



VOICE

News for the Campus Community — April 2006



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Congressman Cummings to Deliver Commencement Keynote Speech



Elijah Cummings

DANIELLE SWEENEY

Rep. Elijah Cummings, a School of Law alumnus, an accomplished attorney and legislator, and a staunch advocate of the University, will be the keynote speaker at this year's commencement.

Cummings, who earned a JD from the School of Law in 1976, was a practicing attorney for nearly 20 years and a delegate in the Maryland General Assembly for 16 years. While in the state legislature, he became chair of the Maryland Legislative Black Caucus and the first African-

American to be named speaker pro tem—the House of Delegates' second-highest position.

Cummings was elected to Congress from Maryland's 7th District in 1996, and is currently a member of the House Task Force on Health Care Reform, the House Government Reform Committee, and the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. He is also the ranking member of the Criminal Justice, Drug Policy, and Human Resources Subcommittee, co-chair of the House AIDS

Working Group, and immediate past chair of the Congressional Black Caucus.

During his legislative career, Cummings has developed a long-standing relationship with his alma mater.

"Congressman Cummings is a longtime friend of the University of Maryland, Baltimore. He was an early partner in the development of the UMB BioPark," says President David J. Ramsay, DM, DPhil, "and he spearheaded the effort to obtain funds through the Federal Transportation Act for signage and way-finding to integrate the University campus with the BioPark."

Cummings serves on many boards and commissions, including the U.S. Naval Academy board of visitors, and the board of trustees at the Maryland Zoo in Baltimore and the National Aquarium in Baltimore.

Commencement exercises will be held at 1st Mariner Arena, 201 W. Baltimore St., on Friday, May 19, at 3 p.m. Doors will open at 1 p.m. for graduates and guests. No tickets are required. The exercise will last approximately two hours.

For more information about commencement, visit www.umaryland.edu/commencement.

Research Looks at Substance Abuse and Mental Illness

How Diet and Exercise Affect Chronic Disease Also Examined

REBECCA CERAUL AND
KAREN WARMKESSEL

Two School of Medicine programs, aided by funds from National Institutes of Health (NIH) grants, are studying the relationship between mental illness and substance abuse, and the connection between chronic disease and poor diet and exercise.

The Maryland Psychiatric Research Center (MPRC), a facility funded and governed jointly by the School and the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH), received a \$13 million grant from the NIH's National Institute on Drug Abuse to establish a research program on treatment for people with both serious mental illnesses and substance abuse problems. And a five-year, \$3.5 million NIH grant has created a clinical nutrition research center that focuses on how diet and exercise influence the risk of developing chronic conditions such as obesity, type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and osteoporosis.

The Institutional Review Board recently approved the first

study protocols for the mental health and substance abuse program. That research is being conducted by staff of the MPRC, which is in Catonsville on the grounds of the Spring Grove Hospital Center, an inpatient psychiatric facility. The clinical nutrition research center, based in the School of Medicine's Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Nutrition, opened late last year.

"Individuals with mental illness and addiction issues comprise at least half of the patients in most mental health treatment facilities," says Robert Conley, MD, professor of psychiatry and pharmacy science at the School of Medicine, chief of treatment research at the MPRC, and the NIH grant's principal investigator. "This combination increases the risk of frequent psychiatric relapses, poor medication compliance, violence, suicide, legal problems, and high utilization of the emergency room or inpatient services. Traditional mental health and addiction treatments have not adequately addressed this combination of disorders."

"Better understanding of the connection between substance abuse and psychiatric disorders could have a profound effect on prevention and treatment," Conley says.

Continued on page 3

Wilson and Harris Honored

The Maryland General Assembly recently honored two deans who are leaving their posts: Donald E. Wilson, MD, MACP, vice president for medical affairs, University of Maryland, and dean of the School of Medicine; and Jesse J. Harris, PhD, dean of the School of Social Work. Each a pioneer in his field and a dean at the University for 15 years, Wilson and Harris were recognized at the Statehouse for the scope of their accomplishments and the leadership of their schools.

Both men announced last year that they are ending their terms as deans. Each has remained in his post as searches for new deans have

been conducted. Wilson will retire from the University later this year. Following a sabbatical, Harris plans to return to the School of Social Work faculty.

Wilson is pictured on the left holding a proclamation from the legislature. With him are, left to right, Baltimore-area senators Paula Hollinger and Nathaniel McFadden, Senate President Mike Miller, and Sen. Verna Jones from Baltimore. Pictured with Harris on the right are Miller and Jones.

A luncheon honoring Wilson is scheduled at the University for May 8. See the calendar on page 10 for more information.



DEAN'S MESSAGE

School of Medicine

When I arrived here to become dean of the University of Maryland School of Medicine in 1991, I had a vision of what this medical school could become. I saw the medical school as a diamond in the rough, which—when appropriately structured, polished, and supported—could become a spectacular gem. But I will be the first to admit that even I underestimated the brilliance we would achieve.

I started thinking about the School of Medicine's bicentennial in 1997, and set what I thought was an ambitious, but appropriate, goal of achieving \$200 million in annual research grants and contracts to mark our 200th anniversary in 2007. We surpassed that amount in 2001, six years early. Today, with \$350 million in annual research grants and contracts (Fiscal Year 2005), the School of Medicine is truly the jewel in the University System of Maryland's crown, surpassing College Park in total research funding.

The past 15 years have been extraordinary for our research enterprise. While the University of Maryland School of Medicine has long been known to produce excellent practicing physicians, today we are also recognized as a premier research institution. Funding from the National Institutes of Health and other external sources provides the foundation for our research efforts—without research, most of our achievements in education and patient care would not be possible. External research funding reached \$349.5 million last year, a 24 percent increase over FY04. It is fully 85 percent of the University of Maryland, Baltimore's total research funding.

