

2025
TESTIMONY
to the
MARYLAND
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY

IMPACT FOR MARYLAND

Presented by
Darryll J. Pines
President

**UNIVERSITY
OF MARYLAND**



Progress on the state of Maryland's Purple Line accelerated on the University of Maryland campus in 2024, with major projects in the campus core (cover image) wrapping up in the fall. When completed, the light-rail line will span 16 miles from New Carrollton in Prince George's County to Bethesda in Montgomery County. Five of its 21 stations, including one on Campus Drive (below), will be on or near UMD, and students, faculty and staff will be able to ride for free between them. The transit system is expected to reduce the university's greenhouse emissions while expanding Terps' access to the region with connections to Metro, MARC and Amtrak.



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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



This is a moment that is made for Maryland—both its flagship higher education institution and the entire state.

As the world looks for leadership on issues ranging from climate change and literacy to gun violence and the security of our food, energy and water, we are forging a path toward a future of health and prosperity.

Our students, faculty, researchers and staff are breaking boundaries and reaching new frontiers on quantum computing and shaping the use of new technologies like generative artificial intelligence and more powerful and sustainable batteries. Across campus, they are writing the books and staging the performances that will spark inspiration and creativity. And they are strengthening our communities with new services, partnerships and businesses that will continue to make our neighborhoods hubs of innovation and discovery.

We will fuel this progress by continuing to reimagine learning; taking on humanity's grand challenges; investing in people and communities; and partnering to advance the public good.

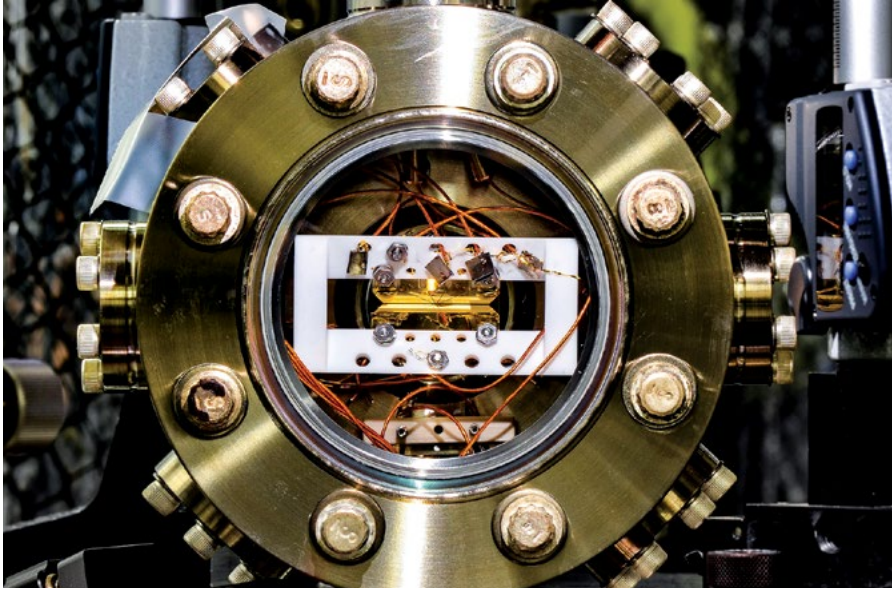
Our new, highest-ever national rankings are evidence that the world is recognizing that something special is happening at the University of Maryland and in College Park—success that is shared through the extraordinary commitments to higher education made by the governor and General Assembly. No matter what obstacles may emerge, there is no doubt that the ongoing investments in our innovation, entrepreneurship and economic development will build upon the foundation of excellence in all that we do.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Darryll J. Pines". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Darryll J. Pines

*President, University of Maryland
Glenn L. Martin Professor of Aerospace Engineering*

TAKING QUANTUM LEAPS



As the world races to realize the promise of quantum computing—which leverages features of quantum physics to exponentially accelerate certain calculations to potentially solve problems in areas such as **cryptology, materials, networks, sensors** and **machine learning**—the University of Maryland, and Maryland itself, will continue to be the **Capital of Quantum**.

New proposed funding from the state as well as UMD will provide the foundation for a **\$1 billion** quantum initiative bringing together government, education and private partners to build on a long and distinguished quantum history. For more than 35 years, UMD has been at the cutting edge of quantum research, and is now home to more than 200 researchers and 10 quantum-focused centers, including the **Joint Quantum Institute**, a key partnership with the National Institute of Standards and Technologies, known for the breadth of its theoretical and experimental work.

