

UMB LAURELS

JUNE 2026



UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND
BALTIMORE

UNIVERSITYWIDE



EMILY GORMAN



NICOLE
SHELAWALA



AMY YARNELL

Emily Gorman, MLIS, and **Nicole Shelawala, MEng, MLIS**, both research and education librarians, and **Amy Yarnell, MLS**, head, Data and Bioinformatics

Services, all with the Health Sciences and Human Services Library, co-authored “Building an Interactive Dashboard to Visualize Institutional Open Access Publishing Trends,” which was published by the *Journal of the Medical Library Association* in April.

Dennis Nangle, MLS, assistant dean for resource development and access, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, was named co-editor of *Developments*, the newsletter of the Collection Development Caucus of the Medical Library Association.



VIRGINIA
ROWTHORN



YOLANDA
OGBOLU

Virginia Rowthorn, JD, LLM, associate vice president for global engagement, UMB, and associate professor, School

of Graduate Studies, and **Yolanda Ogbolu, PhD '11, MS '05, BSN '04, NNP, FNAP, FAAN**, the Bill and Joanne Conway Dean of the University of Maryland



SHADAE
CHAMBERS

School of Nursing (UMSON), served as special collection editors for “Global Learning for Health Equity: Developing Innovative Solutions with Partners Around the World,” which was published by the *Annals of Public Health* in April. Also, Ogbolu, Rowthorn, and **Shadae Chambers**, senior research project coordinator, UMSON, co-authored “Global Learning for Health Equity: Assessing Pilot Grants as a Tool to Advance the Strategy,” which was published by the *Annals of Public Health* in April.



APRIL WRIGHT

April Wright, MLS, outreach librarian, Region 1, Network of the National Library of Medicine, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, was elected to the Nominating Committee of the Medical

Library Association for 2026-2027.

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY



JOSE BOSIO

Jose Bosio, BDS, MS, clinical associate professor, chief, and program director, Division of Orthodontics, was appointed as a director of the American Board of Orthodontics (ABO) by the

American Association of Orthodontists' House of Delegates. The eight-year appointment will culminate in Bosio assuming the ABO presidency in 2034.



CAMERON LEE

Cameron Lee, DMD, MD, clinical assistant professor, Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, received the 2026 Faculty Educator Development Award from the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons and the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Foundation. The award provides funding for promising junior faculty pursuing long-term academic careers in the specialty.

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES



VIOLET KULO



HYUN-JIN JUN

Violet Kulo, EdD, PhD, associate professor and director, PhD and Leadership Certificate, and **Hyun-Jin Jun, PhD, MSW**, assistant professor, Health Professions Education, co-authored “Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Training for Practicing Health Professionals: A Scoping Review,” which Kulo presented at the American Educational Research Association Conference in Los Angeles on April 9.

CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW



CORI ALONSO-YODER

Cori Alonso-Yoder, JD, assistant professor and director, Immigration Clinic, and clinic students were featured in “Amid Trump’s Immigration Crackdown, These Future Lawyers Are Undeterred,” which was published by *The Baltimore Banner* on May 3.



PATRICIA CAMPBELL

Patricia Campbell, JD, professor and director, Intellectual Property Law Program, received the Catherine C. Blake Exceptional Service Award from the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland at the Federal Bench-Bar Conference in Greenbelt, Md., in April.

Mark Graber, JD, PhD, MA, Distinguished University Professor, gave the keynote address “Militant Democracy: U.S. Style” and presented “Fast Thoughts on Federalism” at the Militant Democracy: Political Liberalism, Authoritarianism, and the Figure of the Internal Enemy Conference at the University of Lille (France) in April.



DAVID GRAY

David Gray, JD, PhD, professor, was quoted in “ICE Using Driver’s License Data in Md. Immigration Enforcement,” which was published by *The Baltimore Sun* on April 9.

Diane Hoffmann, JD, Distinguished University Professor and director, Law and Health Care Program, was among the co-authors of “Evaluating the Analytical Performance of Direct-to-Consumer Gut Microbiome Testing Services,” which was published by *Communications Biology* in February.



