

UMB LAURELS

NOVEMBER 2025



UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND
BALTIMORE

UNIVERSITYWIDE



FAITH STEELE

Faith Steele, MLS, executive director, Region 1 of the Network of the National Library of Medicine, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, completed the National Library

of Medicine/Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries Leadership Fellows Program for emerging leaders of academic health sciences libraries.

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

Simon Akerman, PhD, associate professor and vice chair, Department of Neural and Pain Sciences, presented “TMD Myalgia and Headache: Pathophysiological Mechanisms and Clinical Implications” at the International Headache Congress in Brazil in September.



QOOT
ALKHUBAIZI

Qoot Alkhubaizi, BSc, BChD, MFD RCS (Ireland), MS, clinical associate professor and assistant dean of clinical affairs, was the guest on the “Becker’s Healthcare” podcast in

September to discuss insights on global oral health and how digital innovations and artificial intelligence are shaping the future of dental education and patient care.



JOYCE DA SILVA

Joyce Da Silva, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Neural and Pain Sciences, was awarded \$4.1 million in National Institutes of Health funding to advance two groundbreaking

research projects on pain relief and addiction recovery.

Marcela Romero-Reyes, DDS, PhD, clinical professor and director, Brotman Facial Pain Clinic, presented the paper “Optimizing Combined Treatment for Migraine and Temporomandibular Disorders” at the International Headache Congress in Brazil in September. Her work was one of only seven selected for publication in *Cephalalgia*, the official journal of the International Headache Society.



VIVEK
THUMBIGERE-
MATH

Vivek Thumbigere-Math, BDS, PhD, assistant professor, Division of Periodontics, was awarded two National Institutes of Health research grants totaling nearly \$4.3

million to investigate how oral bacteria may influence inflammatory bowel disease and to study dental side effects associated with the osteoporosis drug denosumab.

Manindra Nath Tiwari, PhD, research associate; **Man-Kyo Chung, DMD, PhD**, professor; **Fernando da Silva Fiorin, PhD**, postdoctoral fellow; and **Lauren Paik**, summer trainee, all in the Department of Neural and Pain



MANINDRA
NATH TIWARI



MAN-KYO CHUNG

Sciences, co-authored “Sex Differences of Synaptic Plasticity and Microglial Remodeling in the Dorsal Hippocampus Following Trigeminal Nerve Injury In Mice,” which was published in *Neurobiology of Disease* in October.

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES



ERIC BELT

Eric Belt, EdD, adjunct assistant professor, was among the co-authors of “Teacher-Student Relationships in an Online Graduate Program: A Phenomenological Analysis,”

which was published in the *Online Learning Journal* on Sept. 1.



MARY JO BONDY



KAREN L.
GORGES

Mary Jo Bondy, DHed, MHS, PA-C, associate professor; **Karen L. Gordes, PhD, PT, DScPT**, professor; and **Violet Kulo, EdD, PhD**, associate

professor, presented “Institutional Faculty Development in Trauma Informed Pedagogy: Building Resilient Systems” at the Leadership in Higher Education Conference in Philadelphia in October. Also, Kulo presented “The Antecedents of Transformational Leadership Practices” at the conference on Oct. 4.



VIOLET KULO



SHANI FLEMING



GERALD KAYINGO

Shani Fleming, PhD, MSHS, MPH, PA-C, associate professor; **Gerald Kayingo, PhD, MBA, PA-C**, the Leslie S. Robinson, MD Endowed Professor; **Karen L. Gordes, PhD, PT, DScPT**, professor; and **Violet Kulo, EdD, PhD**, associate professor, co-authored “Optimizing Clinical Education Through a Regional Coordinating Center: Lessons Learned from a State-Wide Initiative,” which was published in the *Journal of Physician Assistant Education* on Oct. 8.



CHERI HENDRIX

Cheri Hendrix, DHed, MSBME, PA-C, DFAAPA, associate professor and assistant dean, Physician Assistant Education, presented “Pay it Forward: The Future of the PA Profession Depends on You” at the Maryland Academy of Physician Assistants Conference on Sept. 27.