Private philanthropy, which barely existed in 1991, has become a critical part of our total support. In 1991 private gifts to the School of Medicine totaled \$1.7 million. By 2005 philanthropy had increased by more than 2,000 percent to \$36.9 million. Based upon the first six months of this fiscal year, we project that we will receive \$45 million in gifts during the current fiscal year. The School of Medicine consistently brings in approximately 70 percent of the University's philanthropic monies.

The School of Medicine is a \$632 million enterprise, and as such, has a significant impact on the Maryland economy. The combined direct and associated spending generated by the School and its faculty practice plan last year was \$1.3 billion, or about 5 percent of the total state economy. This equates to \$33 in revenue created for every \$1 of general state support—a fantastic return on investment.



Donald E. Wilson

I have been fortunate to put together a solid leadership team that shared my vision. I am also fortunate to have worked with President David J. Ramsay, DM, DPhil, who has supported me for more than a decade; likewise our partners at the University of Maryland Medical Center/System, the VA Maryland Health Care System, and Mercy Medical Center enrich and enhance our teaching, research, and patient care mandates. The School of Medicine's Board of Visitors has provided invaluable advice and support during these past 15 years, and without the help of the Medical Alumni Association, we would not have accomplished all that we have.

The deans of dentistry, law, nursing, pharmacy, social work, and graduate studies have also been strong and supportive collaborators during this period of time, as have their faculties. We have forged new relationships and collaborations that have benefited the entire campus.

I have served the University of Maryland School of Medicine for almost 15 years. As my tenure as dean of this remarkable medical school closes, I want you to know what an honor it has been to work with so many talented faculty, staff, and students who daily exceed my expectations.

This medical school is one of the finest in the country, and it will continue to grow and take its place among the nation's elite institutions—if it receives the proper support. We have established a tradition of excellence and innovation. We are making a difference in Baltimore, the state, and, indeed, the nation.

Donald E. Wilson, MD, MACP
Vice President for Medical Affairs,
University of Maryland and
Dean, School of Medicine

Deans Allan, Rothenberg Among Maryland's Top 100 Women



Janet D. Allan



Karen H. Rothenberg

ED FISHEL

Janet D. Allan, PhD, RN, CS, FAAN, dean of the School of Nursing, and Karen H. Rothenberg, JD, MPA, dean of the School of Law and Marjorie Cook Professor of Law, are on *The Daily Record's* list of Top 100 women in Maryland for 2006. Also on the list is LaFrance Muldrow, MSW, LCSW-C, adjunct faculty liaison field instructor at the School of Social Work. Each will be honored at an awards ceremony May 8 at the Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall.

The Daily Record, a business and legal newspaper in Baltimore, picks 100 women each year who excel in career, profession, community, and mentoring. Their profiles are published in an annual magazine.

Allan, an expert on nurse and nurse faculty shortages, recently facilitated the commitment of \$100 million over the next 10 years to address these shortages through the Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission. She is chair of the Governor's Wellmobile Program Advisory Board, and is Maryland's grassroots legislative liaison for the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. Allan also serves on several scientific and

editorial boards, including the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Prescription for Health National Advisory Committee.

Rothenberg, the founding director of the law school's Law and Health Care Program, currently serves on the board of directors of the American Law Deans Association, the editorial board of the *Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics*, and the Association of American Law Schools' Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure. She is also a fellow of the American Bar Foundation and the Maryland Bar Foundation.

This is the second time that both Allan and Rothenberg have been named to the list of top 100 women.

Muldrow oversees about 15 School of Social Work students doing fieldwork at sites such as the Baltimore City Department of Social Services. She is responsible for assuring that students' field experience is educational and in line with curriculum requirements.

Previous *Daily Record* top 100 women from the University include T. Sue Gladhill, MSW, vice president for external affairs, who has joined the newspaper's Circle of Excellence for being on the list three times.



Left to right: Jessica Kim, Jong Park, and Kim Cai

University Holds Brain Bee

Jong Park from Toronto won first place in the International Brain Bee, a neuroscience contest for high school students held at the University in March.

Part of international Brain Awareness Week, the annual Brain Bee—sponsored by the Dental School and the School of Medicine—tests students' knowledge of the brain during two full days of oral and written tests, a neuroanatomy lab practical,

and a patient diagnosis. Along with a trophy, Park won \$3,000 and a trip to this year's Society for Neuroscience meeting in Atlanta.

Jessica Kim from Baltimore was the second-place winner. Kim Cai from Hamilton, Canada, placed third.

The Thadikonda Research Foundation in Frederick, Md., provided prize money for the contest.

myUMB Portal

The myUMB portal is an online gateway to information resources on University news, activities, and information systems and resources, including a new campus directory with a self-service feature that allows contact information to be updated in near real-time. Authorized users have immediate access to the eUMB human resources system and the financials and grants management system.

The portal is available at myumb.umaryland.edu. It can also be accessed from the University Web site's newly redesigned home page at www.umaryland.edu.

Brodie, Jarrell Win Regents' Awards

RONALD HUBE

Two School of Medicine faculty members—Angela Brodie, PhD, a professor of pharmacology and experimental therapeutics, and Bruce Jarrell, MD, vice dean for academic affairs—are among this year's winners of the University System of Maryland Regents' Awards, the Board of Regents' highest honor.

Brodie and Jarrell received the awards at the board's April 7 meeting at the University of Baltimore. The Regents' Awards recognize exemplary performance in several areas by educators, researchers, and staff in the university system.

