OUR COMMITMENT TO EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION IS STRONG

The state of equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) in the United States remains a complex and evolving landscape. Although progress has been made in recognizing the importance of EDI initiatives across various sectors, systemic barriers and disparities persist, and there is heightened pushback against EDI, especially at educational institutions. I want to be very clear that the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) remains committed to the fundamental principles and practice of equity, diversity and inclusion.

We cannot realize our mission to improve the human condition and serve the public good without addressing issues of equity and justice. This work is ongoing and requires sustained effort and commitment from all members of the University community. By fostering dialogue, promoting understanding, and embracing diversity in all its forms, we can create a more just, equitable, and inclusive society for future generations. It's imperative that we continue this important work.

In this month’s column, I want to share some updates about EDI at UMB.

Last fall, we launched UMB’s inaugural Diversity Strategic Plan: “Weaving University REPS: Diversity Action and Accountability Plan.” This plan represents a comprehensive and ambitious commitment to promoting equity, access, and opportunity for all members of our community and aligns with UMB’s 2022-2026 Strategic Plan. The Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (OEDI), led by Diane Forbes Berthoud, PhD, MA, and the Diversity Strategic Plan Committee developed the plan, which will serve as a road map and framework to activate and advance EDI at our University. (See the committee members at this link.)

The plan is built around four themes referred to as REPS:

- Increase Recruitment and Retention
- Improve Experience and Climate
- Support Professional Development and Career Advancement
- Increase alignment of Scholarship, Service, and Education toward the fulfillment of UMB’s mission

I encourage you to read the plan and actively engage in the vital work it requires. (Read the plan at this link.)

Last month, we hosted our annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Black History Month Celebration. We heard from keynote speaker Fatima Goss Graves, JD, president and CEO of the National Women’s Law Center, and honored our Diversity Recognition Award winners: Danya Qato, PhD, PharmD, MPH, of the School of Pharmacy; Rosemary Ferreira, MEd, of the UMB Intercultural Center; and the Student National Dental Association chapter at the School of Dentistry. (Read about the event on Page 10.)

In addition, OEDI is accepting applications for its Be JEDI grants until March 11. These are interprofessional/interdisciplinary innovation grants for 13-month projects and initiatives that advance Belonging (BE) and Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) at UMB.

There also are numerous activities and initiatives across the seven schools at our great University. From the School of Medicine’s recent Diversity Dinner and Celebration: Shaping Inclusive Excellence in Medicine, to the School of Nursing’s Booked for Lunch program and the School of Social Work’s J.E.D.I Summit taking place in April, there are many ways for you to get involved.

I hope that you will spend some time reviewing our Diversity Strategic Plan and decide how you will participate. We need everyone at UMB working on how we can make each person feel welcome, helping them to feel that they belong and that they can succeed here.

Sincerely,

Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS
PRESIDENT
Welcome to UMB!

New hires: February 2024

UMB
Melita Brown, Staff
Iliyah Crown, Staff
Tara Gillis, Staff
Heather Gutman, Staff
Emily Hurst, Faculty
Samantha Johnson, Staff
Ishawna McFail, Staff
Jennifer Owusu-Sekyere, Staff
Jocelyn Session-Broom, Staff
Raion Walker, Staff
Shaleece Williams, Staff

School of Dentistry
Gabriella Benincasa-Brotherton, Staff
Mohammed Eltrabily, Trainee
Ryan Yu, Staff

Graduate School
Theddeus Iheanacho, Faculty
Alexis Jones, Staff

School of Medicine
Diana Barlow, Staff
Eryn Beal, Staff
Erica Bergstein, Staff
Ashira Blazer, Faculty
Suleyman Bozkurt, Staff
Maya Brown, Staff
Eric Chen, Staff
Qinghao Chen, Faculty
Robert Freeth, Staff
Jeffrey Gerbino, Faculty
Kevin Gerold, Faculty
Steven Holsten, Faculty
Peter Ikhane, Trainee
Ariella Jacques, Faculty
Ryan Jolie, Staff
Nadja Jones, Staff

School of Pharmacy
Alisha Crump, Staff
Yang Ge, Trainee
Sooyoung Lee, Trainee

School of Nursing
Sandr Angura, Staff
Peris Bennett, Staff

Gareth Kelly, Staff
Valerie Lewis, Staff
Faith McLuckie, Staff
Jessica Nuttycombe, Staff
Jacquelyn Paylor, Staff
Darrell Robinson, Staff
Annu Singleton, Staff
Jimmy Tadlock, Staff
Raven Wilkes, Staff

Graduate School of Public Health
Alisha Crump, Staff
Yang Ge, Trainee
Sooyoung Lee, Trainee

School of Social Work
Tristan Jackson-Brown, Staff

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
MARCH 2024

UNIVERSITYWIDE

Rosemary Ferreria, MEd, associate director; Angela Jackson, MS, lead marketing specialist; and Courtney Jones Carney, DPA, MBA, executive director, all from UMB Student Affairs, received the Association of College Unions International Joseph H. Benedict Jr. Social Change Award for Racial Justice for “The Table Dialogue” online program and “The Table” podcast.

