

FACULTY SPEAKERS

Glenn Canares, DDS, MSD
School of Dentistry

Laundette Jones, PhD, MPH
School of Medicine

Amal Mattu, MD
School of Medicine

Recognizing UMB's Distinguished University Professors

William T. Carpenter, MD
School of Medicine

Donald G. Gifford, JD
Francis King Carey School of Law

Fadia T. Shaya, PhD, MPH
School of Pharmacy

Robert K. Ernst, PhD
School of Dentistry

Geoffrey Greif, PhD, MSW, LCSW-C
School of Social Work

J. Marc Simard, MD, PhD
School of Medicine

Claire Fraser, PhD
School of Medicine

Margaret M. "Peg" McCarthy, PhD
School of Medicine



UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND
BALTIMORE

LEADERSHIP

JULY/AUGUST 2023

‘STANDOUT’ OGBOLU NAMED DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF NURSING

Yolanda Ogbolu, PhD '11, MS '05, BSN '04, CRNP-Neonatal, FNAP, FAAN, is the new Bill and Joanne Conway Dean of the University of Maryland School of Nursing (UMSON), succeeding Jane M. Kirschling, PhD, RN, FAAN, who stepped down after a 10½-year tenure.

An experienced researcher, educator, clinician, and public servant, Ogbolu is an associate professor at UMSON and has served as chair of the Department of Partnerships, Professional Education, and Practice and co-director of its Center for Health Equity and Outcomes Research.

Ogbolu's work in community health embodies the University's mission to improve the human condition, said UMB President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, who announced her selection as dean June 9.

“Through her research and scholarship focus on health equity, improving the social determinants of health, dissemination and implementation of health equity research and policy into clinical practice, and improving the lives of vulnerable newborns and their families, Dr. Ogbolu is the perfect choice to lead the School of Nursing into its next chapter,” Jarrell said.

Mark A. Reynolds, DDS, PhD, MA, dean of the University of Maryland School of Dentistry, who co-chaired the search committee, said, “Dr. Ogbolu is a standout, offering a distinguished record of academic achievement and health sciences leadership, demonstrated commitment to health equity, and unwavering dedication to the School of Nursing. She is ideally suited to lead the school and to further advance excellence in education, research, clinical care, and service.”

Ogbolu was appointed to the UMSON faculty in 2010 as deputy director of the school's Office of Global Health and became its director in 2015. During her tenure, she developed and grew the global health program at UMSON and UMB. She forged and maintained international partnerships; developed new global health education initiatives, including a Global Health Certificate program and service-learning opportunities; and created a culture of interprofessional collaboration across campus.

“I am humbled to follow in the footsteps of Dean Kirschling and grateful for her many contributions to the school and to the nursing profession,” Ogbolu said. “I also have great hope and optimism for the future as we begin the next chapter in our history as a trailblazing school of nursing, building on the work of our predecessors and the school's 134-year legacy of excellence.”



PHOTO BY MATTHEW D'AGOSTINO
YOLANDA OGBOLU ASSUMED HER NEW ROLE AS THE BILL AND JOANNE CONWAY DEAN OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF NURSING ON JULY 17.

Ogbolu has dedicated her career to addressing health disparities in marginalized communities here and abroad. Most recently, her efforts have focused on addressing local health inequities, including improving the provision of care to culturally and linguistically diverse patients and addressing social determinants of health and social isolation.

Raised just two blocks from UMB, Ogbolu describes her commitment to UMB and Baltimore as “unwavering, partly because this is the neighborhood where I grew up and in which I now have the capacity to lead change.”

As chair of the Social Determinants of Health Taskforce of Baltimore City, formed in 2018, Ogbolu leads a group charged with identifying and examining the negative social factors that cause hardship for Baltimore residents and for developing and implementing solutions.

Fifteen years after becoming a nurse and while continuing to practice as a board-certified neonatal nurse practitioner, Ogbolu returned to nursing school and became a three-time UMSON graduate, earning her BSN, MS, and PhD from the school.

Ogbolu has received numerous honors, including the 2022 UMB Public Servant of the Year Award and the 2014 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. UMB Outstanding Faculty Diversity Recognition Award. She was recognized as a UMB Champion of Excellence in 2015 and was one of the faculty speakers at the University's inaugural Convocation in 2022.