Brodie, who is being honored for research excellence, is known internationally for her pioneering work in oncopharmacology, including the discovery and development of aromatase inhibitors, a class of drugs used to treat breast cancer. Last year Brodie, a School of Medicine faculty member since 1979 and a researcher at the University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Cancer Center, became the first woman to receive the Charles F. Kettering Prize, considered by



Angela Brodie

many to be the "Nobel Prize" of research in cancer diagnosis and treatment. Jarrell and University of Maryland, Baltimore County faculty members Taryn Bayles, PhD, and Julia Ross, PhD, won public service Regents' Awards for their development of a program that encourages female and minority high school students to pursue science careers. Jarrell came to the School of Medicine nearly 10 years ago as a professor and chair of the Department of Surgery.

David J. Ramsay, DM, DPhil, president of the University of Maryland, Baltimore, nominated Brodie and Jarrell for the awards and praised their achievements.



Bruce Jarrell

"Dr. Brodie exemplifies the definition of a superior scientist and academician," Ramsay wrote in a letter to the Board of Regents. "Her merits include being dedicated to important research that touches many of our lives and the education of medical students and future researchers as well."

In a letter nominating Jarrell, Bayles, and Ross, Ramsay heralded their high school program for fostering an interest in science among women and minorities who, Ramsay wrote, "need to realize that they have the innate ability to master this discipline, raising their own self-expectations and aspirations. This program attacks this problem by providing encouragement through role models."

Substance Abuse and Mental Illness Studied

Continued from page 1

The NIH award is funding development of a clinical research support program to foster work in the areas of functional brain imaging, substance abuse treatment, drug development, and pharmacology.

"We want to understand why people are more vulnerable to one condition if they have the other," says Conley. "Instead of focusing on which problem came first, the mental illness or the substance abuse, we plan to create ways to effectively treat both conditions at the same time. Treatment integration is key to helping these patients deal with their problems."

Under the grant, volunteers will participate in a variety of clinical trials to study dual diagnosis. The grant will also fund basic science research on the molecular biology, neurotransmitter systems, and neural circuitry involved in mental illness and substance abuse disorders.

"The partnership between DHMH, the University of Maryland School of Medicine, and the MPRC has brought Maryland national recognition over the years," says S. Anthony McCann, secretary of DHMH. "This trend continues with this grant, which will help to restore health to those Maryland citizens who suffer from both mental illnesses and chemical substance abuse disorders."

Susan Fried, PhD, a professor of medicine and the director of the new clinical nutrition research center, says obesity is "reaching epidemic proportions," and related chronic conditions "now detract from the quality of life and life expectancy of a majority of Americans and represent a major burden on our health care system. This center will expand the scope of our nutrition-related research and develop effective therapies and interventions."

The center, which brings together 44 NIH-funded basic scientists and clinical investigators from the University of Maryland, Johns Hopkins University and

its Bloomberg School of Public Health, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is the first program of its kind in the region and one of eight funded by NIH's National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Diseases. The National Cancer Institute also funds two nutrition research centers.

"The state of Maryland has a lot of complementary strength in nutrition-related research, but it is spread among a number of institutions," says Fried, who is also the director of the center's adipose biology laboratory. The program has two other core laboratories: a genetics lab and a clinical research lab. "This new center will provide a focus for nutrition and obesity-related research and promote interactions between laboratories. It will provide infrastructure, facilities, equipment, and skilled technical expertise to help researchers apply innovative methods to address important questions in the field of nutrition."

"A major focus of our research will be to study the mechanisms by which diet and

exercise influence obesity, type 2 diabetes, and osteoporosis," Fried says. Scientists will look at how weight loss through diet and exercise lessens risk factors for type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease, and they will test the effectiveness of these types of lifestyle changes in preventing and treating obesity and related conditions.

Center researchers will also try to identify genes that influence nutrient metabolism—some people's triglyceride levels, for instance, skyrocket when they eat a diet rich in fat, while triglycerides remain the same for others who eat the same food. Researchers will also investigate the molecular mechanisms that contribute to the risk of developing chronic disease, and explore genetic and nutritional factors that contribute to health disparities such as the high prevalence of obesity and diabetes in minority populations.

The new center will promote nutrition education with lectures and seminars for researchers, clinicians, and medical students.

Student Leaders Thanked

Jesse J. Harris, PhD, dean of the School of Social Work, talks with Maya Matheny, treasurer of the local region of the Student National Medical Association, at this year's annual student leadership reception.

Hosted by University President David J. Ramsay, DM, DPhil, and his wife, Anne Ramsay, the March 13 reception at the Dr. Samuel D. Harris National Museum of Dentistry thanked the leaders of campus student groups for their work. Approximately 150 people attended.



TRACY BOYD

UMB IN THE NEWS

Janet D. Allan, PhD, RN, CS, FAAN, dean of the **School of Nursing**, was pictured and quoted in the article "A Continuing Lack of Nurses—Maryland Aggressively Tackles Shortage," which appeared in *The Gazette of Politics and Business'* 2006 health care report. Barbara Heller, EdD, RN, FAAN, director of the School's **Center for Health Workforce Development**, was also quoted in the story.

Michael Greenberger, JD, a professor at the **School of Law** and director of the **Center for Health and Homeland Security**, was interviewed in March by national and foreign media outlets *USA Today*, "ABC World News Tonight," and the BBC about prosecutors' struggles to have al-Qaida conspirator Zacarias Moussaoui executed. "This was Prosecution 101," Greenberger told *USA Today*. "That they're letting this case slip away is mind-boggling." Greenberger was also quoted recently in the *International Herald Tribune* in France and the *Shanghai Daily* in China about the offshore dealings and collapse of futures broker Refco Inc.