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

UMSOD’s American Student Dental Association (ASDA) chapter won the Outstanding Pre-Dental Initiative Award, the Outstanding Community Service Event Award, and the Best Social Media Award at the ASDA District 3 Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., in January.

Jose A. Bosio, BDS, MS, the Alumni and Friends Professor in Orthodontics and division chief and program director, Division of Orthodontics, Department of Orthodontics and Pediatric Dentistry, presented a lecture about dental transposition at the Angle Midwest Annual Meeting on Feb. 3.

Mary Anne Melo, DDS, MSc, PhD, FADM, FACD, clinical professor and chair, Department of Comprehensive Dentistry, was among the co-authors of “Multifunctional Dental Adhesives Formulated with Silane-Coated Magnetic Fe3O4@m-SiO2 Core–Shell Particles to Counteract Adhesive Interfacial Breakdown,” which was published in American Chemical Society Applied Materials Interfaces.

GRADUATE SCHOOL

Briaunna Embrey-Banks, student, Master of Science in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Leadership, received the award for Best Presentation by a New Professional at the Mid-Atlantic Association of College and University Housing Officers Annual Conference for “Learning to Own My Blackness: Connecting Student Activism and College Administration.”

Sol Roberts-Lieb, EdD, assistant professor, Health Professions Education, and director, Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning, was among the co-authors of “Micro-Scholarship: An Innovative Process Using Common Technology Tools,” which was published in Medical Science Educator.

CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW

Kristina J. Alayan, JD, associate professor and associate dean for library and technology, moderated the “Law Libraries and Legal Information Section: Works-in-Progress” session at the Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., on Jan 5.

Jennifer Chapman, JD, research and faculty services librarian, was a panelist on the “Law Libraries and Legal Information Section: Works-in-Progress” session at the Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., on Jan 5.

Doug Colbert, JD, professor, was quoted in “Prosecutor Calls Marilyn Mosby a Liar, While Defense Says She Was Real Estate ‘Rookie’ as Fraud Trial Begins,” which was published on WJZ-TV’s website on Jan. 22.
Larry Gibson, JD, professor, was a guest on the “Baltimore’s History of Black Churches and Political Activism” segment of WYPR Radio’s “Midday” program on Jan. 16.

Mark Graber, JD, professor, wrote “Why Treason Is a Key Topic in Trump’s 14th Amendment Appeal to the Supreme Court,” which was published on The Conversation website on Feb. 1.

Zanada Joyner, JD, associate director for collections and information discovery, co-authored “Deconstructing the Mentor/Mentee Relationship,” which was published in the American Association of Law Libraries’ (AALL) digital magazine AALL Spectrum.

Guha Krishnamurthi, JD, associate professor, co-authored “The Goose and the Gander: How Conservative Precedents Will Save Campus Affirmative Action,” which was published in the Texas Law Review.

Will Moon, JD, professor, presented “Extraterritorial Corporate Governance” as part of the Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law Faculty Forum Series on Jan. 24.

Robert Percival, JD, professor and director, Environmental Law Program, was among the co-authors of “Annual Supreme Court Review and Preview,” which was published in the Environmental Law Reporter.

Natalie Ram, JD, professor, was interviewed for “The Constitutionality of Forensic Genetic Genealogy” episode of “The Presumption with Sara Azari & Jim Griffin” podcast on Jan. 18.

Markus Rauschecker, JD, lecturer and director, Cybersecurity Program, Center for Health and Homeland Security, was quoted in “Are Tomorrow’s Lawyers Prepared for Legal’s Tech Future?” which was published on Law.com on Jan. 8.

Matiangai Sirleaf, JD, professor, was a panelist on the “National Security Law” and “International Law” sessions at the Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting on Jan. 3 and Jan. 6, respectively.