J. Howard Kucher, DPA, MBA, associate professor, edited the book “Cases on Social Entrepreneurship in the United States,” which was published in October, and wrote the chapters “Shifting Gears in Workforce Development: The Case of Vehicles for Change”; “A Business Blooms in Baltimore: The Case of Local Color Flowers”; and “A New Approach To Church Property Redevelopment: The Case of the Wilmington Kitchen Collective.”



J. HOWARD KUCHER



DIANE MARTIN

Diane Martin, PhD, MA, MSL; J. Howard Kucher, DPA, MBA; and Isabell Cserno May, PhD, all associate professors, received a five-year, \$1.3 million grant from the National Institute on Aging for “Entrepreneurship Science Communication for Aging and Aging-Related Research (ESCAAR) Program for Doctoral Students and Postdoctoral Scholars.”



ISABELL CSERNO MAY

Isabell Cserno May, PhD, associate professor, was selected to participate in the Boosting Course Accessibility Mini Grant Program through the University System of Maryland’s William E. Kirwan Center for Academic Innovation.



KENNETH H. WONG

Kenneth H. Wong, PhD, dean and vice provost for graduate education, received a grant from TEDCO’s Baltimore Innovation Initiative to establish UMB’s Center for Climate and Health Entrepreneurship.

CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW

Cori Alonso-Yoder, JD, assistant professor and director, Immigration Clinic, was quoted in “Inside the Trump Administration’s Sweeping Crackdown on Legal Immigration,” which was published on CNN.com on Sept. 24.



DEBORAH EISENBERG



TOBY GUERIN

Deborah Eisenberg, JD, vice dean and professor, wrote the chapter “Mediation and Procedural Justice: Where Are We Now?” for the book “Discussions in Dispute Resolution: The Coming of Age (2000-2009),” which was published in August. Also, Eisenberg and **Toby Guerin, JD**, clinical law professor and executive director, Center for Dispute Resolution, co-authored “‘Will the Circle Be Unbroken’: The Role of Law School Centers in Advancing Restorative Justice Theory, Practice, and Education,” which was published in the *Journal of Legal Education* on Sept. 23.



MARK GRABER

Mark Graber, JD, PhD, MA, Distinguished University Professor, was quoted in “This 1 Term Skyrocketed in Google Search Following Charlie Kirk’s Death—and It’s So Telling,” which was published by *HuffPost* on Sept. 19.



MICHAEL GREENBERGER

Michael Greenberger, JD, professor, and **Michael Vesely, JD**, lecturer, were featured in “9/11 Changed His Career Path. Now He Works to Protect America Using the Law,” which aired on WBFF-Fox 45 on Sept. 15.



MICHAEL VESELY



KATHLEEN HOKE

Kathleen Hoke, JD, professor and director, Legal Resource Center for Public Health Policy, was quoted in “FDA Tylenol Label Change Could Bolster Autism Lawsuits, Says Angelos Law Firm,” which was published in *The Baltimore Sun* on Sept. 25.

Quince Hopkins, JD, director, Levitas Initiative for Sexual Assault Prevention, was among the co-authors of “Magic or Morass?: A Multidisciplinary Approach to Restorative Practices for Sexual Harm Prevention and Program Evaluation,” which was published in the *Journal of Legal Education* on Sept. 15.



PAULA MONOPOLI

Paula Monopoli, JD, Distinguished University Professor and founding director, Women, Leadership, and Equality Program, wrote “A ‘New’ New Departure,” which was published in the *Washington University Law Review*.



JON MUELLER

Jon Mueller, JD, visiting associate professor, was quoted in “The Chesapeake Bay Program Reaches a Crossroads,” which was published in *Inside Climate News* on Sept. 30.

Robert Percival, JD, Distinguished University Professor and director, Environmental Law Program, presented “Federal Environmental Law After Trump II?” for the Vermont Law School’s “Hot Topics” series July 8.

Jennifer Pollard, JD, director of judicial clerkships, was quoted in “Judicial Clerkships Offer Prestige, Pay and Career Value for Law Graduates,” which was published in the *National Jurist* on Aug. 25, and “How Law School Applicants Can Boost Odds of a Judicial Clerkship,” which was published in *U.S. News & World Report* on Aug. 25.