Brian Berman, MD, founder and director of the **School of Medicine's Center for Integrative Medicine**, was profiled on the Public Broadcasting Service program "The New Medicine," which aired March 29. The two-hour documentary explored the burgeoning movement of integrating high-tech medicine with a humanistic medical approach that treats the patient's mind, body, and spirit.

Margaret McCarthy, PhD, a professor at the **School of Medicine**, was quoted in a February article in *The (Baltimore) Sun* about the expansion of lab-mice use during the past five years—90 million mice might now be under study in labs around the world—as scientists have discovered that humans and mice share nearly all the same genes. "In terms of studying the role of a specific protein in a disease," McCarthy said, research using mice "surpasses all previous approaches that we had."

A new study conducted by Bruce Stuart, PhD, professor at the **School of Pharmacy** and executive director of the **Peter Lamy Center on Drug Therapy and Aging**, finds that 20 percent of nursing home residents have no drug coverage whatsoever and would benefit considerably by enrolling in the Medicare Part D prescription drug program. The study was reported in media outlets including the daily *White House Bulletin*.

In a recent letter to the editor in *The (Baltimore) Sun*, James Kunz, PhD, assistant professor at the **School of Social Work**, examined the issue of extending voting rights to convicts who have served their time. "Why not view it as a way to advance a fundamental right and as part of a comprehensive strategy to reintegrate ex-offenders into their communities, so that they once again work and contribute to society, not only by paying taxes but also by participating in the political process?" Kunz wrote.

LAURELS

DENTAL SCHOOL

Cyril Enwonwu, DDS, PhD, professor, was a keynote speaker at the recent American Association for Dental Research meeting and exhibition in Florida.

Sharon Gordon, DDS, MPH, PhD, associate professor, was the lead author of the article “The Integration of Clinical Research Into Dental Therapeutics: Making Treatment Decisions” in the December 2005 issue of the *Journal of the American Dental Association*. Gordon was recently selected by the Women’s Health Research Group in the Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine as a National Institutes of Health, Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women’s Health Scholar.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Donald E. Wilson, MD, MACP, vice president for medical affairs, University of Maryland, and dean of the School of Medicine, has been named vice president of the board of directors of the national honor medical society Alpha Omega Alpha.

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Karen Johnson, PhD, RN, CCRN, assistant professor, is a co-editor of the recently released fourth edition of the critical care-nursing textbook *High Acuity Nursing*. Conrad Gordon, MS, RN, ACNP, assistant professor; Kathy Hausman, PhD, RN, assistant professor; Nancy Munro, MN, RN, CCRN, ACNP, clinical instructor; and Valerie Sabol, MSN, RN, CCRN, ACNP, assistant professor; contributed chapters to the book.

Deborah McGuire, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor, is serving on a national task force, sponsored by the Oncology Nursing Society, which is developing competencies for advanced-practice oncology nurses.

Karen Soeken, PhD, professor, and alumna Connie Ulrich, wrote the article “A Path Analytic Model of Ethical Conflict in Practice and Autonomy in a Sample of Nurse Practitioners” in a recent issue of the journal *Nursing Ethics*.

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

Magaly Rodriguez de Bittner, PharmD, BCPS, CDE, associate dean for academic affairs and associate professor, has been awarded the American Pharmaceutical Association’s 2006 Distinguished Achievement Award in Clinical/Pharmacotherapeutic Practice.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

John Belcher, MSW, MDiv, PhD, professor, and research associate professors Bruce DeForge, PhD, and David Zanis, MSW, PhD, co-wrote the article “Psychosocial Factors in Hypertension Control” in a recent issue of the *Journal of the Association for Academic Minority Physicians*. DeForge has also co-written the article “Why Has the Social Work Profession Lost Sight of How to End Homelessness?” in the *Journal of Progressive Human Services*.

HEALTH SCIENCES/HUMAN SERVICES LIBRARY (HS/HSL)

Janice Kelly, MLS, executive director of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine’s southeastern/Atlantic region, for which the HS/HSL is the regional

medical library, has been elected to the nominating committee of the Medical Library Association. The committee prepares the annual slate of nominees for the association’s president-elect and board of directors.

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Marjorie Forster, assistant vice president for research, was awarded the President’s Award by the Association of University Technology Masters (AUTM) in March. The award recognizes Forster’s years of volunteer service as an AUTM trustee, vice president for planning, committee chair, presenter, editor, and mentor. She has been a member since 1981.

Correction:
The March issue of the *VOICE* incorrectly reported that Margaret Hayes, MS, and Susan Wozenski, MS, JD, were on *The Daily Record*’s list of top 100 women for 2006. Hayes and Wozenski were on the 2005 list. An article about University women who are among this year’s *Daily Record* top 100 is on page 2 of this issue.

Database Development Helps Earn Honor for Liu



Jie Liu

JOANN FAGAN

Jie Liu, MS, a research assistant in the Department of Physiology at the School of Medicine, has been named as University Employee of the Month.

Liu was recognized in February for her contributions to the department, most notably for developing a searchable computer database for a laboratory collection of more than 1,000 tubes of kidney antibodies and proteins.

“Liu’s creation of the database required not only considerable computer skill, but the patience to assemble the needed data into our lab PC in a way that it can be accessed quickly from any of the computers in our lab,” says James Wade, PhD, a professor of physiology who nominated Liu for the award.

“Jie worked patiently on this project, utilizing her time so that the effort would not interrupt her work on specific experiments. Now that it is completed, we wonder how we could have functioned without it.”