One of the most exciting developments of UMD's quantum enterprise is **IonQ**, a company founded in 2015 based on technology developed in the lab of College Park Professor **Christopher Monroe**.

Headquartered in the Discovery District, it became the first publicly traded pure-play hardware and software company in the quantum computing space, reaching a market cap of more than **\$7 billion** in December 2024. IonQ has also partnered with UMD on the National Quantum Lab, or **Q-Lab**, which is the nation's first user facility that enables the scientific community to pursue world-leading research through hands-on access to a commercial-grade quantum computer.

Other major quantum projects include the **Quantum Technology Center**; the **Mid-Atlantic Region Quantum Internet (MARQI)**; and the new **Center for Quantum Networks**, a National Science Foundation Engineering Research Center.

THE IONQ JOURNEY

- 2006** ○ UMD and NIST launch Joint Quantum Institute
- 2007** ○ Professor Chris Monroe joins UMD
- 2012** ○ First technology disclosure
- 2016** ○ IonQ incorporated
- 2018** ○ First patent issued
- 2019** ○ \$20M Series A funding secured; Peter Chapman named CEO
- 2021** ○ September: IonQ IPO issued; October: First day of trading on NYSE
- 2023** ○ National Quantum Laboratory (QLab) opens
- 2024** ○ IonQ reaches market cap of more than \$7B



RANKINGS SUCCESS

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

No. 13 among U.S. public institutions ranked as Best Global Schools
No. 17 among top public schools
No. 44 among national universities

ACADEMIC RANKING OF WORLD UNIVERSITIES

No. 11 among U.S. public institutions
No. 58 overall

CAMPUS PRIDE INDEX

5 of 5 stars for commitment to LGBTQ-inclusive policies, programs and practices

FORBES

No. 7 in Maryland and No. 1 in education among America's Best Employers by State
No. 12 among publics ranked as America's Top Colleges

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF INVENTORS

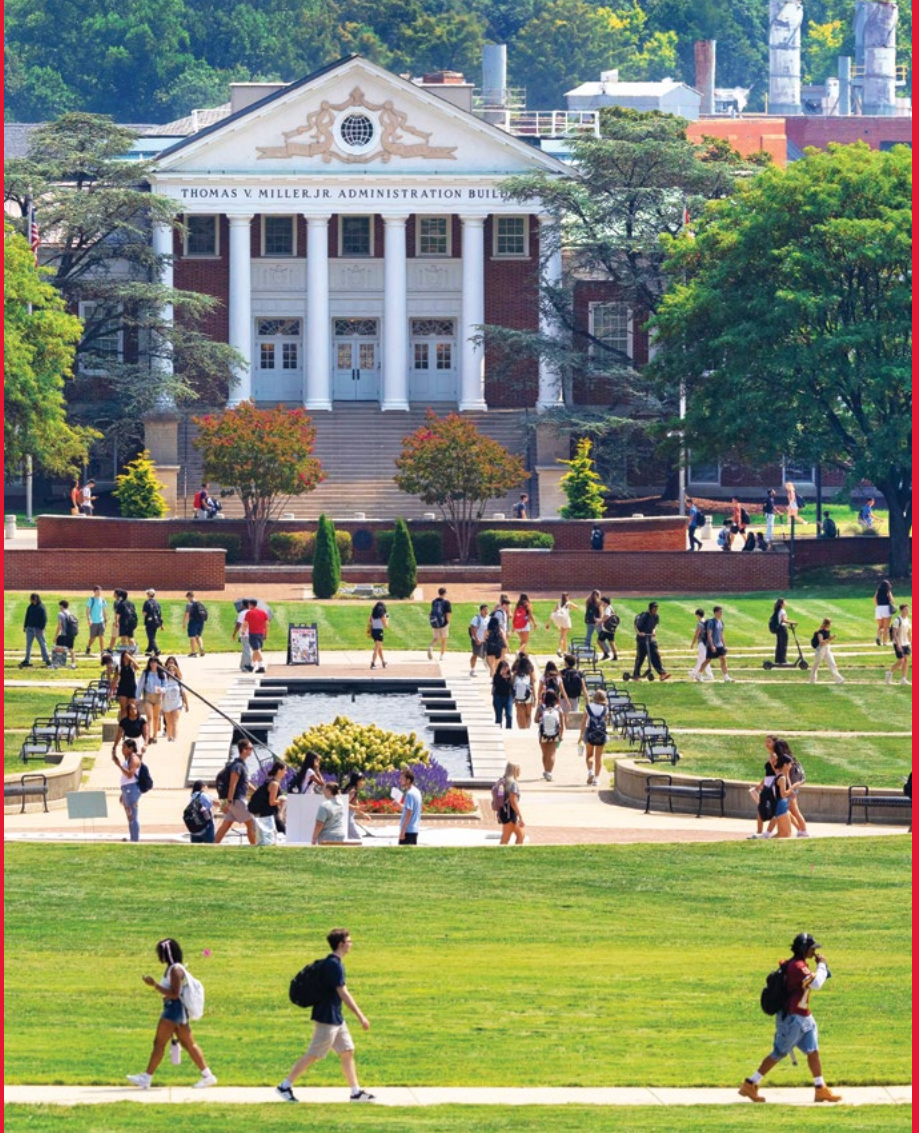
No. 9 among U.S. public institutions for patents awarded in 2023 (along with other USM institutions)

THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

No. 6 graduation rate among primarily residential public universities
No. 15 among public four-year colleges with the best 6-year graduation rates for Pell Grant-eligible students

NEWSWEEK

4.5 out of 5 stars among America's Greatest Workplaces, one of only 12 universities recognized
Placed on lists of America's Greatest Workplaces for LGBTQ+ employees and diversity



THE PRINCETON REVIEW/ ENTREPRENEUR MAGAZINE

No. 1 in the mid-Atlantic
No. 5 among public institutions
No. 7 for undergraduate entrepreneurship;
No. 17 for graduate entrepreneurship
Ten straight years in Top 10



ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

88.6%

SIX YEAR GRADUATION RATE FOR FIRST TIME, FULL TIME STUDENTS (FALL 2018 COHORT)

- Highest among public universities in the state of Maryland

11,444

DEGREES AWARDED

- 8,007 bachelor's
- 2,807 master's
- 630 doctoral

TOP UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES AWARDED

1. Computer Science (942)
2. Information Science (564)
3. Biological Sciences (426)
4. Finance (356)
5. Public Health Science (316)
6. Mechanical Engineering (302)
7. Criminology and Criminal Justice (290)
8. Communication (253)
9. Government and Politics (241)
10. Psychology (201)

STUDENT PROFILE (FALL 2024)

41,725

TOTAL ENROLLMENT

Undergraduate students:

31,133

Graduate students:

10,592

76.4%

Maryland residents (undergraduates)

52.9%

undergraduate students who identify as American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Hispanic/Latino, or Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, either alone or in addition to another race

FRESHMAN CREDENTIALS (FALL 2024)

4.45

AVERAGE GPA

SAT SCORES

1410 25th percentile

1520 75th percentile

1465 midpoint

Out of **60,147** new freshman applications, **5,812** enrolled

21%

of undergraduates were federal Pell Grant recipients in Fall 2024, up four percentage points the last two years.

105 faculty memberships in the National Academies

29 new memberships since 2020

CAMPUS CLIMATE AND BELONGING

A survey conducted by Rankin Climate in Spring 2024 showed about:

- **82%** of undergraduates, graduate students and faculty said they were comfortable or very comfortable with the climate in classes at UMD;
- **75%** of UMD students, faculty and staff were comfortable or very comfortable with the overall climate at UMD; and
- **75%** of faculty and staff said they were comfortable or very comfortable with the climate in departments, programs and work units.

STUDENT SUCCESS

112

MAJOR NATIONAL *and* INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

- 44 GILMAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDY ABROAD
- 21 FULBRIGHT GRANTS FOR INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE
- 13 NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS
- 11 BOREN SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS FOR CRITICAL LANGUAGE STUDY OVERSEAS
- 6 CRITICAL LANGUAGE SCHOLARSHIPS
- 3 GOLDWATER SCHOLARSHIPS HONORING STEM EXCELLENCE
- 2 NATIONAL DEFENSE SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS
- 2 FOREIGN AFFAIRS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FELLOWSHIPS
- 2 RANGEL FELLOWSHIPS TO PREPARE FOR U.S. FOREIGN SERVICE
- 1 CLARK FELLOWSHIP TO PREPARE FOR U.S. FOREIGN SERVICE DIPLOMATIC SECURITY
- 1 PAYNE FELLOWSHIP FOR USAID FOREIGN SERVICE CORPS
- 1 SCHWARZMAN SCHOLARSHIP FOR GRADUATE STUDY AT TSINGHUA UNIVERSITY
- 1 BEINECKE SCHOLARSHIP FOR GRADUATE STUDY IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES OR HUMANITIES
- 1 DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SMART FELLOWSHIP FOR STEM RESEARCH
- 1 VOYAGER-OBAMA FELLOWSHIP FOR INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCES
- 1 HOLLINGS NOAA SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND POLICY
- 1 DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCE GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP



YASH ANAD



MALCOLM MAAS



JERRY SHEN

Three University of Maryland undergraduates—**Yash Anand '25** (physics and mathematics), **Malcolm Maas '26** (atmospheric and oceanic science and physics) and **Jerry Shen '25** (biological sciences and mathematics)—were awarded 2024 scholarships by the **Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation**, which encourages students to pursue advanced study and research careers in the sciences, engineering and mathematics.

UMD has had **82 winners** and **five honorable mentions** since the Goldwater Foundation launched the program in 1989. UMD's 49 nominations rank second in the nation, behind Stanford University.

A DECADE OF DIVERSITY IN TECH



1

Last fall marked the 10th anniversary of **Technica (1)**, the premier hackathon for women and underrepresented genders in tech, drawing a record-setting crowd of 1,700 in-person and virtual competitors from all over the world.

Joined by Maryland **Lt. Gov. Aruna Miller (2)**, Technica attendees developed apps and websites during the 24-hour event to showcase their creativity and computer coding skills. It also included an alumni panel, workshops, a Terps esports competition, meetups and a talent



2

show, and was done in collaboration with campus groups like the Startup Shell incubator and the Iribe Initiative for Inclusion and Diversity in Computing.

ADAPTING TO THE GOAL

Students at **College Park Academy (3)**, a public charter school launched with support from the University of Maryland in 2013 and located in UMD's Discovery District, helped a local girl achieve her athletic dreams by designing an adaptive lacrosse stick.

The project was part of the Engineering for Us All (e4usa) program, which is led nationally by UMD President **Darryll J. Pines** and expands access to STEM education by providing a standardized curriculum for high school students.

Stella Stakolosa, a 10-year-old with cerebral palsy, requested a hot pink, bendable and wheelchair-mounted lacrosse stick so she could join the Parkville Adaptive Lacrosse league. Led by e4usa teacher **Brendan McCarthy** and using parts donated by UMD's intercollegiate teams, students worked in groups to develop a trigger mechanism and mount a rear-view mirror to expand her field of vision.



3

FACULTY AND STAFF HONORS AND AWARDS

College of Education Professor **Melanie Killen** and Professor Emeritus **Allan Wigfield** were elected to membership in the National Academy of Education.

K.J. Ray Liu (1), retired Distinguished University Professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, was elected to the National Academy of Engineering.

Yang Tao, a professor in the Fischell Department of Bioengineering, and **Uzi Vishkin**, a professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Institute for Advanced Computer Studies, were named fellows of the National Academy of Inventors.

Executive producer and biology Professor **Sean Carroll (2)** was part of the team that won a Peabody Award for the documentary film “All That Breathes,” which follows two brothers working to save the black kite bird from the rising environmental toxicity in New Delhi.



Physics Professor **William Dorland** posthumously received the American Physical Society’s 2024 James Clerk Maxwell Prize for Plasma Physics for pioneering work in kinetic plasma turbulence that revolutionizes turbulent transport calculations for magnetic confinement devices and inspires research in astrophysical plasma turbulence.

For the third year in a row, College of Education Dean **Kimberly Griffin (3)** was named by *Education Week* as one of the nation’s most influential education scholars.



Distinguished University Professor and Minta Martin Professor of mechanical engineering **Ashwani Gupta (4)** was one of 73 people in engineering and technology elected 2023 fellows of the United Kingdom’s Royal Academy of Engineering. He was recognized for his role as an international authority on swirl flows and volume-distributed combustion.

Doron Levy, professor and chair of the Department of Mathematics, was elected a fellow of the American Mathematical Society. He was recognized for his contributions to mathematical oncology and mathematical biology.

Distinguished University Professor of psychology **Arie Kruglanski (5)** received the 2025 William James Fellow Award, which honors Association for Psychological Science members for a lifetime of significant intellectual contributions to the basic science of psychology.

Associate Professor **Irina Muresanu (6)** of the School of Music was elected to the European Academy for Sciences and the Arts.