Natalie Ram, JD, professor, wrote “Privileging Genetic Privacy,” which was published in the *Emory Law Journal*.



ERICA SUTER

Erica Suter, JD, professor and director, MOPD Innocence Project Clinic, was interviewed for “Innocence Project Clinics Train Law Students to Exonerate the Wrongly Imprisoned, like Jeffrey Deskovic,” which aired on WYPR Radio’s “Midday” program Sept. 16.

Maureen Sweeney, JD, professor and director, Chacón Center for Immigrant Justice, was quoted in “Thousands of Immigrants Uprooted as US Expels Them to Nations They’ve Never Known,” which was published in *The Baltimore Banner* on Sept. 8.



DONALD TOBIN

Donald Tobin, JD, professor, wrote “Have Your Cake and Eat It Too, Using Apportionment to Preserve Congress’ Tax Power,” which was published in the *Florida Tax Review*.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

May Montasser, PhD, adjunct assistant professor, Department of Medicine, is the lead inventor of “B4GALT1 Variants and Uses Thereof,” which was issued an Israeli patent on Sept. 2.

Vincent Njar, PhD, Distinguished University Professor, is the lead inventor of “13-Cis-RAMBA Retinamides That Degrade MNKs for Treating Cancer,” which was issued patents in Germany, France, and the United Kingdom on Sept. 10.

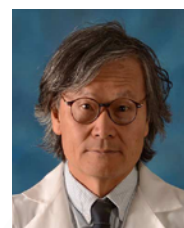


JOSEPH RABIN



ZHONGJUN WU

Joseph Rabin, MD, MS, MIA, and **Zhongjun Wu, PhD**, both professors in the Department of Surgery, are the lead inventor and co-inventor, respectively, of “Trans-Esophageal Aortic Flow Rate Control,” which was issued a U.S. Continuation patent on Sept. 2.

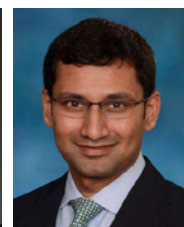


CHA-MIN TANG

Cha-Min Tang, MD, PhD, professor, Department of Neurology, is the lead inventor of “Apparatus and Method for Tooth Pulp Vitality Detection,” which was issued a U.S. Continuation patent on Sept. 9.



JEFFREY S. WOLF



AMAL ISAIAH

Jeffrey S. Wolf, MD, and **Amal Isaiah, MBBS, DPhil, MBA**, both professors in the Department of

Otorhinolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, are the lead inventor and co-inventor, respectively, of “Automatic Ultrasound Titration of Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) Treatment for Sleep Apnea,” which was issued a U.S. Divisional patent on Sept. 9.

SCHOOL OF NURSING



VERONICA
Y. AMOS



JOAN
CARPENTER

Veronica Y. Amos, PhD, MS '07, MS '00, BSN '99, CRNA, PHCNS-BC, FAANA, FAAN, assistant professor and director, Doctor of Nursing Practice Nurse Anesthesia specialty, and **Joan Carpenter, PhD, CRNP, ACHPN, FGSA, FPCN, FAAN**, associate professor, were inducted as 2025 fellows of the American Academy of Nursing. Also, Carpenter was inducted as a 2025 fellow of the Gerontological Society of America.



YVETTE CONYERS

Yvette Conyers, DNP, RN, FNP-C, CTN-B, CFCN, CFCS, CNE, FADLN, CWCN-AP, associate dean for strategic engagement and impact, was accepted into the George Washington School

of Nursing's Fellowship in Health Policy and Media for the 2025-26 academic year. Also, she wrote a letter to the editor, “Peripheral Arterial Disease Is a Silent Crisis. It Doesn't Have to Be That Way,” which was published in *The Baltimore Banner* on Oct. 1.

Theresa Di Seta, DNP '25, RN, NEA-BC, NPD-BC, assistant director of student placements for partnership development and community health, was selected to the 2025-26 cohort of the American Nurses Advocacy Institute,

a program led by the American Nurses Association to strengthen nurses' skills in health policy and advocacy.