Along with maintaining the database, Liu prepares spreadsheets and statistical analyses. She has also co-authored five

research papers on biomedicine, renal physiology, and immunocytochemistry.

“Ms. Liu is well-liked and respected for her hard work and dedication to the research being conducted in the laboratory of Dr. Wade,” says Meredith Bond, PhD, professor and chair of the physiology department.

Liu, who has worked in the School of Medicine since 1993—she started in the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science—says she enjoys working with her colleagues as a team to develop new and creative ideas. She also likes collaborating with other laboratories.

“I feel most rewarded with the creation of the computer database because it has fulfilled the lab’s requirements in every way,” she says. “Hopefully, in the near future, the database will not only serve our lab’s needs, but also become a great tool for every related researcher.”

Amateur Radio License Needed

The University’s Emergency Management Team is exploring the use of amateur-radio frequencies and networks as an alternate means of communication during an emergency. Anyone with a general or extra class amateur radio license that can be used to establish a campus radio facility is asked to contact Robert Rowan, MS, assistant vice president in the Division of Facilities Management, at 6-7222, or James Jaeger, PhD, director of Environmental Health and Safety, at 6-7055.

GIVING TO UMB

A gift to the School of Social Work’s annual fund, no matter the size, makes a positive impact. The School depends on the annual fund to help underwrite immediate needs for scholarships, academic programs, faculty excellence, career services, and technology in the classroom.

All annual-fund gifts received by June 30 are counted in this year’s total. Please help keep the School of Social Work going strong! For more information or to contribute online, visit www.giving.umaryland.edu.

New Directors Appointed

JOANN FAGAN



Mark Macek

Macek Heads New Office

Mark Macek, DDS, DrPH, an associate professor in the Dental School’s Department of Health Promotion and Policy, has been named director of the School’s new Office of Instructional Evaluation. Macek’s primary duty is to provide information for the Dental School’s administration, department chairs, and course directors on how to improve the School’s curriculum.

“I am being asked how we can make teaching as effective as it can be,” Macek says. “In a sense, I will be fitting together pieces of a puzzle—some of the pieces, in the form of useful and valid evaluation data, will come from students, some from faculty, and some from alumni.”

Before the Dental School created the office in January, this information had been gathered only informally. Macek has been a Dental School faculty member for nearly eight years.



Lynn Kingsley

Kingsley Joins University

In early February, Lynn Kingsley, MS, CPA, joined the Office of Administration and Finance as director of cost analysis and studies, a newly created position made necessary by the University’s rapid expansion of research.

Kingsley oversees work that supports development of the University’s facilities and administrative (F&A) rate proposal, which is negotiated between the University and the federal government to obtain reimbursement for administration and facilities expenditures, and other indirect costs of conducting research.

“We want to have the best possible F&A rate that we can negotiate,” says John Geiman, MPA, assistant vice president for budget and finance, “and with Lynn, we have found the person that can help us reach that goal.”



Timothy Gilbert

Gilbert Heads Center

Timothy Gilbert, MD, MBA, MSc, FACC, associate professor in the School of Medicine’s departments of anesthesiology and medicine, has been named medical director and acting managing director of the Center for Clinical Trials (CCT).

CCT is the University’s clearinghouse for industry-sponsored or investigator-initiated clinical research trials. “We provide a one-stop shop for protocol development, approval, budgeting and contracting, study coordination, and general administration,” Gilbert says.

Gilbert, who joined the University in 1992, also provides strategic clinical oversight, serves as a resource for clinical researchers, and is a liaison between the CCT and faculty and officials at the University and University of Maryland Medical System.

Greater Funding and Competition Prompt Changes at ORD

New Director Appointed

JULIE EVANS

With a 33 percent increase in the number of grants, sponsored research dollars at the University have doubled in the last five years to a total of \$410 million in Fiscal Year 2005. The number of awards has grown to nearly 2,000 and the grants have become larger and more complex, involving multiple disciplines and schools.

“With the University administering a growing number of large, complex grants, we realized that we needed to dedicate a highly experienced ORD (Office of Research and Development) staff member to work specifically on these types of major projects,” says Jim Hughes, MBA, vice president for research and development.

That staff member—Janet Simons, MBA, the new director of research administration and development—is the main point of contact for pre-award and post-award transactions. Simons meets with faculty and administrators to help them identify strengths and deficiencies in their research apparatus, identify education and training needs related to research administration, and focus on policies and procedures.

Meanwhile, because of increased competition, ORD has implemented new programs to help faculty and research

administrators develop grant proposals.

The programs also make it possible to meet the National Institutes of Health’s new grant-processing requirements.

“With a growing number of researchers applying for a shrinking pot of NIH funding, the level of competition is intensifying,” says Marjorie Forster, assistant vice president for research. “We recognized a few years ago that we needed to focus more on assisting faculty, postdocs, predoctoral students, and staff in the development of competitive and successful grant proposals.”

That effort began in 2003 when the University hosted an NIH regional workshop that spawned the Research Grand Rounds Series—how-to programs aimed at increasing faculty success in obtaining NIH funding. Topics have included strategies for developing collaborative intradisciplinary and interdisciplinary proposals, writing a peer-reviewed application, and the mechanics of the scientific and program review processes. ORD also provides customized training for individual departments upon request, and it has created the “Guide to the Administration of Sponsored Projects.”

Faculty and staff who have questions about grant proposals can visit the ORD Web site’s research administration page at www.ord.umaryland.edu/ord_research/research_admin.html.