The Society for Historical Archaeology named anthropology Professor **Paul Shackel** the 2025 recipient of the J.C. Harrington Medal, its highest honor, in recognition of a person’s lifetime of contributions to the discipline.

The **Department of Residential Facilities’ Housekeeping program** achieved accreditation from the Cleaning Management Institute, acknowledging its adherence to the highest administrative, operational and outcome standards in the industry. Only 13 U.S. universities have earned this accreditation.



GENIUSES AT WORK



A bestselling author of books for young readers joined the growing ranks of University of Maryland graduates who have been awarded the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Fellowship, widely known as the “genius grant.”

2024 MacArthur fellow **Jason Reynolds '05 (1)** will receive a \$800,000, no-strings-attached award in recognition of his work “depicting the rich inner lives of kids of color and ensuring that they see themselves and their communities in literature,” according to the foundation. Reynolds is the 14th Terp, and fourth since 2020, to earn the prestigious honor.

OTHER TERPS WHO HAVE RECEIVED A MACARTHUR FELLOWSHIP:

2022

Tomeka Reid '00
MUSIC

2021

Reginald Dwayne Betts '09
ENGLISH

2020

N.K. Jemisin M.Ed. '97
EDUCATION

2015

Beth Stevens Ph.D. '03
NEUROSCIENCE AND COGNITIVE SCIENCE

2014

Pamela O. Long '65, Ph.D. '79
HISTORY

2013

Ana Maria Rey Ph.D. '04
PHYSICS

2010

David Simon '83
GENERAL STUDIES

2006

Kenneth C. Catania '89
ZOOLOGY

2004

Naomi E. Leonard M.S. '91, Ph.D. '94
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

2002

Liz A. Lerman '70
DANCE

2002

Karen S. Hesse '74
ENGLISH

1989

Ellendea Proffer Teasley '66
RUSSIAN

1986

Lester R. Brown M.S. '59
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

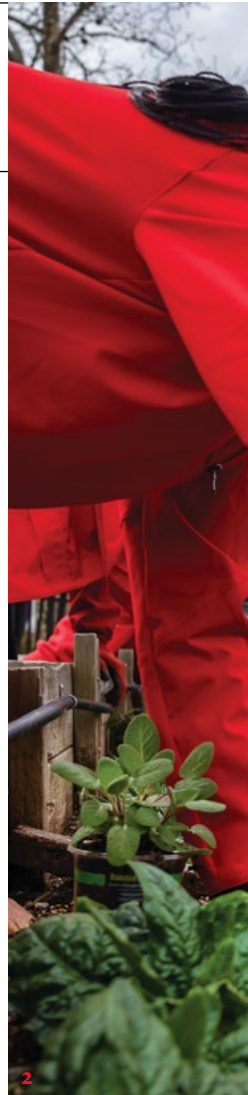
ADDRESSING GRAND CHALLENGES



1

Through its **Grand Challenges Grants** program, the University of Maryland has funded **50 projects with \$30 million** to support new cross-disciplinary collaborations on issues such as global health, threats to democracy, renewable energy and ethical and trustworthy AI technology. Three hundred partnerships spanning more than **32,000** campus and community stakeholders have been engaged in this work, which has secured **\$25 million** in additional external funding.

Three projects—the **Maryland Initiative for Literacy and Equity (MILE)**, the **Global FEWture Alliance** and the **Climate Resilience Network**—were chosen as institutional grant winners and awarded \$1 million per year for three years, with a one-to-one match of resources from participating colleges and departments.



2

MILE (1), led by Associate Professor **DJ Bolger** of the UMD College of Education and Professor Simone Gibson of Morgan State University, conducted a groundbreaking statewide literacy review last year for the State Board of Education and Blueprint for Maryland's Future Accountability & Implementation Board (AIB). MILE researchers visited 86 schools and conducted 493 classroom observations with 863 focus group and participant interviews.

The findings, which were presented to the state board and AIB, noted the importance of teacher coaching and intervention; the need for high-quality instructional materials, professional development linking science to classroom practices and inclusive and culturally relevant family engagement; and how literacy efforts often depend on the availability of school-level funding.



3

The **Global FEWture Alliance (2)** is led by **Amy Sapkota**, MPower Professor and chair of the Department of Global, Environmental, and Occupational Health at the UMD School of Public Health. It aims to bring together partners and underserved communities at home and abroad to alleviate food, energy and water insecurity while protecting environmental and global public health and bolstering community resilience in a changing climate.