Jeff Sovern, JD, professor, wrote “The Federal Arbitration Act Should Not Cover Consumer Claims,” which was published on Columbia Law School’s “Blue Sky Blog” on Jan. 10.

Maureen Sweeney, JD, professor and director, Chacón Center for Immigrant Justice, and Aadhithi Padmanabhan, JD, assistant professor and director, Federal Appellate Immigration Clinic, were quoted in “Maryland Carey Law’s New Appellate Immigration Clinic Takes Shape,” which was published by The Daily Record on Jan. 12.

Ben Yelin, JD, lecturer and program director, Public Policy and External Affairs, Center for Health and Homeland Security, was interviewed for the “Guarding the Ballot Box” episode of CyberWire’s “Caveat” podcast on Jan. 25.

James Campbell, MD, MS, professor, Department of Pediatrics, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, was awarded a one-year, $842,775 clinical trial agreement from the National Cancer Institute/Leidos Biomedical Research to study mpox, and a one-year, $566,435 clinical trial agreement from PPD/Moderna to study pediatric cytomegalovirus.
Wilbur H. Chen, MD, MS, professor, and Kathleen M. Neuzil, MD, MPH, FIDSA, the Myron M. Levine, MD, DTPH Professor of Vaccinology and director, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, were among the co-authors of “Immunogenicity and Safety of Varying Dosages of a Fifth-Wave Influenza A/H7N9 Inactivated Vaccine Given With and Without AS03 Adjuvant in Healthy Adults,” which was published in *Vaccine* on Dec. 16.

Hua-Ren R. Cherng, MD, resident, and Mark Mishra, MD, professor, both in the Department of Radiation Oncology, were among the co-authors of “Evaluating the Heterogeneity of Hippocampal Avoidant Whole Brain Radiotherapy Treatment Effect: A Secondary Analysis of NRG CC001,” which was published in *Neuro-Oncology* online ahead of print on Dec. 9.

Niel Constantine, PhD, professor, Department of Pathology, Institute of Human Virology, was awarded $205,162 for 10 months by Family Health International 360 for the USAID Global Health Supply Chain Quality Assurance Program.

Florence Doo, MD, assistant professor; Pranav Kulkarni, research engineer; Paul Yi, MD, assistant professor; and Vishwa Parekh, PhD, assistant professor, all in the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, were among the co-authors of “Economic and Environmental Costs of Cloud for Medical Imaging and Radiology Artificial Intelligence,” which was published in the *Journal of the American College of Radiology* in December.

Vicki Gray, MPT, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, was among the co-authors of “Lower Limb Vertical Stiffness and Frontal Plane Angular Impulse During Perturbation-Induced Single Limb Stance and their Associations with Gait in Individuals Post-Stroke,” which was published in the *Journal of Biomechanics* in January.

Linda Horn, PT, DScPT, MHS, assistant professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, was honored as a Distinguished Fellow of the National Academies of Practice in Physical Therapy.

Michael Kallen, MD, associate professor; Amy Plotkin, MD, PhD, assistant professor; and Madhurima Koka, MD, PhD, associate professor, all in the Department of Pathology, received the 2023 UMMC/UMB Innovation Challenge Award.

Paul Luethy, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Pathology, received an Extraordinary Service Award in recognition of his service to *Microbiology Spectrum*, a peer-reviewed research journal published by the American Society for Microbiology.

Kathleen M. Neuzil, MD, MPH, FIDSA, the Myron M. Levine, MD, DTPH Professor of Vaccinology and director, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health (CVD), was awarded a five-year, $2,357,382 contract from the National Institutes of Health to study “Development of a Multivalent Variant-Proof Mucosal SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine.”

Elizabeth Nichols, MD, associate professor; Sarah McAvoy, MD, associate professor; Mark Mishra, MD, professor; and Melissa Vyfhuis, MD, PhD, associate professor, all in the Department of Radiation Oncology, presented “Intensity-Modulated Proton Therapy (IMPT) for the Definitive Adjuvant Management of Women with Breast Cancer: A Single-Institutional Experience of 5-Year Oncologic Outcomes” at the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium on Dec. 7.
Roger Stone, MD, clinical assistant professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, delivered two presentations to the National Association of EMS Physicians 2024 Annual Meeting and Scientific Assembly in Austin, Texas, on Jan. 11: “So We’re Subspecialists Now, But Will EMS Medicine Always Be a Part-Time Gig?” and “We’re Down with DTT, EDs Set Us Free! Direct-to-Triage Protocol and Process That Get Our Units Back on the Street.”