GUHA KRISHNAMURTHI

Guha Krishnamurthi, JD, professor, wrote “The Many Ways of Constitutional Discourse,” which was published by the *Texas Law Review’s* online edition in April.



SARAH LORR

Sarah Lorr, JD, associate professor, wrote “The Capacity to Marry,” which was published by the *Columbia Law Review* in April.



PAULA MONOPOLI

Paula Monopoli, JD, Distinguished University Professor and founding director, Women, Leadership, and Equality Program, was a commentator and moderator for “The Second Continental Congress Reimagined,” a theatrical reimagining of the historical event presented by the Cole-Davidson Inn of Court at the Maryland Supreme Court in April.



ROBERT PERCIVAL

Robert Percival, JD, Distinguished University Professor and director, Environmental Law Program, presented “How the Supreme Court Is Shaping Environmental Law” at the Earthx 2026 Congress of Conferences in Dallas in April.



WILLIAM PIERMATTEI

William Piermattei, JD, managing director, Environmental Law Program, wrote the chapter “Defining Environmental Rights” for the book “Re-imagining Environmental Law,” which was published in February.

Jeff Sovern, JD, professor, was quoted in “CFPB Workforce Restructuring Plan: New CFPB Motion Details Sweeping Proposed Reductions in Staff Across All Divisions While Injunction Remains in Place,” which was published by *JD Supra* in April.



ERICA SUTER

Erica Suter, JD, professor and director, MOPD Innocence Project Clinic, was quoted in “Withheld Evidence Cases Cost Millions, Draw Little Discipline,” which was published by *The Baltimore Sun* on May 2.



MAUREEN SWEENEY

Maureen Sweeney, JD, professor and director, Chacón Center for Immigrant Justice, was quoted in “Maryland ‘Sanctuary’ Bill Limiting ICE Cooperation Sets Up Clash with Trump,” which was published by *The Baltimore Sun* on April 13.



DONALD TOBIN

Donald Tobin, JD, professor, co-authored “Living Constitutionalism, Originalism, and the Sixteenth Amendment,” which was published by the *Alabama Law Review* in May.



LIZA VERTINSKY

Liza Vertinsky, JD, PhD, was named a 2026 Andrew Carnegie Fellow, joining the program that supports research on understanding and addressing political polarization in the United States.



MICHAEL VESELY

Michael Vesely, JD, lecturer and academic program director, Center for Cyber, Health, and Hazard Strategies, was quoted in “Former WJZ Anchor Describes Chaos at White House Correspondents’

Dinner, Suspect’s Sister Lives in Maryland,” which was published on WJZ-TV’s website in April.



TIFFANY YANG

Tiffany Yang, JD, assistant professor, wrote “Prison Grievance Creep,” which was published by the *Stanford Law Review* in April.



MICAH YARBROUGH

Micah Yarbrough, JD, lecturer and director, Bar Preparation Programs, was quoted in “MD Law Schools See Dip in Bar Exam Pass Rate, But First-Timers Improve Again,” which was published

by *The Daily Record* on April 8.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



ADITI BANERJEE



THOMAS BLANCHARD



STEVEN CZINN

Aditi Banerjee, PhD, associate professor; **Thomas Blanchard, PhD, JD**, professor; and **Steven Czinn, MD**, professor, all in the Department of Pediatrics, are

the lead inventor and co-inventors, respectively, of “Compositions and

Methods for Treating Cancer with Andrographolide and Melatonin Combination Therapy,” which was issued a U.S. patent on March 31.



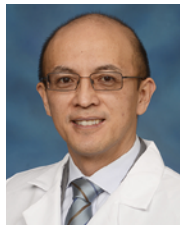
ROBERT BLOCH

Robert Bloch, PhD, professor, Department of Pharmacology and Physiology, delivered the lecture “Xenografts of Skeletal Muscle to Study Muscular Dystrophies” to University College London

students via Zoom on March 13.

Also, Bloch was the senior author of “Dysferlin’s C2A Domain Supports Normal Ca²⁺ Signaling and Membrane Repair in Dysferlin-Null Myofibers,” which was published by the *Journal of General Physiology*.

