

The Faculty Affairs Newsletter



The Office of Faculty Affairs (OFA) is pleased to announce its inaugural newsletter! Each month, we will bring you updates on important issues, policies and procedures, news and events that surround faculty life here at Maryland. As part of this initiative, we also re-launch our presence on social media with Twitter. Be sure to follow us: [@UMDFacAff!](#)

Broadening the Conversation: Meet the President's Postdocs

This year, the University of Maryland welcomes six postdoctoral fellows as part of the university's inaugural President's postdoctoral cohort: Erica Coates, Family Science; Marcus Johnson, Government & Politics; Felicia Jamison, History; Dongwon Kim, Bioengineering; Theresa Lopez, Philosophy; and Kelly Slay, Counseling, Higher Education & Special Education. The [President's Postdoctoral Fellowship](#) seeks to expand the expertise of the university by bringing the knowledge and perspectives of diverse scholars with insight into the experiences and perspectives of historically underrepresented groups.



Senior Vice President and Provost Mary Ann Rankin launched the President's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program (PPFP) as part of a larger set of initiatives, including the Senior Targeted Hire and the [Inclusive Hiring Pilot](#), designed to diversify the faculty. In creating the PPFP, the university joined the Partnership for Academic Diversity, a collection of 19 institutions of higher learning that seek to forge a tradition of equal opportunity within the faculty track, while leveraging the unique experiences, backgrounds, and research of these scholars to broaden the academic dialogue and foster an inclusive community. The driven individuals participating in this program are tackling topics and proposing ideas that will add to the diverse expertise synonymous with UMD: the effect of race on Latin American politics; the examination of black adolescents in single-mother households; access and equity in higher education.

Under the guidance of the [Office of Faculty Affairs](#) and the [Office of Postdoctoral Affairs](#) in the Graduate School, the President's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program includes support and resources in the form of mentoring, professional development, and networking for fellows as they continue on their path toward research and faculty positions.

“We are excited to provide resources and opportunities for our presidential postdoctoral fellows, and all postdocs, to enhance their academic careers,” said Blessing Enekwe, Program Director, Office of Postdoctoral Affairs. “It is an honor to have these talented individuals become part of, and further shape, our campus community.”

Each month, the Office of Faculty Affairs will host a conversation with one of our new Presidential Postdoctoral Fellows, in which we will discuss their research, their life at Maryland, and how they hope to make an impact on campus and beyond.

If you know someone who is interested in being considered for the President's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program, applications are now being accepted for the 2018-2019 academic year through Tuesday, November 1. For more information, visit the [program website](#) or contact umd-postdocs@umd.edu.

Recognition & Awards

2017-18 Distinguished University Professors

Congratulations to Distinguished University Professors (DUP): Ritu Agarwal, Robert H. Smith School of Business; Thomas M. Antonsen, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Department of Physics and Institute for Research in Electronics and Applied Physics; Catherine Fenselau, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry; and Michele Gelfand, Department of Psychology. On September 13, these professors were acknowledged by President Loh for their achievements at the annual Faculty & Staff Convocation.

2017-18 Distinguished Scholar-Teachers

Congratulations to Distinguished Scholar-Teachers (DST): Rajshree Agarwal, Robert H. Smith School of Business; Karen Carleton, Biology; Sandra Gordon-Salant, Hearing and Speech Sciences; Jonathan Katz, Computer Science and Institute for Advanced Computer Studies; Srinivasa Raghavan, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering; and Jennifer Rice, College of Education. Each year Distinguished Scholar-Teachers, honored for their outstanding accomplishments in both scholarship and teaching, give lectures on topics related to research in their fields.

DST Lecture

The first lecture in the series, “Cryptographic Perspectives on the Future of Privacy” was given by Professor Jonathan Katz on September 6. [Click here](#) or see below or for upcoming lecture dates.

Big 10 Academic Alliance

Congratulations to this year’s [Academic Leadership Program](#) (ALP) Fellows: Mike Faulkender, Robert H. Smith School of Business; Jason Geary, School of Music; Philip Joyce, School of Public Policy; Doron Levy, Department of Mathematics; Daryle Williams, Department of History;

and [Department Executive Officer](#) (DEO) Fellows: Oscar Barbarin, Department of African American Studies; James Hanson, Department of Agricultural & Resource Economics; Kelly Mix, Department of Human Development and Quantitative Methodology; and Rochelle Newman, Department of Hearing & Speech Sciences.

Big Ten Academic Alliance

These Fellows participate in Big Ten Academic Alliance leadership seminars throughout the academic year.

Call for Nominations

A call for nominations has been issued for the following awards:

2018-2019 Distinguished Scholar-Teacher Awards

Nomination period September 15 - October 15;
Full Nomination Dossier Due November 30, 2017

2018-2019 Distinguished University Professor Awards

Nomination period October 1 - November 15;
Full Nomination Dossier Due January 15, 2018

Faculty Development

Monthly Faculty Engagement Series

This September, OFA launched “UMD - At Home and in the World,” in which we explore crucial topics of local, national, and international concern related to the research conducted by your colleagues. The series of events is a great way to connect and meet new faculty members on campus. The first program in the series focused on Sustainability and featured speakers Ralph Bennett, Architecture; Ming Hu, Architecture; Ross Salawitch, Atmospheric & Oceanic Science; and Nathan Hultman, Public Policy. Our next event will focus on Research Ethics and feature Philip DeShong, Chemistry and Biochemistry; Jessica Vitak, College of Information Studies and Robert Slevc, Psychology. Save the Date: October 26 | 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm 0100 Marie Mount Hall.