Medical students (left to right) Shayna Murdock, Carrie Maiorana, and Surbhi Panchal

Matches Made in Heaven

CAELIE HAINES

Graduating School of Medicine students and family members packed Davidge Hall on March 16 for the annual Match Day ceremony.

Each year on Match Day, thousands of medical students across the country learn where their residencies will take place. The nonprofit National Resident Matching Program uses a computerized system to connect students' residency preferences with the needs of residency programs.

Gary Plotnick, MD, School of Medicine professor and assistant dean for student affairs, handed the residency matches to students, including his son Daniel. The Class of 2006 medical students were sent

to 119 programs in 26 states and Canada. Twenty-one percent will go to the University of Maryland Medical Center (UMMC). Seven percent will enter programs at other Baltimore City hospitals.

"I'm really excited to be staying here," said Sandra Quezada, who lives in Rockville and will do her residency in internal medicine at UMMC. "It was my first choice, and I'm so excited to be able to keep working with many of my classmates."

Kristin Roussillon was also happy to be matched with her first choice, the University of Virginia Medical Center, where she will specialize in internal medicine. "I'm so excited. It's amazing," she said. "After I visited there, I really felt it was where I was meant to be."

Photo Contest Winners Announced

Photos by students Herman Thang ("Trumpet and Music") and Michelle Nguyen ("About Face") were among the winners in the Say "Cheese" 2 photo contest.

Twenty-one staff and students entered this year's contest, which is open to the campus community. Winners were announced at a reception at the Student Center at Pine Street on March 9.

Thang's photo won first place and Nguyen's placed second in the Close at Hand category. Both students were given athletic center and bookstore gift certificates.

The contest, in its second year, was sponsored by the offices of auxiliary services and student services, and the athletic center.



CAMPUS BRIEFS

Regents Give Douglass Award to Judge Bell

The University System of Maryland (USM) Board of Regents gave Chief Judge Robert Bell of Maryland’s Court of Appeals the Frederick Douglass Award during a ceremony at Westminster Hall. Named in honor of the 1800s civil rights leader, the award was presented Feb. 21 before Bell’s friends, family, and coworkers, as well as USM representatives.

“Robert Bell has been an inspiration to all of us in his tireless efforts to bring Frederick Douglass’ beliefs to life,” said William E. Kirwan, PhD, USM chancellor. “As a young man he paved the way and made things easier for those who came after, and as a judge he has been a powerful voice for equal justice.”

Bell’s appeal of his 1960 arrest during a sit-in at a segregated Baltimore restaurant led the U.S. Supreme Court to bar racial segregation in Maryland.

Larry Gibson, LLB, a School of Law professor, spoke about the history of progress by black attorneys in Maryland. “Our proudest moment for African-American lawyers in Maryland was when Robert Bell became chief judge of the Maryland Court of Appeals,” Gibson said.

Bell called the award “a singular honor” that he doesn’t deserve. “But it’s a challenge that I will accept,” he said.

Pediatric Drug Software Developed

A multidisciplinary team working at the University of Maryland Medical Center’s pediatric intensive care unit and led by

Vinay Vaidya, MD, assistant professor of pediatrics at the School of Medicine, has developed software to automate standard concentrations for any pediatric drug.

Licensed by the Office of Research and Development to pharmacy software vendor Pharmacy OneSource, the Web-based application Accupedia makes pediatric drip orders safer and helps hospitals meet national safety goals.

“The research team is excited about the launch of Accupedia, as we see the technology and solutions that we developed come to fruition,” says Vaidya. “Accupedia represents a product that has taken an established and working solution and has enhanced it even further to provide a comprehensive, safe, and efficient solution for using standardized concentrations.”

“We are honored to introduce this first-of-its-kind application that improves the safety of the most fragile patients,” says Keith Streckenbach, executive vice president of Pharmacy OneSource. “Accupedia also improves the infusion dosing, preparation, and administrative work flow of prescribers, pharmacists, and nurses while meeting standardization goals.”

Suzanne Gordon to be Visiting Professor

Author Suzanne Gordon, who has written extensively about nursing, health care, and women’s issues, will join the School of Nursing as a visiting professor in May. The award-winning writer, whose most recent

book is *Nursing Against the Odds: How Health Care Cost Cutting, Media Stereotypes, and Medical Hubris Undermine Nursing and Patient Care*, will work with the School’s Center for Occupational and Environmental Health and Justice, and will present seminars on promoting the role and competencies of the professional nurse.

Last year, Gordon spoke about nursing shortages and other workplace issues during a lecture at the University.

Women’s History Month Observed

The University marked Women’s History Month in March with the seminar “Financial Focus on Women.” The free event, held March 22 at the Dr. Samuel D. Harris National Museum of Dentistry, provided information on financial-planning basics designed to help women increase control over the financial aspects of their lives. A workshop on identity theft followed.

Digital Music Deal Reached

An agreement between the University System of Maryland (USM) and Cdigix, a provider of digital entertainment and educational material, makes it possible for students, faculty, and staff to legally download music to computers and portable music players.

“Cdigix had the right combination of compelling content and services, an excellent reputation within the university marketplace, and the marketing resources

to help promote its services to students,” says Peter Murray, PhD, University vice president and chief information officer. Murray was a chief negotiator of the deal.

The monthly subscription rate to temporarily access music from Cdigix’s library of two million songs is \$2. Subscribers can buy a song for 89 cents or an album for \$9.99.

Cdigix’s music service already has several thousand subscribers at the University of Maryland’s College Park campus, where the service began on a trial basis last year. It is becoming available at other campuses this year. Registration is available at www.cdigix.com/website/ctrax/index.asp.