Matthew Brown, MD, medical resident; **Kai Sun, MS**, biostatistician; and **Mark Mishra, MD**, associate professor, all in the Department of Radiation Oncology, were among the co-authors of “Conditional Survival Estimates for Malignant Glioma Patients: Secondary Analysis of RTOG 9006,” which was published online ahead of print by the *American Journal of Clinical Oncology* on March 19.



ZE WANG

Aldo Camargo, PhD, postdoctoral fellow; **Gianpaolo Del Mauro, MS**, research fellow; and **Ze Wang, PhD**, professor, all in the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, co-authored

“Cross Entropy Gradient Analysis for Alzheimer’s Disease Assessment,” which was published online ahead of print by the *Journal of Alzheimer’s Disease* in March.

Chengyan Chu, PhD, research associate, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, received a three-year, \$231,000 award from the American Heart Association for “Image-Guided Intra-Arterial Gene Delivery of Therapeutic Nanobodies with Enhanced Blood-Brain Barrier Opening in CSVD.”



CURT I. CIVIN

Curt I. Civin, MD, professor, Department of Pediatrics, is the lead inventor of “Methods and Systems for Processing Particles,” which was issued a U.S. patent on March 31.



MOHIT N. GILOTRA

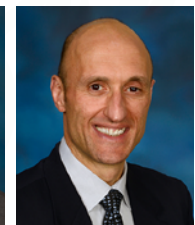
Mohit N. Gilotra, MD, MS, associate professor, Department of Orthopaedics, is the lead inventor of “Dual Mobility Cup Reverse Shoulder Prosthesis,” which was issued a U.S. patent on March 24.

Travis Hoover, MD, medical resident, Department of Radiation Oncology, was among the co-authors of “Long Term Results of Proton Therapy in Adult Infradiaphragmatic Lymphoma,” which was published by the *International Journal of Particle Therapy* in March.

Brian Mathur, PhD, professor, Department of Pharmacology and Physiology, was the senior author of “Anterior Cingulate Cortex Activation of Claustrum Projection Neuron Subtypes Is Enhanced by Alcohol,” which was published by *Neuropharmacology* on March 30.



JASON MOLITORIS



WILLIAM F. REGINE

Sina Mossahebi, PhD, associate professor; **Jason Molitoris, MD, PhD**, associate professor; and **William F. Regine, MD, FACR, FACRO, FASTRO**, Distinguished University Professor, all in the Department of Radiation Oncology, were among the co-authors of “Novel Use of Peak Optimized Particle Therapy for the Delivery of Three-Dimensional Spatially Fractionated Radiotherapy,” which was published by *Frontiers in Oncology* on March 11.



ROBABEH RAHIMI

Robabeh Rahimi, PhD, associate professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was among the co-authors of “Defining Clinically Relevant Residual Motion for Respiratory-

Gated Scanning Proton Therapy of Liver Cancer: A Patient-Derived 4D Dynamic Dose Analysis,” which was published online ahead of print by *Physica Medica* on March 30.



FEYRUZ RASSOOL

Feyruz Rassool, PhD, professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was among the co-authors of “Targeting the ANGPTL4/NRP1/ABL1/RAD51 Axis Reverses Cisplatin Resistance by

Impairing DNA Damage Repair in Head and Neck Cancer,” which was published by *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the USA* on March 31.



ANINDO ROY

Anindo Roy, PhD, adjunct associate professor, Department of Neurology, is the lead inventor of “Automatic Arm Training Device, System, and Method,” which was issued a U.S.

patent on April 21.



AMIT SAWANT

Amit Sawant, PhD, and **Lei Ren, PhD**, both professors, Department of Radiation Oncology, were among the co-authors of “Radiation Oncology-Biology Integration Network (ROBIN):

Bridging the Gap Between Biological Research and Clinical Practice,” which was published online ahead of print by *Clinical Cancer Research* on April 6.