— Emily Chappell

Read more about Ogbolu's appointment [at this link](#). ↗

WELL-BEING

JULY/AUGUST 2023

GETTING THEIR 'DOGTORATES': UMB HONORS THERAPY AND SERVICE DOGS

Make no bones about it: These dogs are a breed apart.

The University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) honored therapy and service dogs during Paws to Honor: UMB Service and Therapy Dog Awareness Day in which “dogtorate” degrees were “confurred” on the companions of three recent graduates:



PHOTO BY MATTHEW D'AGOSTINO

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE GRADUATE CAROLINE BENZEL HOPES TO CONTINUE HER THERAPY DOG WORK WITH “DOGTOR” LOKI.

- Caroline Benzel, MD '23, School of Medicine, and therapy dog Loki
- Paola Urbistondo-Jimenez, PharmD '23, School of Pharmacy, and service dog Kylo Red
- Courtney Bergan, JD '23, Francis King Carey School of Law, and service dog Kiera

While other universities have honored service dogs alongside their humans during commencement ceremonies, UMB's ceremony in June is believed to be one of the first in the U.S. to be held separately by a university to honor the companions who accompany students to class and offer comfort to patients at hospitals and others in need.

Dressed in regalia, UMB President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, presided over the event on the Health Sciences Research Facility III patio, giving special recognition to Benzel and her 5-year-

old Rottweiler nicknamed “Dogtor” Loki, for their work at the University of Maryland Medical Center (UMMC).

In virtual therapy sessions with UMMC front-line workers during the COVID-19 pandemic, Benzel noticed the wear and tear that personal protection equipment was causing. She started Dogtor Loki's Hero Healing Kits, distributing supplies such as lotion, powder, Vaseline, lip balm, instant coffee, and tea to front-line workers, with Loki as the face of the effort. Loki and Benzel, who raised over \$100,000, have received numerous awards for their work, including the American Kennel Club Paw of Courage Award and the American Rottweiler Club Heroism Award.

“After seeing the impact of Dogtor Loki and Dr. Benzel, the University of Maryland Medical Center expanded its therapy dog program,” Jarrell said. “Loki has clearly had a tremendous impact on people's lives, and this wouldn't have been possible without Dr. Benzel.”

Jarrell then asked Loki, who was wearing her doctor's coat and a mortarboard, for her paw to present her with the Dogtorate of Medicine and also awarded her a special medal.

Benzel, who hopes to continue her therapy work with Loki during her residency in family medicine at West Virginia University in Harpers Ferry, joked that while she is Loki's owner, she sometimes feels like her manager, PR person, trainer, and masseuse.

“My family said they thought it was special that my dog was way more successful than I'll ever be,” she said to laughter. “And I told them, one year of medical school is seven dog years, so she probably should have a PhD as well.”

“It truly has been an honor to meet so many amazing people at the University of Maryland and for them to welcome us with such open arms. A lot of times having a Rottweiler that is a working dog can come with a little rocky territory, but Baltimore has a very open personality.”

BROAD SCOPE OF THERAPY WORK

Before the event, Benzel recounted two memorable and meaningful patient interactions with Loki at UMMC. Loki comforted a woman who was alone by her dying mother's bedside because other family members were traveling from a distance to the hospital.

“Loki ended up spending six hours with her head on her lap so the woman wouldn't be alone,” Benzel said. “It shows that there's

Continued from previous page

a broad scope of what you can do with therapy work. It's not just being there when they're doing well but also the worst times."

She also described how Loki helped a teen at Christmas who was injured in a car accident and was not doing well emotionally.

"She really missed her friends and family and her dog and home," Benzel said. "The moment Loki walked in the room, the girl's whole demeanor changed. She was willing to start doing physical therapy. She ended up jumping out of bed. Her recovery improved drastically from that moment."

Kerry Sobol, MBA, RN, director of patient experience at UMMC, said Benzel made an impact on the hospital's therapy dog program, which now includes nine teams.

"The pandemic was such a stressful time for everyone. Having someone like Caroline helping us build our program and make a difference every day was not only effective, but also built such a warm and friendly relationship that continues today with many people at the hospital. She has quite the following," Sobol said.