Engagement Series

If you have ideas on future topics that we can highlight, [contact us](#).

Culturally Aware Mentor Training

In Spring 2018, faculty members will have an opportunity to enroll in a modified version of the National Research Mentoring Network's (NRMN) Culturally Aware Mentoring (CAM) Training Program. Organized by the NRMN CAM subgroup, which includes UMD's Stephen B. Thomas, the program aims to "address and attend to diversity issues in science, not just bringing diverse people into science" according to Angela Byars-Winston, NRMN, University of Wisconsin Madison. More information about the program can be found [here](#) and details about this initiative will be provided later in the fall semester. The National Research Mentoring Network (NRMN) is a nationwide consortium of biomedical professionals and institutions collaborating to provide all trainees across the biomedical, behavioral, clinical and social sciences with evidence-based mentorship and professional development programming.

University of Maryland Emeritus/Emerita

On September 26, emeritus and emerita faculty members attended the Fall Meeting and Gathering in Van Munching Hall to discuss formation of an Association, group priorities and upcoming events and programs. Click [here](#) to learn more or email faculty@umd.edu.



Telling Y(Our) Story: New Faculty Activities Reporting System

We have selected **Activity Insight** by Digital Measures as our faculty activities system to enable faculty and the University to promote and report faculty and University accomplishments, activities, and impacts. With the selection and procurement process now behind us, we are turning our attention toward a phased implementation process that will help us work towards the vision of “gather data once, reuse many times” in order to both reduce the burden on faculty for meeting reporting requirements and facilitate faculty and University reuse of reported activity data for research, instruction, and service purposes (e.g., faculty web pages, teaching portfolios, grant submissions, CVs).

As an aggregator of faculty activities, Activity Insight has the ability to incorporate data from many sources, including core University systems (e.g., instruction, personnel, research funding); external citation sources (e.g., PubMed, Web of Science, Google Scholar, Mendeley, Zotero, and more); and faculty (e.g., mentoring, service, additional productivity data). Our goal is to create as many

integrations as possible, to include previously entered data in Lyterati, to capture automatically as many faculty activities as possible to reduce the burden on faculty – but faculty will still play an important role in verifying and completing their records of accomplishments.

The selection of Activity Insight centered on five key reasons:

- Its focus on faculty activities that enable us to meet our Promotion and Recognition; Demonstration; Connection; Administration; and Maintenance/Facilitation needs;
- An evaluation of Activity Insight’s technical abilities, conducted by a review committee comprised of faculty, administrators, and staff from key stakeholder groups (e.g., IRPA, the Libraries, and DIT);
- Faculty feedback (e.g., vendor-provided webinars, surveys) throughout the selection process;
- Costs; and
- Vendor experience. Activity Insight is implemented in a variety of capacities (systemwide, campus level, college) at, for example, Penn State, Minnesota, Indiana, Nebraska, Illinois, Purdue, Michigan, Rutgers, Wisconsin, Ohio State. Further, Activity Insight is currently implemented on our campus in AGNR for Extension purposes, at UMBC, and at UMB (Nursing). In addition, Activity Insight is implemented at many other universities across the country.

For more information regarding the Faculty Activities Data project (including goals, timeline, and implementation approach), please go to: <https://faculty.umd.edu/data/>.

Faculty Tips and Resources

Did you know that McKeldin Library has a dedicated office for quiet writing on the 7th floor open only to faculty members? To schedule writing time, click [here](#).

2017 New Administrators & New Faculty Orientations

This past August, OFA held its annual New Administrators & New Faculty Orientations. Materials from each program are located [here](#). Dates for the 2018 programs will be announced soon.

News

University of Maryland Joins Network of Colleges and Universities Serving the Baltimore Region

College Park Ready to Deliver Amazon HQ2

UMD Opens Outdoor Flight Laboratory to Advance Autonomy, Robotics

Events

10/11 [Academic Freedom & Free Speech Workshop](#)

10/26 UMD @ Home and in the World: Research Ethics (registration opens soon)

Full event listing located here:

<http://umdfacultyaffairs.eventbrite.com/>

[Distinguished Scholar-Teacher Lectures](#)

10/18 Karen Carleton: Seeing is Believing: Vision in

Advancing Together Workshops: Call for Participation. ADVANCING Together is a series of five two-hour linked workshops during the 2017 fall semester for women Associate Professors.

a Changing World

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| 10/19 | Rajshree Agarwal: Fostering Enterprise: Where the Journey is the Destination |
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| 11/2 | Srinivasa Raghavan: Nature-Inspired "Smart" Materials: Ability to Move, Morph, Destroy and Heal |
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| 11/20 | Sandra Gordon-Salant: Golden Years, Golden Ears: The Challenges of Age-Related Hearing Loss |
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