

UMB LAURELS

JANUARY 2026



UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND
BALTIMORE

UNIVERSITYWIDE



COURTNEY J.
JONES CARNEY



NEIJMA
CELESTINE-
DONNOR

Courtney J. Jones Carney, DPA, MBA, assistant professor, School of Graduate Studies, and **Neijma Celestine-Donnor, JD, MSW**, associate dean, School of Social Work, co-authored the chapter “When the Cape Gets Too Heavy: Strategies for Navigating Superhumanization at Home and Work” for the book “Escape the Cape, From Existing to Evolving: Amplifying Voices of Black and Brown Women in the Mental Health Profession,” which was published in December.



VICTORIA
MEADOWS

Victoria Meadows, MS, assistant director, Enterprise Risk Management, received a 2025 Emerging Risk Professional Award from the University Risk Management and Insurance

Association. The award recognizes institutional or affiliate members who are in the early stages of a higher education risk management career and have already made contributions to and clearly impacted the organization.



MIKE
RAVENSROFT

Mike Ravenscroft, MBA, MA, managing director, Maryland Momentum Fund, was recognized as one of the *Baltimore Business Journal's* 40 Under 40 honorees for 2025. The award recognizes

40 up-and-coming business executives in the Greater Baltimore area who are under 40 years old.



PRITI WAKEFIELD

Priti Wakefield, administrative manager, UMB Environmental Services, was named the University's September Employee of the Month for implementing operational efficiencies

in the 200-person department and being an advocate for employees.



SARAH WEIRICH



TARA WINK

Sarah Weirich, MLIS, head of repository and metadata management; **Tara Wink, MLS**, historical collections librarian; and **Amy Lubinski, MLIS**, digital content specialist, all with the Health



AMY LUBINSKI

Sciences and Human Services Library, presented “Outage as Opportunity: Local Backups for Long-Term Access” at the Medical Institutional Repositories in Libraries Symposium in November.

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY



YVETTE ALANIA



FOTINI
ANAGNOSTOPOULOS-
KING



JOYCE HUEY



MARINA FILEVA

Yvette Alania, DDS, MSc, PhD, clinical assistant professor; **Fotini Anagnostopoulos-King, DMD**, clinical assistant professor; and **Joyce Huey, DDS, MEd, FICD**, assistant professor, all in the Division of Operative Dentistry and Cariology, Department of Comprehensive Dentistry, and **Marina Fileva**, fourth-year student, co-authored “Enhancing Incremental Composite Placement Training with 3D-Printed Enlarged Tooth Models,” which was published in the *Journal of Dental Education* in October.



APRIL DANIEL

April Daniel, MBA, MS, director, Central Materials Services (CMS), was named UMB's October Employee of the Month for her work in leading CMS, which provides instrument sterilization, supply stocking, and other services to UMSOD's 11 dental clinics.



NORBERT MYSLINSKI

Norbert Myslinski, PhD, associate professor, Department of Neural and Pain Sciences, was the keynote speaker at the Greater Baltimore Society for Neuroscience Chapter Meeting in December.



SHERYL SYME

Sheryl Syme, RDH, MS, FADHA, associate professor, Division of Periodontics, Department of Advanced Oral Science and Therapeutics, was among the co-authors of "Librarians,

Dentists, Journalists, and Undergrads: A Case Study Implementing a Journalism Teaching Hospital Within Marginalized Communities," which was published in *Journalism & Mass Communication*.

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES



ERIC BELT

Eric Belt, EdD, adjunct assistant professor, presented "Exploring Adjunct Faculty Emotional Labor and Online Teacher-Student Relationships" at the Professional and Organizational

Development Network in Higher Education Conference in San Diego on Nov. 22.



CARA FELTER

Cara Felter, PT, DPT, PhD, MPH, associate professor and chief learning officer, Physician Assistant Leadership and Learning Academy, co-presented the keynote address "Clinical Reasoning: Context, Competence, and Care" to the Saudi Physical Therapy Association Conference in November.



SHANI FLEMING

Shani Fleming, PhD, MSHS, MPH, PA-C, associate professor and assistant dean, Office of Values and Strategic Initiatives, presented "Closing the Gap: Assessing A1.11's Role in Institutional Change: A Mixed

Methods Analysis" and "Through Their Lens: Black Pre-PA Perspective on the Entry-Level Doctorate" at the Physician Assistant Education Association Education Forum in San Diego on Oct. 9.



KAREN L. GORDES

Karen L. Gordes, PhD, PT, DScPT, professor and director, MS and Teaching Certificate in Health Professions Education, was accepted as a Distinguished Fellow of the Physical Therapy

Academy in the National Academies of Practice in November.

CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW



PETER DANCHIN

Peter Danchin, JD, professor and director, International and Comparative Law Program, wrote "Academic Freedom Under Threat: A View from the United States," which was published in

Diritto Pubblico Comparato ed Europeo (Comparative and European Public Law).

Mark Graber, JD, PhD, MA, Distinguished University Professor, was quoted in "The First-Term Democrat Facing a Trump Prosecution," which was published in *The Washington Post* on Dec. 3.



MARK GRABER



DAVID GRAY

David Gray, JD, PhD, MA, professor, was quoted in "MD House Lawmakers Ponder Changes to Recording Consent Laws," which was published in *The Daily Record* on Nov. 18.



TOBY GUERIN



AISHA SAMPLES

Toby Guerin, JD, clinical law instructor and executive director, Center for Dispute Resolution, and **Aisha Samples, MS**, program specialist, Workplace Mediation Service, presented "Beyond Mediation: Developing an Enhanced Workplace Mediation Service" at the Association for Conflict Resolution Conference at Temple University on Nov. 6.



JON MUELLER

Jon Mueller, JD, visiting associate professor, was quoted in "As the Chesapeake Bay Cleanup Enters a New Era, It's Fighting for Relevance," which was published in *The Baltimore Banner* on Dec. 1.

Robert Percival, JD, MA, Distinguished University Professor and director, Environmental Law Program, was quoted in “A Landmark Court Ruling Looms over U.S. Absence at COP30,” which was published in *Inside Climate News* on Nov. 18.



MARKUS RAUSCHER

Markus Rauschecker, JD, executive director, Center for Cyber, Health, and Hazard Strategies, was elected chair of the Maryland Cybersecurity Council. He will serve a two-year term guiding the state’s cybersecurity advisory body as Maryland navigates increasing digital threats and emerging technologies.



JEFF SOVERN

Jeff Sovern, JD, professor, was quoted in “CFPB Tees Up Second Funding Battle with Supreme Court,” which was published in *National Mortgage News* on Dec. 1.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Bradley Alger, PhD, Professor Emeritus, Department of Pharmacology and Physiology, wrote “Notes on the History of In Vitro Hippocampal Electrophysiology: Personal Reflections,” which was published in *Hippocampus* in November.



BRADLEY ALGER



DJORDJE ATANACKOVIC

Djordje Atanackovic, MD, professor, Department of Medicine, received a four-year, \$4,523,000 grant from the U.S. Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity for “First-in-Human Phase I Clinical Trial Using Tri-Specific

(CD19/CD20/CD22) CAR T Cells for the Treatment of Relapsed/Refractory B-Cell Lymphoma.”



JONATHAN S. BROMBERG

Jonathan S. Bromberg, MD, PhD, professor, and **Wenji Piao, DrMed, PhD,** assistant professor, both in the Department of Surgery, are the lead inventor and co-inventor,

respectively, of “Compositions and Methods for Treatment of Inflammation and Cancer,” which was issued a European patent (countries pending) on Nov. 26.



LINDA CHANG

Linda Chang, MD, professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, will receive \$328,000 over five years as a subcontract from the University of Nebraska for the R01

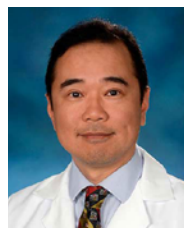
grant “Targeted Lipid Nanoparticles for Gene Therapeutics Delivery Approach to Eradicating HIV Reservoirs.”



TODD D. GOULD

Todd D. Gould, MD, professor, Department of Psychiatry, is the lead inventor of “Crystal Forms and Methods of Synthesis of (2R, 6R)-Hydroxynorketamine and (2S, 6S)-Hydroxynorketamine,” which was issued a U.S.

Continuation patent on Nov. 18.



ZHE HAN

Zhe Han, MD, professor, Department of Medicine, received a three-year, \$3,108,064 grant from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute for “Functional Characterization

of Genes and Genetic Variants Associated with Hypoplastic Heart Syndrome in *Drosophila*.”



MAY MONTASSER

May Montasser, PhD, adjunct assistant professor, Department of Medicine, is the lead inventor of “B4GALT1 Variants and Uses Thereof,” which was issued an Indian patent on Nov. 14 and a U.S. Continuation patent on Nov. 25.



PATRICIA OUTEDA GARCIA

Patricia Outeda Garcia, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Medicine, received a two-year, \$160,000 grant from the PKD Foundation for “Prostaglandin D2 and its Role in Inflammation and the Pathogenesis of Polycystic Kidney Disease.”