Advance Hippodrome Tickets Available

Tickets to Sunday or matinee performances at the Hippodrome Theatre are available to the campus community before going on sale to the general public. Ticket prices or handling fees are discounted.

Upcoming shows include “12 Angry Men,” “Annie,” and “Monty Python’s Spamalot.” The advance tickets are available for a limited time well before the performance—as much as seven months before the show. Tickets currently available can be bought by visiting www.broadwayacrossamerica.com/groupsales. The password is umaryland.

Study Looks at Nurses’ Long Work Schedules

According to a study conducted by Alison Trinkoff, ScD, RN, FAAN, a School of Nursing professor, nurses are working schedules that exceed the recommendations of the Institute of Medicine, raising concerns about fatigue and health risks to nurses as well as the safety of their patients.

The study, published in the April issue of the *American Journal of Nursing*, was funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. School of Nursing professor Jane Lipscomb, PhD; assistant professor Jeanne Geiger-Brown, MSN; and Barbara Brady, a project director, also worked on the study.

Trinkoff says extended work schedules, including more than 12 hours in a 24-hour

period and more than 40 hours within seven days, are common in nursing, and contribute to problems with recruitment and retention while compromising nurses’ health and patient safety.

“Previously, little was known about the prevalence of these work schedules across all nursing specialties,” Trinkoff says. “This study analyzed hospital staff nurses, those working more than one job, single parents, and those over age 50, as well as adverse schedule factors such as mandatory overtime, on-call hours, and working on a scheduled day off.”

The study was based on quantitative survey data collected from a sample of 2,273 randomly selected RNs. Demographic data, information about respondents’

primary jobs (position, workplace, and specialty), and work schedule variables were analyzed, including data on hours worked, breaks, overtime, on-call requirements, time off between shifts, and how often respondents worked more than 13 hours per day and on scheduled days off. Respondents were also asked about activities outside of work, commuting time, and non-nursing activities and chores.

More than a quarter of the nurses in the sample, including over half of hospital staff nurses and more than a third of those with multiple jobs, reported that they typically worked 12 or more hours per day. A third of the total sample worked more than 40 hours per week, and more than a third had worked six or more days in a row at least once in the preceding six months. Nearly a quarter of the nurses rotated shifts.

A quarter of the nurses with more than one job worked 50 or more hours per week, and they were more likely to work many days consecutively, without sufficient rest between shifts and during scheduled time off. Seventeen percent of all the nurses worked mandatory overtime, including almost a quarter of the single parents. Nearly 40 percent of the total sample contended with on-call requirements.

“We limit the work hours of pilots, flight attendants, bus drivers, and others when the public’s safety is at risk,” says Diana Mason, RN, PhD, FAAN, editor in chief of the *American Journal of Nursing*. “Why have we not imposed restrictions on work hours for nurses when patient lives and the health of the nurses are at stake?”

Celiac Center Celebrates 10 Years of Discovery



Eight of the 18 members of the Center for Celiac Research (left to right), back row: Ruiliang Lu, Andrea Gómez, Deborah Kryszak, and Medical Director Alessio Fasano; front row: Maria Grazia Clemente, Operations Director Pam King, Karen Lammers, and Amit Tripathi.

SUSIE FLAHERTY

When pediatric gastroenterologist and School of Medicine Professor Alessio Fasano, MD, founded the Center for Celiac Research at the University in 1996, the presence of any celiac disease in the U.S. was barely acknowledged by the medical community—and research funding was almost nonexistent. Ten years later, with the center as a leading advocate for awareness, treatment, and research of the autoimmune disorder, the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition has identified celiac disease as the “Disease of the Year.”

That acknowledgment is only one of a host of accomplishments that the multidisciplinary center is celebrating after a decade of work to improve the quality of life for patients with this genetic disorder.

When people who suffer from celiac disease ingest gluten—a mixture of proteins found in wheat and other grains—an autoimmune reaction takes place that can damage the small intestine. “It’s a plague that we still suffer from, and 80 percent of those affected are young kids,” says Fasano.

Finding out what makes those young people so sick is what first brought Fasano to Baltimore from Naples, Italy. In 1990, he was awarded a three-month scholarship to the Center for Vaccine Development to study the causes of acute and chronic diarrhea. Three months became two years, and in 1993, Fasano joined the School of Medicine and started the Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition. Along with treating patients, he had another mission: to find out why there were so few patients with celiac disease in the U.S. when the disease was epidemic in Europe.

“I saw so many patients with classic celiac symptoms in Italy—severe diarrhea, bloated bellies, and wasting syndrome,” Fasano says. “There was none of that here. I wanted to know what was going on.”

He and his team hit many hurdles in the early days. “There was so much resistance,” he says. “We were told, ‘There is no such thing as celiac disease in the United States.’ It was an uphill battle.”

To determine the prevalence of celiac disease in the U.S. and to study all the facets of the complex disease, Fasano knew it would take more than simple research in gastroenterology. “We had to set up a multidisciplinary program,” he says.

“There are really different pieces to this puzzle, and we conceptualized the program and the center with this in mind.”

Obtaining funding for epidemiological studies was another obstacle that had to be overcome. But with support from the celiac community, the center undertook the largest epidemiology study ever performed in the U.S. Using specific screening tests, 13,000 people from 35 states were screened for celiac disease. Six years later, the study results showed that celiac disease occurs in one of every 133 people nationwide.

“When we released those results in 2003, the perception of celiac disease changed completely—the entire scientific community became a believer,” says Fasano. “We learned that in the U.S., celiac symptoms are extremely different than what we believed are the classic symptoms—and that celiac disease is not just a childhood disease.”

