The University of Maryland, Baltimore County's commitment to innovative teaching, relevant research, and supportive community empowers and inspires inquisitive minds. UMBC combines the learning opportunities of a liberal arts college with the creative intensity of a leading research university, and is known globally for inclusive excellence. Retrievers come to UMBC from around the world to explore every angle of today’s pressing questions, to reach together toward big breakthroughs, to claim their futures, and to extend beyond their comfort zones to have a far-reaching impact.

RANKINGS

- *U.S. News & World Report* has again named UMBC a top national leader in both innovation and undergraduate teaching.
- *Times Higher Education* has recognized UMBC as one of the world’s top universities, both broadly and in the life sciences, physical sciences, and psychology. *THE* also named UMBC #3 in the nation for social and economic impact.
- The *U.S. News* Best Graduate Schools rankings include numerous UMBC programs. Their Global University Rankings highlight UMBC’s strength in geosciences and space science.
- UMBC is the nation’s #1 producer of African American undergraduates who go on to complete an M.D./Ph.D. and #2 nationally for African American undergraduates who complete a STEM Ph.D.
- According to NSF, UMBC is among the country’s top 150 universities in federal research and development expenditures and #13 in NASA funding. UMBC is among the top 30 in federal funding for social sciences as well as geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences.
- The *Chronicle of Higher Education* has named UMBC one of the “best colleges to work for” for a decade.

INNOVATION IN TEACHING AND LEARNING

- UMBC’s new Academic Success Center provides centralized support for undergraduates, including an Office of Academic Advocacy to help them tackle personal, academic, and financial challenges.
- UMBC received $2.8 million from NSF to create an inclusive environmental science master’s program focused on addressing the Baltimore Harbor’s environmental challenges.
- NIH renewed the STEM BUILD program for $12 million over five years. The program increases diversity in the biomedical sciences by determining effective, scalable ways to support STEM students from all backgrounds.
- The Chan Zuckerberg Initiative awarded $6.9 million to replicate UMBC’s Meyerhoff Scholars Program at UC San Diego and UC Berkeley, after successful HHMI-funded replications at Penn State and UNC-Chapel Hill.
- New UMBC students can now travel to the UK for two weeks before their first semester through Dawg Days Abroad, to build friendships, earn credit, do research, and learn what the UMBC community is all about.
- UMBC programs at the Universities at Shady Grove continue to expand, including, most recently, an undergraduate computer science degree.
- The Graduate School helps students make wise career prep choices as a founding partner in the Coalition for Next Generation Life Science and the Ph.D. Career Pathways study.
- UMBC’s 130,000 square-foot Interdisciplinary Life Sciences Building opened in fall 2019. It’s a new kind of teaching and research facility built to support creative, problem-focused collaboration across fields.

RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACHIEVEMENT

- UMBC faculty were awarded $90 million in research support and had over $80 million in R&D expenditures in FY19.
- Faculty research is supported by the NIH, NSF, NASA, NOAA, DOE, ONR, USDA, NEH, NEA, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, Google, IBM, Northrop Grumman, Cisco, GE Global Research, the State of Maryland, and more.
- Substantial grants supported work on topics such as advancing early treatment and identification of psychosis, developing the first 4D map of cellular signalling pathways, optimizing climate models, addressing environmental contaminants, and supporting first responders through stress-response technologies.
- Aaron Smith received an NSF CAREER Award and $1 million NIH award for work on how biological systems take up and process iron, with important implications for human health.
- Emerging scholars received notable awards, including Nkiru Nnawulezi’s Linda Saltzman New Investigator Award for research on gender-based violence and Mejdlulene B. Shomali’s Woodrow Wilson Foundation Career Enhancement Fellowship for work on femininity, queerness, and transnational Arab cultural production.
- Several UMBC scholars contributed to *Baltimore Revisited*, on the city’s complex history and efforts to address inequalities, co-edited by Nicole King, Kate Drabinski, and a University of Baltimore colleague.
- The Kennedy Center invited UMBC to perform *In To and Out Of* by Anne Sofie Clemmensen, dance. *Girls on a Dirt Pile*, written by Sarah Stellwagen published the first-ever complete sequence of spider glue genes. After her work went viral on Reddit, her paper became one of the most popular in the journal’s history.
- UMBC’s Center for Accelerated Real Time Analytics is leading a $3 million NSF partnership advancing computing hardware to solve infrastructure challenges, with partners like Seagate and Morgan Stanley.
STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Student Enrollment (Fall 2019): 13,602 (11,060 undergraduate, 2,542 graduate)

Freshman Class Profile (Fall 2019): 1,701; living on campus: 71%; average GPA: 3.89; average SAT: 1275 (two-part)

- UMBC students pursue applied learning in huge numbers, and these experiences have an impact: 87% of new grads head directly to a job, advanced degree, or both. Of those employed, a majority interned or worked for their employer as a student. Nearly 2,000 students interned in the most recent year (73% paid). Employers visited campus nearly 800 times, and over 3,300 students and alumni visited the Career Center for coaching.

- Students regularly receive highly competitive awards, recently including a Truman Scholarship, Newman Civic Fellowship, NASA graduate student fellowship, and numerous Fulbright awards.

- Mustafa Al-Adhami, M.S. ‘15, Ph.D. ’20, mechanical engineering, won the national Three-Minute Thesis competition, presenting on his rapid bacterial-detection test that can assess, within an hour, if a patient has an infection.

- UMBC softball clinched the America East championship title for the first time in program history. Courtney Coppersmith ‘22, biochemistry and molecular biology, was the first player in America East history to be named Rookie of the Year and Pitcher of the Year in the same season.

- UMBC men’s and women’s swimming and diving were both crowned 2019 America East champions, shattering records along the way. Men’s lacrosse brought home the America East title for the first time in a decade.

- UMBC Mock Trial continues to raise the bar, most recently placing 8th at the American Mock Trial National Championship Tournament, with Sydney Gaskins ‘21, political science, named All-American Attorney.