A total of 16 projects are underway in four countries and locally, including installing rainwater harvesting at Plantation Park Heights Urban Farm in Baltimore City.

The **Climate Resilience Network** is led by **Ralph Ferraro**, associate director of UMD's

Earth System Science Interdisciplinary Center, and connects UMD's researchers with Maryland decision makers to address the immediate effects of climate change on local communities.

The project has unveiled multiple initiatives, including the HydroNet sensor system (3) that will help researchers and local government leaders predict when, where and how much future flooding will occur in communities along the Chesapeake Bay (4), including Annapolis, Crisfield and areas in Charles and Cecil counties. Land hydrology projects are also active in Rockville, Greenbelt and Frederick, with air quality projects in Baltimore City, Baltimore County and Prince George's County.



4

HONORING HISTORY THROUGH COMMUNITY OUTREACH



The former elementary school of Thurgood Marshall in West Baltimore has become a community gathering place, outreach hub and legal center that will carry on the former civil rights lawyer and Supreme Court justice's values through University of Maryland research and expertise.

The new **Thurgood Marshall Amenity Center at P.S. 103** is anchored by the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences' **Judge Alexander Williams, Jr. Center for Education, Justice and Ethics**, which offers youth engagement services, a lecture series, classes on ethical public leadership and programming on the criminal justice system. The center also includes a branch of the Transformative Research and Applied Violence Intervention Lab and a health and wellness space.

SERVICE FOR THE STATE

For the second year in the row, **Gov. Wes Moore** celebrated at UMD the launch of a new cohort of the Service Year Option and Maryland Corps programs administered through the Maryland Department of Service and Civic Innovation (DSCI). The 600 cohort members were welcomed by Moore, **Lt. Gov. Aruna Miller**, **DSCI Deputy Secretary Sarah Flammang**, **UMD President Darryll J. Pines** and more at the September 11 Day of Service and Remembrance event, which also included AmeriCorps volunteers and members of the Maryland National Guard.



A RAINBOW CONNECTION WITH TERPS

SHOWING WHAT'S "NEXT"

From a Mario Kart video game competition set to live orchestral music to an immersive light display and workshops on topics ranging from screen printing to salsa dancing, UMD's annual **NextNOW Fest** was a weeklong celebration of the arts that engaged more than **6,000 students** and community members with **70 events** across **eight campus venues**.



One of the most famous creations of a Terp alum took center stage at The Clarice in September, as **Kermit the Frog** and performer **Matt Vogel** sang, danced and talked about the power of the arts with **Stephanie Shonekan**, dean of the UMD College of Arts and Humanities.

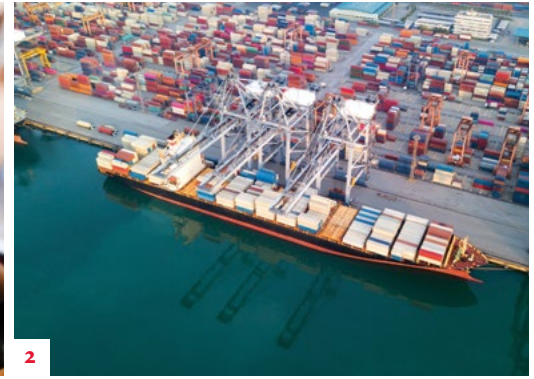
The event honored and showcased the legacy of Kermit and Muppet creator **Jim Henson '60**, who along with wife and collaborator **Jane Henson '55**, graduated from the University of Maryland and went on to produce groundbreaking art, movies and television featuring the wacky and heartwarming antics of memorable and fantastical puppets.

Kermit teamed up with student tap dancers, partnered with banjo player **Lucas Ross**, and took part in an audience sing-along accompanied by Arts for All Director **Craig Kier** on piano.



RECORD-SETTING RESEARCH GRANTS

The University of Maryland’s research momentum is poised to accelerate with two new contracts representing the largest agreements in the university’s history: A new contract with the **Applied Research Lab for Intelligence and Security (ARLIS)** has a **\$500 million** ceiling and will bring a multidisciplinary approach to issues such as cognitive security (1), supply chains (2), technology engagement and insider risk; and a new cooperative agreement with **NASA** has a **\$400 million** ceiling and will address areas related to climate science (3).