Erin Strovel, PhD, associate professor, Department of Pathology, was elected to the Board of Directors of the American Board of Medical Genetics and Genomics for a six-year term that began Jan. 4.

Stephen Thom, MD, PhD, professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, received a $117,000 grant from the Defense University Research Instrumentation Program to acquire digital polymerase chain reaction apparatus for research funded by the Office of Naval Research.

Quincy Tran, MD, PhD, associate professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, was among the co-authors of “Prevalence of Intra-Abdominal Injury Among Patients with Seatbelt Signs, a Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis,” which was published in the American Journal of Emergency Medicine on Dec. 6.

Kelly Westlake, PT, MSc, PhD, associate professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, was appointed to serve on the American Council of Academic Physical Therapy Task Force on Establishing and Sustaining a Culture of Research in Academic Physical Therapy.

SCHOOL OF NURSING

The following faculty members were named Maryland state New Nurse Faculty Fellows: Nicole Akparewa, MSN, MPH, RN; Caitlin Donis, MS ’13, AG-ACNP, ACCNS-AG; Angelica Fernandez-Dizon, DNP, MD, MBA-HCM, MSN, NP-C; Kimberly Hampton, PhD, MS ’06, MBA, BSN ’02, RN; LaWanda Herron, PhD, MSA, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC; Martine Kirwin, DNP, FNP-C, RN; Kaitin Shapelow, MS ’13, CRNP, AGNP-PG; and Cory Stephens, DNP, RN-BC, CPHIMS, FHIHMS. These awards are part of the Nurse Support Program II, a statewide initiative funded by the Health Services Cost Review Commission and administered by the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

Andrea Brassard, PhD, FNP-BC, FAANP, FAAN, CNE, associate professor, co-authored “Consumers and Nurse Practitioners Applaud Scorecard Update,” which was published on AARP’s “Long-Term Services and Supports” blog on Jan. 31.

Benjamin Canha, PhD ’20, RN, assistant professor, wrote “Recovery Cartoons: The 12 Steps,” a book that takes
a creative approach to guide readers through the principles of the 12-step recovery process.

Earl Henson was promoted to simulation instructional technology specialist.

Kim Mooney-Doyle, PhD, RN, CPNP-AC, assistant professor, was awarded a two-year, $460,000 R21 grant from the National Institute of Nursing Research to research how understanding family communication during serious pediatric illness, from the perspective of adolescent siblings and parents, provides opportunities to prevent long-term distress.

Yolanda Ogbolu, PhD '11, MS '05, BSN '04, NNP, FNAP, FAAN, the Bill and Joanne Conway Dean of the University of Maryland School of Nursing, was interviewed by WBFF-Fox 45 News for the segment “Reducing Isolation and Inequities in Cardiovascular Health” on Feb. 6. She also appeared on Fox 45’s “Straight Talk with Mike Gimbel” program on Jan. 11.

Veronica 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, presented the poster “Enhancing Interprofessional Student Competence in Caring for Transgender and Gender Diverse Populations Through Simulation” at the American Association of Colleges of Nursing’s 2024 Diversity Symposium in New Orleans in February.

Yolanda Ogbolu, PhD '11, MS '05, BSN '04, NNP, FNAP, FAAN, the Bill and Joanne Conway Dean of the University of Maryland School of Nursing, was interviewed by WBFF-Fox 45 News for the segment “Reducing Isolation and Inequities in Cardiovascular Health” on Feb. 6. She also appeared on Fox 45’s “Straight Talk with Mike Gimbel” program on Jan. 11.

Barbara Resnick, PhD ’96, RN, CRNP, FAAN, FAANP, professor, Sonya Ziporkin Gershovitz Chair in Gerontology, and associate dean for research, was awarded a five-year, $2.13 million grant from the National Institute on Aging to address the treatment of pain in nursing home residents with dementia. She also was quoted in “Study Testing New Strategy for Spotting, Managing Pain in Dementia Patients,” which was published in McKnight’s Long-Term Care News.

Tenica Watt, student, Doctor of Nursing Practice Family Nurse Practitioner specialty, was selected as an inaugural UMB Center for Global Engagement Scholar.

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

Nicole Brandt, PharmD, MBA, BCACP, FASCPE, professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, and executive director, Peter Lamy Center on Drug Therapy and Aging, completed a three-week Fulbright Finland Fellowship at the University of Helsinki.

Catherine Cooke, PharmD, MS, BCPS, PAHM, research associate professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, was selected by the Pharmacy Quality Alliance to serve a three-year term on its Quality Metrics Expert Panel.