The figure of 40,000 identified U.S. celiac patients has jumped to 115,000, with 75,000 new celiac patients diagnosed since 2003. “Suddenly, we were surrounded by individuals and families with celiac disease,” says Fasano. The center received a flurry of media attention, with coverage on the “Today Show” and in *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *The New York Times*.

Today, with growing national awareness of the disease, the center continues to be at the forefront of treatment, awareness, and research. In 2005, the center spearheaded the creation of the American Celiac Disease Alliance, which was instrumental in passage of the Food Allergen Labeling and Consumer Protection Act of July 2004. The bill requires food manufacturers to list wheat—one source of gluten—as an ingredient. Researchers at the center are now working with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to establish acceptable minimum levels for gluten-free foods.

Research into the causes of autoimmune diseases is an integral part of the center’s work, which has generated more than 150 patents and led industry partner Alba Therapeutics Corporation to investigate possible cures for celiac disease and other autoimmune diseases. Fasano credits University President David J. Ramsay, DM, DPhil, with having a pivotal role in creating successful industry collaborations.

Ten years after the founding of the Center for Celiac Research, Fasano emphasizes that its success is due to a team effort. “We’re blessed to have such a team, and blessed to be in a visionary place like Maryland,” he says.

Celiac Center Walk/Run and Anniversary Events

The following Center for Celiac Research events are open to the campus community. For more information, visit www.celiaccenter.org or call 6-8021.

May 7: Making Tracks for Celiacs, fifth international 5K walk/run for celiac disease. Clarence “Du” Burns Arena, registration 8 a.m., walk/run 9 a.m., \$20.

May 12: Center for Celiac Research 10th Anniversary Dinner, includes entertainment and a silent auction. Baltimore Marriott Inner Harbor at Camden Yards, predinner reception 7 p.m., \$65.

May 13: Center for Celiac Research tours, conducted by Medical Director Alessio Fasano, MD. Followed by information on the center’s accomplishments and research, a talk by a U.S. Food and Drug Administration official, gluten-free food, and an Orioles pregame barbecue at the Oriole Park at Camden Yards warehouse. Tours 10-11 a.m., free; barbecue 3 p.m., \$23.50, children \$16.50; group game-ticket prices are available (Orioles vs. Kansas City Royals).

CALENDAR

April 11: Symposium on religion and the law, presented by the *University of Maryland Law Journal of Race, Religion, Gender, and Class*. 1-5 p.m., room 160, Ceremonial Courtroom, School of Law.

April 12: Annual Health Fair. Includes free screenings, health information, exercise demonstrations, giveaways, and raffles. 11 a.m.-2 p.m., atrium, Medical School Teaching Facility, free. For more information, call the athletic center at 6-3902 or e-mail Julie Wightman, athletic center assistant director, at jwigh001@umaryland.edu.

April 13: “Eukaryotic Gene Transcription,” the Hugh Arthur Pritchard Memorial Lecture for Graduate Students, presented by the School of Medicine’s Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics. 4 p.m., auditorium, Medical School Teaching Facility, reception follows. For more information, call 6-7333.

April 17: Campus Recognition and Community Service Awards Luncheon, includes awards for employee length of service, employees of the month, and employee of the year. By invitation, noon (recipients, campus leaders, and guests are asked to arrive at 11:30 a.m.), Marriott Inner Harbor at Camden Yards, 110 S. Eutaw St. For more information, contact James Abrams, employee/labor relations specialist, 6-7302.

April 20: Lunch Under the Pipes, live music presented by the School of Law. Bring a lunch. Noon-1 p.m., Westminster Hall, free.

April 20: CPR marathon, presented by the Dental School. 8-10 a.m., 10 a.m.-noon, 1-3 p.m., and 3-5 p.m., GPC-A Clinic, Dental School, preregistration and prepayment required (walk-ins not allowed). Call 6-3622 for a schedule or to register.

April 28: Annual Victims’ Rights Conference. Topic: domestic violence. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., auditorium, School of Nursing, free. For more information, call Col. Cleveland Barnes Jr. at 6-2331.

May 5: “On Their Own,” the annual Louise and Abraham Makofsky Lecture on Child Welfare, delivered by newspaper reporter Liz Bowie and photographer André Chung, who will talk about teenagers living on society’s margins. Lisa Tarter, former principal of Lake Clifton-Eastern High School, will also speak. 9 a.m., auditorium, School of Social Work. Lecture qualifies for two Category II continuing education units at a cost of \$20 (checks only). To register, visit www.ssw.umaryland.edu/event_calendar or call 6-5354.

May 8: Luncheon honoring Donald E. Wilson, MD, MACP, retiring vice president for medical affairs, University of Maryland, and dean of the School of Medicine. For all University faculty and staff. Noon, Westminster Hall. RSVP by visiting medschool.umaryland.edu/RSVP.

May 25: Annual spring charity golf tournament, presented by the University of Maryland Baltimore Foundation, Inc. Open to all University faculty, staff, students, and guests. Early registration deadline: May 12. Oakmont Green Golf Club, 2290 Golfview Lane, Hampstead, Md. For more information, contact William Crockett, athletic center director, at bcrocket@umaryland.edu.

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T. Sue Gladhill, MSW, Vice President for External Affairs

Paul Drehoff, Assistant Vice President for Communications

Susie Flaherty, Senior Editor

Ronald Hube, Editor
rhube002@umaryland.edu

Danielle Peterson, Graphic Designer

The Gazelle Group, Display Advertising
410-343-3362, gazellegrp@comcast.net

Office of External Affairs
University of Maryland
410-706-7820, fax 410-706-6330

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