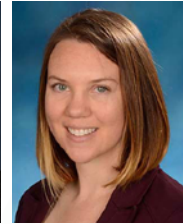
HEM SHUKLA

Hem Shukla, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was the senior author of “HIF1 α Mediates Resistance to Radiation and to KRAS Inhibitors in Pancreatic

Adenocarcinoma,” which was published by *PLoS One* on March 26.



DUDLEY STRICKLAND



JOANNA COOPER

Dudley Strickland, PhD, Distinguished University Professor, is the lead inventor, and **Joanna Cooper, PhD**, research associate; **Molly Migliorini, MS**, laboratory research manager; and **Brian Hampton**, program director, are co-inventors of “Compositions and Methods for Treatment and Prevention of Alzheimer’s Disease,” which was issued a U.S. patent on March 24.



MATTHEW TRUDEAU

Matthew Trudeau, PhD, professor, Department of Pharmacology and Physiology, wrote “The PAS Domain Directly Regulates hERG Channel Gating in Patch-Clamp Fluorometry Recordings,” which was published by *Biophysical Journal* on March 19.



ZHONGJUN WU



BARTLEY P. GRIFFITH

Zhongjun Wu, PhD, and **Bartley P. Griffith, MD**, professors, Department of Surgery, are the lead inventor and

co-inventor, respectively, of “Dual Chamber Gas Exchanger and Method of Use for Respiratory Support,” which was issued a Japanese patent on March 31.

Xinglin Zeng, PhD, postdoctoral fellow; **Ze Wang, PhD**, professor; **Yiran Li, PhD**, assistant professor; **Ruoxi Lu**, lab member; and **Lucas Lemos Franco**, research fellow, all in the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, were among the co-authors of “Spatially and Temporally Progressive Hypoperfusion in Alzheimer’s Disease Revealed by Normative Modeling,” which was published by *Alzheimer’s & Dementia: The Journal of the Alzheimer’s Association* in March.

SCHOOL OF NURSING



DONALD AMENAH

Donald Amenah, PHN, RN, PhD student, presented the poster “Barriers and Facilitators to Perinatal Care in Black Women” at the Association of Women’s Health, Obstetrics, and Neonatal Nursing’s Maryland Section Conference in Stevensville, Md., on April 22.



KEISHA ROBINSON

Krystal Ansah, BSN, RN, PhD student, and **Keisha Robinson, PhD ’23, MS ’04, RN, CNM, C-EFM**, assistant professor, delivered the podium presentation “Social Support in Pregnancy and Postpartum

Anxiety” at the Association of Women’s Health, Obstetrics, and Neonatal Nursing’s Maryland Section Conference in Stevensville, Md., on April 22.



CARISSA BRAGDON



CAITLIN DONIS



CAROLYN GREELY



MARTINE KIRWIN



TARA STOUTD



JESSICA SULLIVAN

Carissa Bragdon, DNP, ACNP-BC, CNE; Caitlin Donis, PhD, MS '13, AG-ACNP, AACNS-AG; Carolyn Greely, DNP '20, CERT '20, CRNP, BSN; Martine Kirwin, DNP, FNP-C, RN; Tara Stoudt, DNP '25, MS '08, RNC-NIC; and Jessica Sullivan, DNP '25, MS '14, PMHNP-BC, all assistant professors, received Dean's Teaching Scholars Awards for 2026-27. The \$5,000 awards provide support for employees facilitating or developing research/projects that enhance nursing education and/or extend the evidence base for teaching and learning.



RACHEL BLANKSTEIN BREMAN

Rachel Blankstein Breman, PhD '18, MPH, RN, FAWHONN, associate professor, delivered the podium presentation "From Concept to Care: Implementing Team Birth" at the Association of Women's

Health, Obstetrics, and Neonatal Nursing's Maryland Section Conference in Stevensville, Md., on April 22.



LINDA COOK

Linda Cook, PhD '05, MS '97, RN, CCNS, ACNP, assistant professor, was quoted in "Four Baltimore Nurses Who Exemplify What It Means to Go Beyond the Call of Duty,"

which was published by *Baltimore* magazine on May 11.