Mojdeh Heavner, PharmD, BCPS, BCCCP, associate professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, received a Presidential Citation from the Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM), was elected secretary-treasurer of SCCM’s Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmacology Section, and was appointed vice chair of its Leadership, Empowerment, and Development Committee.
Kaitlin Landolf, PharmD, BCCCP, advanced practice pharmacist, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, was named president of the Baltimore chapter of the Society of Critical Care Medicine.

Cherokee Layson-Wolf, PharmD, BCACP, FAPhA, professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, was selected to receive the Daniel B. Smith Practice Excellence Award from the American Pharmacists Association.

James Polli, PhD, the Shangraw/Noxell Endowed Chair of Pharmaceutics and Industrial Pharmacy, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was selected to receive the 2024 Takeru Higuchi Research Prize from the American Pharmacists Association.

Magaly Rodriguez de Bittner, PharmD, FAPhA, FNAP, the Gyi Endowed Memorial Professor in Pharmapreneurship and associate dean for clinical services and practice transformation, was appointed to the Maryland Department of Health’s Primary Care Program Transformation Advisory Board.

Leah Sera, PharmD, MA, BCPS, associate professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research (P-SHOR), and co-director, Graduate Studies in Medical Cannabis program, was appointed P-SHOR’s vice chair of academic affairs.

Hongbing Wang, PhD, professor and interim chair, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received an eight-month, $335,000 cooperative agreement from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for “Microphysiological Systems for the Evaluation of DILI.”

MAGALY RODRIGUEZ DE BITTNER

IRIS CARDENAS

LAURIE GRAHAM

LAURA TING

Christabel Cheung, PhD, MSW, was among the co-authors of “Protocol for the Development of a Core Outcome Set (COS) for Adolescents and Young Adults (AYAs) with Cancer,” which was published in BMC Cancer.

Sarah Dababnah, PhD, MPH, MSW, associate professor, and Wendy Shaia, MSW, EdD, clinical associate professor and executive director, Center for Restorative Change, were among the co-authors of “Collaborative Program to Support Parents of Black Children Awaiting a Developmental Evaluation,” which was published in Pediatrics.

Nadine Finigan-Carr, PhD, executive director, UMB Center for Violence Prevention, and Laurie Graham, PhD, MSW, assistant professor, co-authored...
“Aggressive Behaviors in Urban African American Early Adolescent Girls: A Systematic Review of the Literature,” which was published in *Children and Youth Services Review*.

Jodi Frey, PhD, LCSW-C, CEAP, professor, was among the co-authors of “Decreases in Employer Referrals to First-Time Substance Use Treatment for Adults from 2004 to 2020,” which was published in the *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*.

Geoffrey Greif, PhD, MSW, Distinguished University Professor, was among the co-authors of “The Intermarriage of Whites and Asian Americans: Clinical Considerations from Qualitative Interviews,” which was published in the *Journal of Couple & Relationship Therapy*.

Jihyeong Jeong, MSW, PhD student, was among the co-authors of “Exploring Drinking Motives and Alcohol Use in College Students: The Moderating Effects of Gender,” which was published in *Alcoholism Treatment Quarterly*.

Neil Mallon, LCSW-C, senior research specialist, Prevention of Adolescent Risks Initiative, was the lead author of “Child Labor Trafficking in Maryland: Findings from an Environmental Scan,” a study that urges state agencies to revise their approach to addressing child labor trafficking.

Darren Whitfield, PhD, MSW, associate professor, was among the co-authors of “HIV Prevention and Treatment Interventions for Black Men Who Have Sex with Men in Canada: Scoping Systematic Review,” which was published in *JMIR Public Health and Surveillance*.

**MARCH EPISODE**

*Bridging Gaps in Baltimore: The EMBRACE Initiative at UMB*

**GUEST:** Kyla Liggett-Creel, PhD, LCSW-C, executive director, EMBRACE, and clinical associate professor, University of Maryland Graduate School

In this episode, we explore the transformative work happening at UMB through the lens of EMBRACE, a civic engagement program led by Liggett-Creel, who shares her insights on creating pathways for community improvement and how the initiative facilitates connections among the University, nonprofits, and the communities they serve.