Elana Rosenthal, MD, associate professor, Department of Medicine, received a two-year, \$3.2 million grant from the National Institutes of Health for “The Continuum of Care in Hospitalized Patients with Opioid Use Disorder and Infectious Complications of Drug Use (CHOICE2).”



MOHAMMAD SAJADI

Mohammad Sajadi, MD, professor, Department of Medicine, received a five-year, \$3,904,804 grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for “Molecular

Determinants of Vaccine-Induced Antibody Durability.”



CHARLES SANSUR

Charles Sansur, MD, MHS, professor, Department of Neurosurgery, is the lead inventor of “Cloward-Style Cervical Mesh Cage with Lateral Stabilizer,” which was issued a U.S.

Continuation patent on Nov. 4.



HENRY SILVERMAN

Henry Silverman, MD, MA, professor, Department of Medicine, received a five-year, \$1,238,901 grant from the National Institutes of Health's Fogarty International Center for "Establishing a Sustainable Master's Degree Program in Research Ethics and Integrity in Morocco."



SUI-SENG TEE

Sui-Seng Tee, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, received a two-year, \$345,000 Maryland Stem Cell Research Fund-TEDCO grant for "Peripheral Lipid Metabolism as a Modulator of Synucleinopathies."



MARCO VENNIRO

Marco Venniro, PhD, associate professor, Department of Neurobiology, received the Society for Neuroscience's 2025 Jacob P. Waletzky Outstanding Career and Research Achievement Award,

which recognizes an early career scientist whose independent research has led to significant conceptual and empirical contributions to the understanding of drug addiction.



TERRY WATNICK

Terry Watnick, MD, professor, Department of Medicine, received a five-year, \$4,767,354 grant from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease for "Maryland Polycystic Kidney Disease Research Core Center (MPKD-RCC)" and a five-year, \$5,654,214 grant for "Central Coordinating Site for the Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD) Research Core Centers."



ZHEKANG YING

Zhekang Ying, PhD, associate professor, Department of Medicine, received a four-year, \$3,264,260 grant from the National Institute on Aging for "Olfactory Dysfunction as Predictor of PM2.5 Exposure Progression to Dementia."

SCHOOL OF NURSING



LUANA COLLOCA

Luana Colloca, MD, PhD, professor and director, Placebo Beyond Opinions Center, was featured in "The 2025 State of Neuroscience Report," which was published in *The Transmitter* on Nov. 15.



THERESA DI SETA

Theresa Di Seta, DNP '25, RN, NEA-BC, NPD-BC, assistant director of student placements for partnership development and community health, presented on the role of nurses in legislative

advocacy at the 2025 Maryland Nurse Residency Collaborative Conference at the University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center on Nov. 14.

Anne Hagan and **Elisha Oduro**, both PhD students, placed first and third, respectively, in the poster presentation competition at the Mid-Atlantic Medical Directors Association Conference in Washington, D.C., on Nov. 8.

Jamie Kotler, student, Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, was featured in "Baltimore Nursing Students, Schools Concerned Over Possible Loss of Access to Federal Student Loans," which aired on WBAL-TV on Nov. 25.



YOLANDA OGBOLU

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 quoted in "Baltimore University Plans Enrollment Boost, Satellite Campus," which was published in the *Baltimore Business Journal* on Dec. 1, and "Maryland Nurses Concerned About Shortages with Reclassifying of Profession, Loan Access Limited," which was published on cbsnews.com on Nov. 25.



ALISON M. TRINKOFF

Alison M. Trinkoff, ScD, MPH, RN, FAAN, professor, was quoted in " 'Terrified' to Seek Help: Georgia Nurses Can Lose License If They Admit Addiction. Advocates Want to Change That," which was published in *Healthbeat Atlanta* on Nov. 20.



REBECCA N. WESTON

Rebecca N. Weston, EdD, MSN, RN, CNE, assistant professor, was selected for the 2025-26 Golisano Fellowship in Developmental Disability Nursing, sponsored by the Golisano Institute for Developmental Disability Nursing at St. John Fisher University in New York.

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

UMSOP's student chapter of **ISPOR — The Professional Society for Health Economics and Outcomes Research** received the 2025 Outstanding Student Chapter Award at the ISPOR Europe Meeting in Scotland in November.



JASMINE COOPER

Jasmine Cooper, PhD, MA, director of qualitative research, PATIENTS Program, received a three-month, \$42,385 contract from Chiesi USA for “Living with Asthma: Storytelling and Sharing.”