ERIKA FRIEDMAN

Erika Friedman, PhD, Professor Emerita, was featured in “New Study Reveals How Dogs Help Slow Cellular Aging in Female Veterans,” which was published on Bioengineer.com on Oct. 7.



RACHEL
MCPHERSON

Rachel McPherson, PhD, MA, assistant professor, received a \$23,000 grant from the Foundation for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine for “Pilot Testing the Fostering Positive Care Interactions,”

which focuses on dementia patients in assisted living facilities and how their limited social interactions can impact staff's quality care interactions.



NICOLE E. SMITH

Nicole E. Smith, PhD, MS '14, RN, CNE, CHSE, CNE-cl, assistant professor and co-director, Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program, was a guest on the “Faculty First: Elevating Nursing

Education Through NLN Faculty Intensives” episode of the National League for Nursing's “Nursing EDGE Unscripted” podcast on Sept. 25.

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY



BETHANY
DIPAULA

Bethany DiPaula, PharmD, professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, and co-director, Mental Health Program, was elected as a member-at-large to

the American Association of Psychiatric Pharmacists' Board of Directors.



HILLARY
EDWARDS

Hillary Edwards, PhD, MPH, director of methodological research and evaluation, PATIENTS Program, received a two-year, \$13,090 contract from Johns Hopkins University for

“Food Is Medicine for Cardiovascular Health Promotion: Building Capacity for Patient-Centered CER.”



STEVEN
FLETCHER



PAUL SHAPIRO



ALEXANDER
MACKERELL JR.

Steven Fletcher, PhD, professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and director, MS in Pharmaceutical Sciences Program; **Paul Shapiro, PhD**, professor, Department of Pharmaceutical

Sciences, and **Alexander MacKerell Jr., PhD**, the Grollman-Glick Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences and director, Computer-Aided Drug Design Center, received a U.S. patent for “Inhibitors of Extracellular Signal-Regulated Kinase.” Also, MacKerell was named a fellow of the Biophysical Society.



MANDEE NOVAL

Mandee Noval, PharmD, assistant professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, received a one-year, \$1,000 fellowship from the University System of Maryland

for “Transparency in Learning and Teaching in Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences.”

Jana Shen, PhD, professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, and co-director, Computer-Aided Drug Design Center, was named a fellow of the American Chemical Society.



YAN SHU

Yan Shu, MD, PhD, professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences (PSC), and **Fengtian Xue, PhD**, professor, PSC, and associate dean for research, received U.S. and European patents for

“WNT Signaling Pathway Inhibitors for Treatments of Disease.”

Bruce Yu, PhD, professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a two-year, \$1,265,103 contract from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for “Noninvasive Fingerprinting of Vaccines.”

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



LISA BERLIN

Lisa Berlin, PhD, MS, the Alison L. Richman Professor of Children and Families, was awarded the highly competitive Sabbatical Fund

Fellowship from the James McKeen Cattell Fund for 2025-26.



KAREN HOPKINS

Karen Hopkins, PhD, associate professor, presented “Balancing Act: Supervisors’ and Managers’ Experiences and Strategies in a Volatile Human Service Environment” at the

Work Management Annual Conference on Sept. 20.



JOHN CAGLE

Megan Meyer, PhD, associate professor, and **John Cagle, PhD, MSW**, professor, were selected as fellows of the University Psychedelic Education Program, which is funded

by the Joe & Sandy Samberg Foundation and seeks to equip faculty from schools of social work and nursing with the ability to integrate evidence-based psychedelic education into master’s-level curricula.

Howard A. Palley, PhD, Professor Emeritus, presented “Comments on the Public/Private Sector Mix in

Healthcare Delivery” to students in the Doctor of Social Science Program at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University on Sept. 24.



HOWARD A. PALLEY



DAVID ROBERTSON

David Robertson, MSW, MA, PhD student, was selected to join the 2025-26 cohort of the Council on Social Work Education’s Minority Fellowship Program for doctoral students.



LAUREN SCHUYLER

Lauren Schuyler, PhD, assistant research director, Family Welfare Research and Training Group, was quoted in “SNAP Changes Could Have Devastating Consequences for Teenagers,” which was published by *Newsweek* on Oct. 9.

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