*Episode dropped March 1.*

Learn more at umaryland.edu/pulse.
EQUITY AND JUSTICE
MARCH 2024

BLACK HISTORY MONTH SPEAKER: KING’S LESSONS REMAIN RELEVANT

Despite the “extreme assault” on equity and justice in this country and the widespread feeling of despair because of it, we have to find a way to force ourselves to hold onto hope, Fatima Goss Graves, JD, said during her keynote speech at the University of Maryland, Baltimore’s (UMB) Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Black History Month Celebration on Feb. 6.

This was the first lesson from King’s life that Goss Graves, president and CEO of the National Women’s Law Center, president of the National Women’s Law Center Action Fund, and co-founder of the TIME’S UP Legal Defense Fund, imparted to the crowd of more than 350 that she believes still applies today.

Goss Graves began her speech, “Hope Is a To-Do List: Beyond the Supreme Court’s Affirmative Action Rulings,” by describing the current climate amid the Supreme Court decision last year that the affirmative action programs at the University of North Carolina and Harvard University violated the 14th Amendment and the decision’s aftermath, such as public universities in Arizona eliminating the use of diversity statements in their hiring process.

“The message that has been put forward is loud and clear. It’s that you’re not welcome here or maybe we’re not worthy of being here in the first place,” she said. “The season we are in at this point in history, the oppression we are facing, it is concrete, it is material, you can see it. It’s hard not to wonder if what we’re doing is actually making the sort of difference we need to make right now. And it is therefore hard not to give into the despair.”

Goss Graves went on to talk about a similar environment that the country faced in 1963 — the year civil rights activist Medgar Evers was murdered, four Black girls were killed in the bombing of a Birmingham, Ala., church, and King gave his “I Have a Dream” speech.

“Dr. King did not back down. He proclaimed that day and continued to proclaim, ‘I have a dream.’ So the question is, how is it in the face of violence and terror can you articulate a dream that this country had not yet realized?” she said. “He was so clearly a visionary. But also I believe he was pragmatic and practical and even political. In the midst of a giant backlash on the cusp of massive and generational change, he understood that giving hope was the best strategy available. Hope is the only emotion that keeps us moving as humans, it keeps us going. Hope is motivating. It is the only fuel for our endurance in this fight for justice.”
Continued from previous page

The second lesson Goss Graves discussed is that “the best way to sustain hope, especially when things feel hard, is to get into motion” as King did. She said in the wake of the Supreme Court’s affirmative action decisions, universities should invest in diversity by helping first-generation students succeed and take school climate seriously by prioritizing anti-harassment and anti-discrimination efforts.

“We cannot be bullied, even if it is legal bullying, into shifting practices and policies that are perfectly consistent in the law,” Goss Graves said. “So instead — here comes the to-do list — this is a moment for colleges and universities to rededicate themselves to broader recruitment efforts to help ensure that underrepresented students of all identities can imagine success in your institutions and understand exactly how to make that happen. This is also a moment to think really hard about your admissions policies and practices.”

A GENERATIONAL FIGHT

Goss Graves said the third lesson to take from Dr. King’s life is that “we will not live to see the better future that we’re all fighting for.”

“That’s because the fight for justice has always been one that is generational,” she said. “Dr. King knew this when he said, ‘The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice.’ He did not live to see so many milestones, so many examples of his dream come to life.

“But I have always found great, great comfort in the truth that the fight we are in has and will span multiple generations. Because I know that my own liberation is a result of decisions that were made in my parents’ generation and that my ancestors before them made. And I know that the decisions that all of us make today, moving forward from today — within your campus, within your communities — our conversations will help dictate what the next 10 and 50 and 100 years look like for people in this country, for students on your campus.”

Goss Graves was introduced by Diane Forbes Berthoud, PhD, MA, chief equity, diversity, and inclusion officer and vice president, whose Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (OEDI) sponsored the event.

“It is wonderful to continue this legacy of Dr. King and celebration of Black history, and it’s even more important in this time in our democracy,” she said. “Martin Luther King once said, ‘Make a career of humanity. Commit yourself to the noble struggle for equal rights. You will make a better person of yourself, a greater nation of your country, and a finer world to live in.’ At UMB, we make that commitment, that noble struggle for equal rights every day. Equity and justice are a core part of who we are.”

AWARD WINNERS

UMB’s Diversity Recognition Award winners were recognized during the event:

- Danya Qato, PhD, PharmD, MPH, associate professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, School of Pharmacy, Outstanding Faculty Member
- Rosemary Ferreira, MEd, associate director, UMB Intercultural Center, Outstanding Staff Member
- Student National Dental Association chapter, School of Dentistry, Outstanding Student Group

In addition, OEDI and the Office of Community Engagement recognized the inaugural Community Champion of Equity and Justice Award winners:

- Edith Gilliard-Canty, president, Franklin Square Community Association
- Parity Homes, equitable real estate development company, West Baltimore

— Jen Badie

Read about all of the award winners at this link.