2

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Other notable funding announcements included:

- **\$6.4 million** in two grants from the **National Institutes of Health** to study improving substance use disorder treatments;
- **\$3.5 million** from the **Department of Homeland Security** to the **National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START)** for analysis and dissemination of data on terrorism and targeted violence in the United States;
- **\$3.2 million** from the **Army Research Laboratory** to the **Quantum Technology Center** for the investigation and optimization of applications for solid-state quantum sensors; and
- **\$2 million** from **J.P. Morgan** to the **National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education** to study how to prevent small business displacement.



3

<p>11TH</p> <p>AMONG PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SPENDING <i>(with the University of Maryland, Baltimore)</i></p>	<p>\$1.4B</p> <p>COMBINED RESEARCH EXPENDITURES</p>	<p>18TH</p> <p>OVERALL IN NSF HIGHER EDUCATION R&D SURVEY</p>
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AI FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD

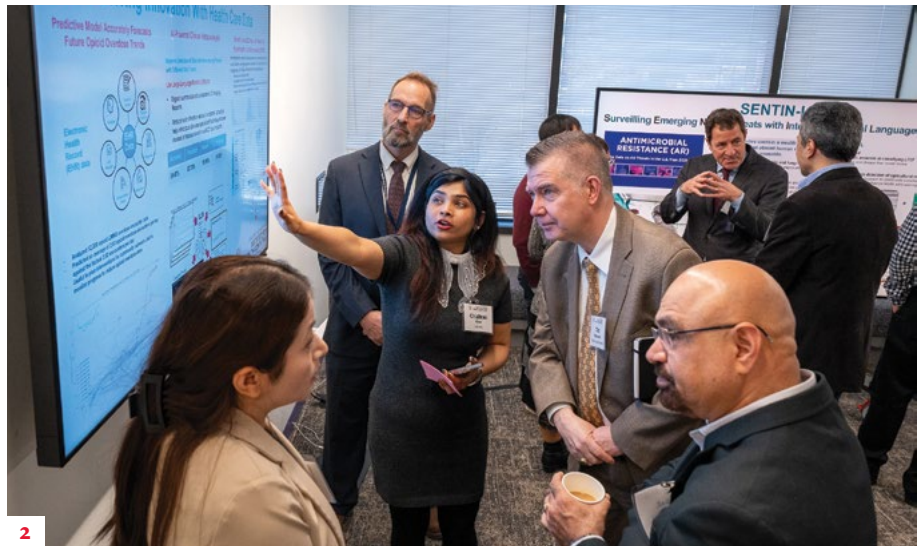
The University of Maryland is taking the lead on ethically advancing artificial intelligence and machine learning through two new initiatives: the **Artificial Intelligence Interdisciplinary Institute at Maryland (AIM)** and the **Institute for Health Computing (IHC)**.

AIM, which is led by professors **Hal Daumé III**, **Neda Atanasoski** and **Sheena Erete (1)**, launched in Spring 2024 as a collaborative hub to support faculty research, offer innovative and experiential learning opportunities, and forge partnerships to lead responsible AI development spurring economic growth and promoting human well-being. AIM is formulating general education “path to AI” courses as well as several undergraduate and graduate degree programs, including a Bachelor of Arts scheduled to be launched in Fall 2025 and a Bachelor of Science in Fall 2026. Grants will also be provided early this year for AI-related projects that positively impact society in areas such as accessibility, sustainability, social justice, and knowledge creation and dissemination.

A signature initiative of the University of Maryland Strategic Partnership: *MPowering the State*, the **IHC (2)** recently celebrated its second anniversary and is led by co-executive directors **Adam Porter**, a professor of computer science at the University of Maryland, and **Bradley Maron**, senior associate dean for precision medicine at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. With **\$100 million** in funding over the next six years from Montgomery County, the state of Maryland and the federal government, the IHC is merging the computational



1



2

expertise, clinical expertise, biomedical innovation, health data and academic resources of the University of Maryland, the University of Maryland, Baltimore and the University of Maryland Medical System to innovate health care delivery and support the Montgomery County life science community.

The IHC is home to **six research centers** and **70 faculty, researchers,**

students and staff from UMD and UMB. Its computational and clinical research includes artificial intelligence collaborations with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration; machine learning to research Alzheimer’s disease biobanks and identify predictive biomarkers; infectious disease modeling; and using AI to improve treatment of hypertension.