THERESA DI SETA

Theresa Di Seta, DNP '25, RN, NEABC, NPDBC, assistant director of student placements for partnership development and community health, was a panelist for the plenary session "Slow

Talk Report: Humanizing Healthcare" at the R3 StateWide Conference: Raise the Voices of Nurses and the Public, which was held in Annapolis, Md., on April 28.



KELLY DORAN

Kelly Doran, PhD '11, MS '08, RN, FAAN, and Marik Moen, PhD '19, MPH, RN, both associate professors, were recognized in the educator and research categories, respectively, for

the list of "Baltimore's Top Nurses, 2026," which was published by *Baltimore* magazine on May 11.



ONYI ESOGHAGHI

Onyi Esochaghi, MHA, program manager, Office of Strategic Engagement and Impact, presented "Supporting Multilingual Learners: A Call for Systemic Reform" at the National

Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education Conference in Philadelphia on March 26.



NOELLE FLAHERTY

Noelle Flaherty, PhD, MBA, MS '10, RN, CPHQ, CCM, assistant professor, was the lead author of "Incorporating Omics and Precision Health in a Nursing PhD Program: The Perspectives

of Student Nurse Scientists," which received honorable mention recognition among 2025 Innovation Center articles published by *Nursing Education Perspectives*, the research journal of the National League for Nursing.



KATELYN "KATIE" FOLBERTH

Katelyn "Katie" Folberth, MEd, academic services specialist, Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health, was recognized as UMB's April Employee

of the Month for her support of faculty and helping to streamline processes in her department.



ANNE HAGAN

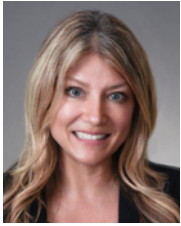
Anne Hagan, MSN-CHP, BSN, PhD student, received the Geriatrics and Gerontology Education and Research (GGEAR) Program Award in recognition of her contributions

to the field of geriatric nursing during GGEAR's Awards and Recognition Ceremony on April 29.



EARL HENSON

Earl Henson was promoted to audio-visual manager.



DAWN MUELLER-BURKE

Dawn Mueller-Burke, PhD '01, MS '98, CRNP, NNP-BC, assistant professor, contributed to “Five Years of the Essentials: From Framework to Transformation,” which was published by *Syllabus*, the newsletter of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, on May 5.



VERONICA P.S. NJIE-CARR

Veronica P.S. Njie-Carr, PhD, RN, ACNS-BC, FWACN, professor, was among the co-authors of “Translating and Adapting Bioethical Principles to the African Socio-Cultural Contexts:

An Integrative Review,” which was published by the *African Journal of Bioethics* on April 8.

Barbara Resnick, PhD '96, RN, CRNP, FAAN, FAANP, professor, associate dean for research, and Sonya Ziporkin Gershowitz Chair in Gerontology, co-authored “Questioning When It’s Time to Go,” which was published by *McKnight’s Long-Term Care News* on May 7.

Keisha Robinson, PhD '23, MS '04, RN, CNM, C-EFM, assistant professor, presented the poster “Postpartum Depression and Perceived Social Support” at the Association of Clinical and Translational Research Conference in Milwaukee on April 21.

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY



KIERAN JOHNSON



VINCENT LOWE

The following UMSOP students received Best Short Talk Awards at the school’s annual Research Day on April 7.

- First place: **Kieran Johnson**, PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences (PSC) program
- Second place: **Vincent Lowe**, PhD in PSC program
- Third place: **Taraneh Mousavi, PharmD**, PhD in Pharmaceutical Health Sciences Research (PHSR) program; **Sara Geriesh, MS**, PhD in PSC program; **Jihyeon Lee, MS**, PhD in PSC program

The following UMSOP students received Best Poster Awards at the school’s annual Research Day on April 7.