Watch a video of the event and see a photo gallery at this link.
Future of Work Town Halls

The Future of Work Task Force 2023 Committee Report identified several recommendations on how the University should support its existing workforce and plan for the future. Task force recommendations and next steps will be discussed at several town halls.

FRIDAY, MARCH 8
8 a.m.-10 a.m.
School of Dentistry
650 W. Baltimore St.
Room G307

TUESDAY, MARCH 26
8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
SMC Elm Room 208A

THURSDAY, MARCH 28
11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Maryland Carey Law
500 W. Baltimore St.
Room 106

Please register to attend, in person or virtually, for one of the sessions.

ANNUAL UMB WELLNESS FAIR

Monday, April 1, 2024 • 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
SMC Campus Center

Free wellness resources, seated massages, blood pressure screenings, mini-presentations, and more!

For more information, visit
umaryland.edu/urecfit/special-events/wellness-fair
URBANIST SAYS NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT ON FUTURE OF CITIES

As an urbanist, futurist, and globalist, Greg Lindsay has been studying cities and urban policy for more than two decades, and he thinks the world has reached a critical moment.

“As of about 15 years ago, more than half of humanity now lives in cities, so we are an urban species,” Lindsay said as the guest for the University of Maryland, Baltimore's (UMB) President’s Panel on Politics and Policy on Feb. 22 at the SMC Campus Center. “We’re also living in the moment where based on global population projections, human population may come close to doubling in this century before we enter permanent demographic decline, but urban land cover will triple in size.”

Being in this important moment in time, he said, is the reason he chooses to focus his work and research on the future of cities.

“The decisions that we make — and how we choose to build in and around cities — this is our once-in-a-civilization opportunity to define how big and how dense and how compact and livable our urban fabric becomes,” Lindsay said. “So, understanding that story and its implications was irresistible to me, and everything I touch sort of borders on reporting about cities and the effects of urban policy.”

UMB President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, led the conversation with Lindsay, who is a senior fellow of MIT’s Future Urban Collectives Lab and an urban tech fellow at Cornell Tech in New York, among numerous roles. The discussion, titled “Don’t Believe the Hype: Cities Are Alive and Well,” covered issues such as transportation, parking, housing, zoning, equity, and climate change, followed by a question-and-answer session with members of the audience of 200.

Jarrell began the event by describing a recent evening he spent downtown attending an Andrea Bocelli performance at the renovated CFG Bank Arena, then afterward seeing more people out and about on the streets coming out of a play at the Hippodrome Theatre. He noted that this was happening about a month after the Baltimore Ravens had packed M&T Bank Stadium and energized the city for two consecutive weekends during the NFL playoffs.

“I felt like I was on Broadway that night,” Jarrell said. “There are a lot of really good things happening in Baltimore. It’s an exciting, vibrant area. But when you are driving in to work the next day and listening to the radio, they don’t talk about what happened at the arena last night, they talk about the negative things happening in the city. Yet the picture I see is people investing in the city, new housing units being built — I see a lot to be bullish about.”
Lindsay agreed that Baltimore has a lot going for it, and that in addition to addressing crime and public safety, perhaps the most critical problems that need to be solved revolve around housing.

“Baltimore is centrally located in the wealthiest stretch of urban agglomeration on the planet,” Lindsay said. “It has amazing potential infrastructure, and it sits on the Acela corridor. In the end, Baltimore has incredible bones. And in visiting the city and having conversations about the trajectory of Baltimore, we talk a lot about the challenges it faces from a public safety standpoint, from an economic development standpoint, and obviously from a health crisis standpoint as well. But to me the No. 1 crisis of Baltimore is housing availability and affordability.

“If Baltimore and Maryland can solve the rising affordability issue, then it will start to unlock more and more economic opportunities, because as I said, the city has incredible bones, and incredible location, and incredible educational institutions such as UMB. But I think housing lies at the heart of its future trajectory.”

Lindsay praised Maryland Gov. Wes Moore for making housing affordability a focus of his agenda and budget priorities. He noted that states such as New York and Montana also are taking action on housing issues, with the former looking to create a “social housing” agency to promote building affordable housing less reliant on government subsidies, and the latter working to reform zoning laws to address future housing needs.

