The University of Maryland, Baltimore County’s commitment to innovative teaching, relevant research, and supportive community empowers and inspires inquisitive minds. UMBC offers an honors university experience that combines the learning opportunities of a liberal arts college with the creative intensity of a leading research university. At the same time, UMBC is building one of the country’s most inclusive communities for undergraduate and graduate education.

INNOVATION IN TEACHING AND LEARNING

- **U.S. News & World Report** has named UMBC a national leader both in innovation (#1 for six consecutive years) and undergraduate teaching (#5 in the U.S.).

- The National Institutes of Health awarded UMBC over $18 million to create STEM BUILD@UMBC as a national model to broaden the range of students who successfully complete STEM degrees.

- UMBC opened a new $160 million, LEED Gold-certified Performing Arts and Humanities Building, which features innovative learning and performance spaces such as an archaeology lab, concert hall, dance technology studio, and prosenium theatre.

- UMBC’s Meyerhoff Scholarship Program – named the “gold standard” for increasing the number of underrepresented students earning Ph.D.s in STEM fields over 25 years – is now being replicated at UNC Chapel Hill and Penn State through a $7.75 million HHMI grant.

- UMBC's Graduate School received a major National Science Foundation grant to expand the PROMISE program, which mentors diverse students in STEM graduate degree programs, to campuses across the University System of Maryland.

RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACHIEVEMENT

- UMBC surpassed $74 million in research and training grants and contracts in 2014.

- UMBC will play a leading role in strengthening our nation’s cybersecurity infrastructure through a new Federally Funded Research and Development Center.

- UMBC established research partnerships with the U.S. Army Research Lab and Kyushu University in Japan in 2014.

- New UMBC-UMB (University of Maryland, Baltimore) Research and Innovation Partnership grants support collaborations across campuses and disciplines, leveraging each university’s strengths.

- Recent sources of faculty support include the National Endowment for the Humanities, National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, Fulbright Program, Smithsonian Institution, Mellon Foundation, Folger Shakespeare Library, MacArthur Foundation, National Geographic Learning, Surdna Foundation, Robert W. Deutsch Foundation, Louis and Irving Blum Foundation, American Chemical Society, John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, Constellation Energy, American Antiquarian Society, MacDowell Colony, Creative Capital/Andy Warhol Foundation, Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence, and SPIE.

- Lorraine Remer, physics, was named to the 2014 Highly Cited Researchers list by Thomson Reuters, putting her in the top 1 percent of her field (geosciences).

- Gymama Slaughter, computer science and electrical engineering, is the most recent UMBC faculty member to receive an NSF Early Career Development Award. Her biosensor research has potential to revolutionize diabetes treatment.

- UMBC faculty serve in prominent roles outside the university, including Tim Brennan, economics and public policy, as chief economist for the Federal Communications Commission.

- UMBC faculty are widely recognized for contributing major publications in their fields. Kate Brown’s *Plutopia* has received book prizes from such groups as the American Historical Association, Organization of American Historians, and American Society for Environmental History, and was named a *Physics World* 2014 book of the year.
STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Student Enrollment (Fall 2014): 13,979 (11,379 undergraduate, 2,600 graduate)

Freshman Class Profile (Fall 2014): First-time freshmen: 1,629; Living on campus: 72%; Average GPA: 3.78; Average SAT: 1214 (two-part), 1801 (three-part)

- The Princeton Review, Kiplinger’s Personal Finance and Fiske Guide to Colleges have named UMBC a “Best Value” university.

- UMBC students regularly receive highly prestigious, nationally and internationally competitive awards, including the Goldwater Scholarship, Fulbright Award, U.S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarship, Huayu Enrichment Scholarship, and Frank Karel Fellowship.

- UMBC graduate students have received numerous research fellowships from the National Science Foundation, the Ford Foundation, GEM, and Fulbright.

  - In April 2014, Justin Jacobs ’14, Ph.D., statistics, received the coveted Presidential Early Career Award in Science and Engineering at a White House ceremony.

COMMUNITY AND EXTENDED CONNECTIONS

- The bwtech@UMBC Research and Technology Park houses Maryland’s first cyber incubator and 120 technology, bioscience and research companies and organizations. The park generated $500 million in income and business sales in 2014 and contributes more than 2,500 jobs to Maryland.

- UMBC’s BreakingGround initiative has been recognized nationally for its contributions to the higher education civic engagement movement by the American Democracy Project and the American Association of Colleges and Universities.

  - BreakingGround has supported the redesign and launch of dozens of courses and community projects, including an American studies course that culminated in students producing a week-long documentary series on deindustrialization in Baltimore that aired on the Marc Steiner Show.

- UMBC views community engagement as an integral part of the educational experience for all students and has been recognized on the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for seven consecutive years.

- Our new Entrespace offers a learning and discussion space for emerging student entrepreneurs.

- Students draw inspiration from such alumni as Greg Cangialosi ’96, English, and Clemson University President James Clements ’85, computer science, ’91 M.S., ’93 Ph.D., operations analysis, who serve on the National Advisory Council on Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

- UMBC is itself a supportive, inclusive community and consistently appears on both The Baltimore Sun’s list of Baltimore’s Top Workplaces and Chronicle of Higher Education’s top academic workplaces list.

The Final Four of Game Design: A UMBC video game development team is among the final four student groups competing to represent the U.S. in the Microsoft Imagine World Cup competition. The group of computer science and visual arts majors were invited to present their original game, HueBots, at the April 2015 national finals. They include (l. to r.) Jasmine Martin, Erika Shumacher, Tad Cordle, and Michael Leung. Their faculty mentor, Marc Olano, computer science, recently completed a sabbatical assessing new game technologies at Firaxis Games.

Academic Stars in the NCAA Final Four: UMBC’s men’s soccer team won four straight games in four different stadiums against nationally ranked opponents to earn their place this fall in the NCAA Division I Men’s Soccer Championship. Goalkeeper Billy Heavner, financial economics, received the NCAA’s Elite 89 award for top scholar-athletes and the team ranked #1 academically among the four semifinalists, edging out UCLA. UMBC’s Peter Caringi was named NSCAA National Coach of the Year.

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