- First place: **Ruoyi Zhang**, student pharmacist
- Second place: **Zijin Xu, MS**, PhD in PHSR program, and **Abigail Reitz**, PhD in PSC program
- Third place: **Fengdi Zhang, MPH**, PhD in PHSR program; **Guy Dayhoff II**, postdoctoral fellow; and **Kacey Vavaroutsos**, PhD in PSC program

Ryan Baldeo, MPAS, MSPC, PA-C, and **Paul Galchutt, MDiv, MPH**, students, PhD in Palliative Care program, were selected the Guideline Expert Panel co-chairs for the 5th Edition of the National Consensus Project Clinical Practice Guidelines for Quality Palliative Care.



CYNTHIA BOYLE

Cynthia Boyle, PharmD, Professor Emerita, was appointed to the Maryland Public Television Foundation’s Board of Directors.



NATALYA BROWN

Natalya Brown and Kieran Johnson, students, PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences program, received University of Maryland Strategic Partnership: *MPowering the State* Early

Scholars Investment Fund Awards.



ATHANASIOS CHAMZAS

Athanasios Chamzas, MS, student, PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences program, won second place at UMSOP’s inaugural HiPitch Competition on April 8.



DANIEL DEREDGE

Daniel Deredge, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a University of Maryland Strategic Partnership: *MPowering the State* Early Scholars Investment Fund Award.



HILLARY EDWARDS

Hillary Edwards, PhD, MPH, director of methodological research and evaluation, PATIENTS Program, received a one-year, \$100,000 contract from the UMB Foundation

for “PATIENTS Professors Academy 2026 — Pfizer.”



YU-HUA FU

Yu-Hua Fu, PharmD, MS, PhD candidate, Pharmaceutical Health Services Research program, received a University of Maryland Strategic Partnership: *MPowering the State* Early

Scholars Investment Fund Award.



MOJDEH HEAVNER

Mojdeh Heavner, PharmD, professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, and assistant dean for experiential learning, received a presidential citation from the

Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM) and was appointed chair of SCCM’s Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmacology Section for 2026-2027.



EMILY HEIL

Emily Heil, PharmD, professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, received a one-year, \$15,550 grant from the University of Pittsburgh for “Defining High-Risk Genomic Groups of *Stenotrophomonas Maltophilia*.”



LAUREN HYNICKA

Lauren Hynicka, PharmD, associate professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, received UMSOP’s William and Dolores Kinnard Teaching Award.



VIJAY IVATURI



JOGA GOBBURU

Vijay Ivaturi, PhD, adjunct professor, and **Joga Gobburu, PhD, MBA**, professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, are the lead inventor and a co-inventor, respectively, of “Method of Administering Sotalol IV/ SWITCH,” which was issued a U.S. continuation patent on March 10.



KASARAH JOHNSON

Kasarah Johnson, administrative services specialist, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, completed the Building Bridges Across Maryland program, a nine-month

professional development and networking program for support staff and supervisors at universities and colleges across the Baltimore area.



EBERCHUKWU ONUKWUGHA

Eberchukwu Onukwugha, PhD, MS, professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, and executive director, Pharmaceutical Research Computing, received a one-year, \$290,625 contract from Genentech, Inc., for “Real World Evidence Scientific Project,” and a one-year, \$138,000 contract from the National Pharmaceutical Council for “Measuring What Matters: Out-of-Pocket Cost Variability from the Patient Perspective.”



RYAN PEARSON

Ryan Pearson, PhD, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, and director, Bio- and Nano-Technology Center, received a 21-month, \$130,000 grant from the Maryland

Technology Development Corporation for “Preclinical Development of IMPRINT-NP as a Novel Lung Treatment for Severe Asthma.”

Danya Qato, PhD, PharmD, MPH, associate professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, was invited to serve on the Board of Directors and the Mental Health Advisory Committee of the American Muslim Senior Society in Montgomery County, Md. She also was invited to serve as an expert reviewer on the CHERISH Pilot Grant Review Committee at Weill Cornell School of Medicine and to participate in Weill Cornell’s CHERISH Independence in Substance Use Health Economics and Services Research Mentoring Program.



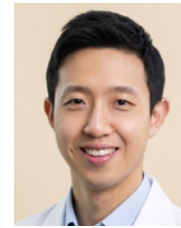
MADISON SAVIDGE

Madison Savidge, PharmD, MBA, emergency medicine pharmacy resident, received the Society of Critical Care Medicine Baltimore Chapter’s Research Award.