“At no time in my career have I seen such an embrace of potential solutions that go beyond the classic approaches to this issue,” Lindsay said. “It’s really interesting to see both sides of the political spectrum working on this. You are seeing a left-wing approach where you need to build up so-called ‘social housing,’ and you are seeing a right-wing approach that says, ‘We need to really loosen up zoning and allow the free market to do these things.’ So perhaps this will lead to consensus.”

Lindsay gave examples of urban planning success stories from Kansas to Georgia to as far away as Newcastle, Australia. He also discussed the idea of a “15-minute city,” an urban planning concept where work, shopping, education, health care, and leisure activities can all be accessed by citizens within a 15-minute walk, bike ride, or public transportation ride. Among the goals are to de-emphasize automobiles and cut down on pollution. He said the concept is being implemented successfully in Paris.

“Carlo Ratti, who teaches at MIT, wrote a great paper recently on whether the United States can have 15-minute cities,” Lindsay said. “The answer is yes, though it’s going to typically be more of a ‘15-minute drive’ city. And this is why it’s so essential to have great public transportation systems — so that if you can’t be someone who resides in these places, you can still have access to them without a car.

“In the 1960s, Toronto extended bus service into its future suburbs before people really settled there,” he added. “They actually locked in a higher proportion of people using public transportation per capita than any other city in North America except New York. And so it allows people who were pushed to the periphery by housing prices to still access services and jobs in the core of the city. And that’s something that every American city needs to be able to do.”

— Lou Cortina
UMB NAMED FULBRIGHT TOP PRODUCING INSTITUTION FOR 2023-2024

The U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs has recognized the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) for being a Fulbright Top Producing Institution for 2023-2024.

Colleges and universities that receive this honor have the highest number of faculty and administrators selected for the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program, which provides funding for international opportunities. UMB was cited in the Special Four-Year Institution category, along with 10 other colleges and universities.

The Fulbright Program is the U.S. government’s flagship international academic exchange program. Two scholars from UMB were selected for Fulbright awards for academic year 2023-2024. Among them is Martha Ertman, JD, professor at the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law. Ertman was awarded a Fulbright Canada Traditional Scholar Award for the spring 2024 semester.

Deeply affected by the racial injustice that rose in awareness during the COVID-19 pandemic, she developed her Fulbright project around a resolution to focus her work in contracts and commercial law to address this issue. Ertman’s work on contract-based reparations for racial injustice has taken her to McGill University in Montreal to teach and conduct research.

In recent years, Ertman has worked to develop a contract-based way to approach the idea of reparations for past racial injustice, reasoning that because contracts have been historically discriminatory, they can be designed to right past and current wrongs. Her theoretical work at McGill involves how racial wealth disparities breach the social contract, and she has cited Canada’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s (TRC) summary report “94 Calls to Action” as an important source in her research. TRC was formed in 2008 as part of Canada’s Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement, and the commission’s findings and recommendations focus on redressing the harm resulting from the schools.

“I wanted to study reparations in Canada as a remedy for breach of the social contract because Canada's made more progress than the U.S. regarding reparations for mass harms to Indigenous groups, especially regarding state-sponsored residential boarding schools,” Ertman said. “Since my grant began in January 2024, McGill University and Montreal have provided many parallels between Canadian and U.S. racial harms and reparations for them.

“Here, fellow Fulbright Rashida Braggs and I are attending a Black History Month lecture by Dr. Melanie Newton on Afro-Indigenous reparations in the Caribbean, which provided framework for understanding overlapping histories and claims of both Indigenous peoples and those of the African diaspora. Discussions with Canadian law faculty likewise show how Canada’s legal education incorporates Indigenous law and anti-racism into its curriculum in ways that would enrich U.S. law schools.”

Marlene Matarese, PhD, MSW, a former clinical associate professor at the University of Maryland School of Social Work, received a Fulbright award in social work to Galway, Ireland, for the 2023-2024 academic year. She is currently an associate research professor at the University of Connecticut School of Social Work.

The designation as a Fulbright Top Producing Institution comes not long after the UMB’s Center for Global Engagement (CGE) launched its Focus on Fulbright Initiative to increase the University’s student representation in this prestigious international program. This spring, CGE is hosting webinars and workshops for students interested in applying for the 2025-2026 competition. UMB faculty interested in applying during the 2024 cycle also are encouraged to contact CGE for advice and resources.

To learn more, visit CGE’s Focus on Fulbright webpage at this link.

— Lorri Angelloz