'SOMETHING TO CELEBRATE'

The ceremony continued with Jarrell recognizing recent graduates Urbistondo-Jimenez and Kylo Red and Bergan and Kiera with a Dogtorate of Pharmacy and Juris Dogtorate, respectively.

"Paola is starting her career as a pharmacist and hopes to bring visibility to the medical center providers and service animals of their own in health care settings," Jarrell said. "Courtney has shared that Kiera has helped to embrace their disability and to live independently in the community."

Urbistondo-Jimenez, who learned that morning she had been accepted to a compound pharmacy fellowship in Boston, said after the ceremony that being honored was unexpected but joyful.



PHOTO BY MATTHEW D'AGOSTINO
PAOLA URBISTONDO-JIMENEZ, A SCHOOL OF PHARMACY GRADUATE, HAD HER SERVICE DOG, KYLO RED, TRAINED DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

"I'm excited that disabilities are not seen as a weakness but something to celebrate, living your life and being successful with a disability," she said. "It's nice to have these kinds of events that show disabilities don't stop you and don't define you, and we have tools like dogs to help us through it. I was able to have him throughout my journey and all the acceptance throughout the whole campus."

Urbistondo-Jimenez said Kylo Red, a 3-year-old goldendoodle, was her pet when her physician suggested training him as her service dog since he was still a puppy. He was trained during the pandemic and later accompanied her to classes, exams, and experiential learning.

Bergan's service dog, Kiera, a 6-year-old labradoodle, nearly stole the show as she took the degree from Jarrell in a completely acceptable way: with her mouth.

Bergan, who will be a public service law fellow working with Disability Rights Maryland on community inclusion, said Kiera was trained on a college campus.

"It was nice to have an opportunity for her to get acknowledged for all her hard work," said Bergan.

— Jen Badie

Read more, see photos, and watch a video about the event [at this link.](#)



PHOTO BY
MATTHEW
D'AGOSTINO
KIERA, A SERVICE
DOG FOR
MARYLAND CAREY
LAW GRADUATE
COURTNEY
BERGAN, HOLDS
HER "DOGTORATE"
DEGREE DURING
THE PAWS TO
HONOR EVENT.



FALL KICK -OFF

SPONSORED BY UMB STUDENT AFFAIRS

SEPT. 8-15, 2023

Celebrate the fall semester by meeting new friends, eating great local food, having inclusive conversations, finding campus resources, and creating new memories.

**DISCOVER WHAT IT MEANS TO CALL
UMB AND BALTIMORE HOME**

UMMARYLAND.EDU/WELCOME #UMBKICKOFF23

INNOVATION AND DISCOVERY

JULY/AUGUST 2023

KAHLERT INSTITUTE TO SPUR INNOVATION IN ADDICTION TREATMENT, PREVENTION

With an urgent mission to address the alarming rise in drug overdose deaths, the University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM) announced plans May 31 to open the new Kahlert Institute for Addiction Medicine. It will be funded with a \$10 million gift from the Maryland-based Kahlert Foundation, with an additional \$10 million provided by the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) and \$5 million from UMSOM to renovate research facilities on campus. UMSOM has committed to raise an additional \$5 million in philanthropic donations for the Kahlert Institute.

With a commitment of \$30 million in funding, the Kahlert Institute will bring together leading addiction experts in a shared research space to collaborate and create the synergy necessary for systemic change. UMSOM faculty will serve as an integral part of this institute. They will include neuroscientists, studying the brain mechanisms underlying substance use and its lifelong consequences, and clinical researchers investigating potential interventions in patient trials. Institute members also will include substance use disorder specialists who understand the daily realities of caring for patients with complex disorders often involving psychiatric illness, trauma, and socioeconomic stressors.

“We need revolutionary progress in the area of addiction treatment and recovery. The Kahlert Foundation recognizes that to achieve radical innovation, you need to bring together the leading experts across multiple disciplines,” said Greg Kahlert, president of the Kahlert Foundation. “Millions of people are affected by addiction in this country. We are hopeful that the Kahlert Institute for Addiction Medicine will discover new treatments that will save countless lives in the future.”