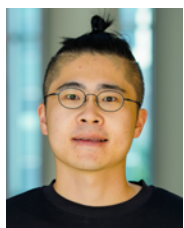


JOGA GOBBURU

Joga Gobburu, PhD, MBA, the Gyi Endowed Memorial Professor of Pharmapreneurship and director, Center for Translational Medicine, received a two-year, \$162,196 contract from the

University of Virginia for “Safety and Tolerability of Recombinant von Willebrand Factor Concentrate in Adult ECMO Patients with Major Bleeding: A Phase I Study.”

Mathangi Gopalakrishnan, PhD, associate professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, and director, MS in Pharmacometrics Program, received a five-year, \$50,000 contract from Wockhardt Bio AG for “Master Research Services Agreement.”



XUJUN GU

Xujun Gu, student, PhD in Pharmaceutical Health Services Research Program, received a \$5,000 Challenge Award from the PhRMA Foundation.



MARY LYNN MCPHERSON

Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD, PhD, BCPS, professor and executive director, Advanced Post-Graduate Education in Palliative Care, Department of

Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, received the Award for Excellence in Education and Training from the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine.

Michelle Medeiros, MS, MA, CRPP, administrator and business operations assistant director, PATIENTS Program, was named an abstract reviewer for the 2026 AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting.

Ryan Pearson, PhD, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and director, Bio- and Nano-Technology Center, was named director of UMSOP's PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences Program.



RYAN PEARSON



JOHN RIZK

John Rizk, MS, student, PhD in Pharmaceutical Health Services Research Program, received the Outstanding Student Award from the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs Section of the American Public Health Association.

Dominique Seo, MPH, student, PhD in Pharmaceutical Health Services Research Program, was named chair of ISPOR — The Professional Society for Health Economics and Outcomes Research's Student Network.



PAUL SHAPIRO



ALEXANDER MACKERELL

Paul Shapiro, PhD, and **Alexander MacKerell, PhD**, both professors, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, are the lead inventor and co-inventor, respectively, of “Non-Catalytic Substrate-Selective P38(alpha)-Specific MAPK Inhibitors with Endothelial-Stabilizing and Anti-Inflammatory Activity, and Methods of Use Thereof,” which was issued an Australian patent on Nov. 27. **Jeffrey Hasday, MD**, professor, Department of Medicine, School of Medicine, also is a co-inventor.



MINGZHE SHEN



MADISON WORTH

Mingzhe Shen and **Madison Worth**, students, PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences Program, received Graduate Fellowship Awards from the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences.



TIEN TRAN

Tien Tran, student, PhD in Pharmaceutical Health Services Research Program, was selected as an editorial fellow for the American Society of Clinical Oncology's *JCO Clinical Cancer Informatics* journal.

Yuly Chiang Yu, student, PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences Program, was recognized as an Outstanding Early Career Scientist by the *Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences*.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Richard P. Barth, PhD, MSW, Distinguished University Professor, was among the co-authors of the book “Understanding Child Welfare,” which will be published in January.



YOONZIE CHUNG

Yoonzie Chung, MSW, PhD student, was among the co-authors of “The Mediating Role of Social Cohesion Between Neighborhood Disorder and Child Maltreatment Behaviors Across Childhood,” which was published in the *Journal of Family Violence*.

Sarah Dababnah, PhD, MPH, associate professor, was among the co-authors of “Sex Trafficking Prevention for Youth with Disabilities: Network Analysis of Organizational Coordination,” which was published in *Research on Social Work Practice*.



JODI FREY

Jodi Frey, PhD, LCSW-C, CEAP, professor and associate dean for research, served as a panelist for the “How Families Can Support Men’s Mental Well-Being” webinar, which was hosted by Families for Depression Awareness on Nov. 12.



GEOFFREY GREIF

Geoffrey Greif, PhD, MSW, Distinguished University Professor, was quoted in “They’ve Got the Whole World on Their Wedding Plates,” which was published in *The New York Times* on Nov. 27, and “Here’s How to Actually Be Friends with Your Siblings as Adults,” which was published on the *Reader’s Digest* website on Nov. 26.



THEDA ROSE

Theda Rose, PhD, MSW, associate professor, earned honorable mention in the Society for Social Work and Research’s Excellence in Research Awards for “Mediators

That Matter: Psychological Distress, Developmental Assets, and Educational Outcomes Among Black Youth,” which she co-authored and was published in the *Journal of Educational Psychology*.



STACEY STEPHENS

Stacey Stephens, MSW, LCSW-C, associate professor and director, B’more for Healthy Babies, Center for Restorative Change, received the Family League of Baltimore’s Innovation Award for her creative leadership in maternal and child health.

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