ADARSH SUBBASWAMY

Adarsh Subbaswamy, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Practice, Sciences, and Health Outcomes Research, received a University of Maryland Strategic Partnership: *MPowering the State* Early Scholars Investment Fund Award.



JASON SUNG

Jason Sung, PhD, postdoctoral fellow, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a University of Maryland Strategic Partnership: *MPowering the State* Early Scholars Investment Fund Award.



TIEN TRAN

Tien Tran, MPH, student, PhD in Pharmaceutical Health Services Research program, was selected to attend the Society for Epidemiologic Research’s (SER) Student Dissertation Workshop at the SER Annual Meeting in Phoenix in June.



AGBO-OMA UWAKWEH

Agbo-oma Uwakweh, student, PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences program, received a Graduate Student Travel Award to attend the 2026 annual meeting of the American Society for Mass Spectrometry in San Diego in June.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



NIKITA
AGGARWAL

Nikita Aggarwal, MSW, PhD candidate, presented “Community-Engaged Research on Precarity and Coercion: South Asian Immigrant Workers in the U.S. Food Service Industry” as

part of the “Community-Based Participatory Research: Collaboration Through Community Partnerships” panel at the Pacific Sociological Association Conference in Long Beach, Calif., in April.



TIFFANY BANKS

Tiffany Banks, PhD, MSW, assistant professor, was selected to receive the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities’ Sesqui Advocacy Award, which recognizes her

leadership, advocacy, and commitment to advancing the rights and well-being of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



NEIJMA
CELESTINE-
DONNOR

Neijma Celestine-Donnor, JD, MSW, LCSW-C, associate dean of strategic initiatives and organizational engagement, and **Nadine Finigan-Carr, PhD, MS**, research professor,

School of Social Work, and executive director, UMB Center for Violence

Prevention, received a 2026 Curriculum Internationalization Grant from UMB’s Center for Global Engagement for “Developing a Caribbean Diasporic Curriculum Framework.”



NADINE
FINIGAN-CARR

Christabel Cheung, PhD, MSW, assistant professor, received funding through the Salzburg Global Transforming Information Pathways for Health, Well-Being, and Equity Network Fund for the bilingual project “Learning Wellness Systems for Equity,” which will examine how learning health systems can center lived experience and equitable benefit distribution.



SARAH CLEM

Sarah Clem, MSW, PhD student, was awarded the 2026-2027 American Dissertation Fellowship from the American Association of University Women to support completion of

her dissertation, “Barriers to Death Rituals: A Phenomenological Study of Bereaved Lived Experiences,” which explores how disruptions to death rituals shape grief and mourning.



ALEXIS
GUETHLER

Alexis Guethler, PhD, instructional designer, IDEA Team, co-authored the chapter “Empowering Adult Learners Through Case-Based Instruction: A New Approach

to Employability Skills” for the book “Innovative Approaches, Practices, and Strategies in Adult Education,” and wrote “Making Pedagogical Intent Visible: AI-Supported Contextualization in Higher Education Course Design,” for “The Pedagogical Promptbook” website.



HOWARD A.
PALLEY

Howard A. Palley, PhD, Professor Emeritus, was among the co-authors of the second edition of the book “The Politics of Women’s Health Care in the United States,” which examines how U.S.

women’s health care policy is shaped by intersecting political, institutional, and cultural forces.



JUDY L. POSTMUS

Judy L. Postmus, PhD, ACSW, dean and professor, was featured on the WUSA-TV news segment “The Impact of Domestic Violence on Children: Expert Explains” on April 17, offering

insight into how witnessing domestic violence and traumatic loss can cause deep, long-term harm for children.

LAURELS ARE SUBMITTED BY THE COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENTS OF THE SCHOOLS AS WELL AS BY REPRESENTATIVES IN UNIVERSITYWIDE OFFICES. THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ERRORS IN THESE SELF-SUBMITTED LAURELS.