Maryland has experienced a more than doubling in its rate of drug overdose deaths from 2015 to 2020 — from 21 deaths to 44 deaths per 100,000 people. This increase is one of the highest in the nation, with an overdose death rate that is 50 percent higher than the national average. In Baltimore City, 964 deaths were attributed to opioid overdose in 2020, nearly triple the number of deaths from homicide.



PHOTO BY MATTHEW D'AGOSTINO

GREG KAHLERT, PRESIDENT OF THE KAHLERT FOUNDATION, SAID, “WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT THE KAHLERT INSTITUTE FOR ADDICTION MEDICINE WILL DISCOVER NEW TREATMENTS THAT WILL SAVE COUNTLESS LIVES IN THE FUTURE.”

“There is not a person I know who hasn’t been impacted by this opioid epidemic. It’s clear we need to do more,” said Kahlert Institute associate director Eric Weintraub, MD, professor of psychiatry and director of the Division of Addiction Research and Treatment at UMSOM. “One critical goal is to establish a collaboration between basic scientists in the field of addiction and clinicians who are treating patients. We need to develop strategies for research and treatment that will be effective in the long term.”

Education will serve as a foundational pillar of the Kahlert Institute with interprofessional training on addiction treatment provided within the University system, as well as to the greater Maryland community. Trainees will include community members, peer counselors, health professionals, and UMB graduates entering the medical field. The aim is to educate and increase the next generation of addiction counselors and health providers and to create a model that will serve as a national blueprint for community-academic partnerships.

Continued from previous page

“UMB is a research powerhouse dedicated to finding solutions to the most pressing problems of today, including addiction. Opioid use disorder and addiction have created a public health crisis in Baltimore, in Maryland, and across the country,” said Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, president of UMB. “UMB’s mission — to improve the human condition and serve the public good — means that we have a responsibility to do what we can to address this crisis, and I expect the research we will conduct at the Kahlert Institute will make a powerful difference.”

The Kahlert Institute will create a central hub allowing multidisciplinary investigators to bring together their knowledge and accelerate innovation by sharing the same physical space. It will be located at Health Sciences Research Facility III on the UMSOM campus with state-of-the-art labs to accelerate fundamental and translational science alongside a fully integrated space for clinical care, clinical research, and education.

“Last year, 20 million Americans were diagnosed with substance use disorder, and only 10 percent received treatment. Overall, more than 100,000 people nationally died from a drug overdose,” said UMSOM Dean Mark T. Gladwin, MD, who also is vice president for medical affairs, UMB, and the John Z. and Akiko K. Bowers Distinguished Professor, UMSOM. “The Kahlert Institute seeks to build a bridge from the lab bench, where rapid advances in fundamental neuroscience will spur innovative therapies, to the clinic, where lifesaving medications like buprenorphine and methadone require an optimized system to ensure access to any patient in need.”

Fundamental research will focus on developing and testing novel interventions, including behavioral therapies, drugs, and innovative technologies to reduce cravings, drug use, and the many complications of addiction. Faculty members also will conduct accelerated preclinical research to identify why certain individuals are more susceptible to addiction. Others will explore the cause of the high comorbidity between substance abuse disorders and neuropsychiatric diseases such as depression and schizophrenia.

Clinical studies will include analyzing innovative treatment strategies to determine, for example, how supportive therapies delivered by peer counselors can prevent relapse. The Kahlert Institute also will establish a Community Advisory Board that will include individuals with substance use disorder, community members affected by addiction, and harm reductionists.



PHOTO BY MATTHEW D'AGOSTINO

UMB PRESIDENT BRUCE JARRELL TALKS WITH ARUNA MILLER, MARYLAND'S LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, WHO SPOKE AT THE MAY 31 ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT THE NEW KAHLERT INSTITUTE FOR ADDICTION MEDICINE.

The Kahlert Institute also intends to improve the continuum of care for individuals with addiction. Patients with addictions often face additional challenges in accessing traditional health care settings. Experts will focus on creating a more effective care model to address these patients' primary health care needs and ensure that they have continued access to medication like suboxone or methadone and psychiatric services for mental health issues.

— Deborah Kotz

Read more about the Kahlert Institute [at this link](#). ↗