A STATE-OF-THE-ART HOME FOR CHEMISTRY

The University of Maryland last spring dedicated its new **Chemistry Building (1)**, a 105,000-square-foot facility that will serve as a hub for quantum chemistry, molecular nanoscience and sustainability research.

This landmark investment, built with funds from the state of Maryland’s capital budget and the university, will support and enhance the work of UMD scientists by providing the tools and technologies they need to take their discoveries to the next level and ultimately drive the economy and improve the world.

The facility includes:

- **34 advanced research labs**;
- Two shared research facilities with cutting-edge instrumentation;
- **13,000 square feet** of collaboration space;
- A **Chemistry Great Hall** for lectures, conferences and celebrations; and
- **Meeting and huddle rooms** designed for impromptu discussions, research group meetings and thesis defenses.



A MORE SUSTAINABLE CAMPUS

Through the **NextGen Energy** program, the University of Maryland has begun transforming its campus energy system to reach its goal of being carbon-neutral this year and fossil fuel-free by 2035.

A **\$390 million** investment in campus infrastructure, NextGen is replacing the aging power, boiler and chiller plants along with key portions of the thermal distribution system. The improved central energy plant will decrease UMD’s use of fossil fuels by relying on a high-efficiency turbine that

generates both electricity and steam, while also positioning the university to take advantage of innovative fuel sources and technologies. When completed, NextGen will **reduce emissions by 23%** and annually save **38 million gallons** of water.

UMD is also making fast progress toward an **all-electric fleet by 2035 (2)**. More than 50 fully electric vehicles—including vans, pickups and SUVs—are now circulating on campus. In addition, UMD is scheduled to receive 35 electric buses this year and aims for a fully electric bus fleet by August 2026.



THE NEW MAIN STREET

University of Maryland, city of College Park and state officials in November celebrated the completion of a **\$56.9 million** state reconstruction project to improve safety and traffic flow on a 1.5-mile segment of **Baltimore Avenue (1)**.

The project created bike lanes; widened pairs of lanes in each direction for vehicles and added auxiliary lanes that transition into turn lanes; raised the median; improved intersection and pedestrian lighting; and upgraded sidewalks and crosswalk ramps to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The project also improved bicycle and pedestrian access to the Paint Branch Trail and will provide direct access to future Purple Line light-rail stations on and near the UMD campus.



Other developments in Greater College Park include:

- UMD broke ground on a **323,000-square-foot residential building** on the site of the former Old Leonardtown community, which will accommodate more than **700 graduate students and family members**;
- The **Washington Commanders** moved their business operations from Northwest Stadium to the Discovery District to foster connections between the university, local businesses and community;
- An affordable apartment community of more than 300 units called **Flats at College Park (2)** will open in 2027 at the site of three former hotels on Baltimore Avenue;
- The former Campus Village strip mall is being redeveloped into almost **300 student-oriented apartments, 13,000 square feet** of retail space and a community center, also expected to be completed in 2027;
- Notable national restaurant chains including **Raising Cane's, Shake Shack** and **Chopt** have opened or are coming to local properties, and sports apparel chain and official Big Ten Conference retailer **Rally House (3)** has a new shop across from campus.



POWERING THE FUTURE



A University of Maryland startup is leading the way in creating advanced batteries to build a more sustainable future.

Ion Storage Systems was founded in 2019 by Distinguished University Professor and Maryland Energy Innovation Institute Director **Eric Wachsman** and chief technology officer and UMD alum **Greg Hitz**. In May, it opened a first-of-its-kind plant in Beltsville to produce its groundbreaking solid-state, 3D-ceramic electrolyte batteries, which



charge faster and store more power than typical lithium-ion batteries. The new technology, which is 100% recyclable and 40% more powerful than conventional options today, could have applications in defense, electric vehicles, consumer electronics and grid storage.

In June, Ion Storage Systems received a **\$20 million** grant from the **U.S. Department of Energy** as part of a program to boost research and development in the nation's energy sector. The company combined that award with **\$20 million** in private matching funds to collaborate with partners including **Saint-Gobain**, one of the world's largest ceramics, glass and material suppliers, and **KLA**, a leader in semiconductor process and quality control, to dramatically accelerate the commercialization of Ion Storage Systems' safe, energy-dense and fast-charging batteries.

\$3.7B

IN ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACT TO THE STATE

SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER (FY24)

Worked with
5,379
clients

Trained
7,843
attendees

Assisted in the formation of
183
businesses

Helped clients obtain
\$51.3M
in loans and equity financing.

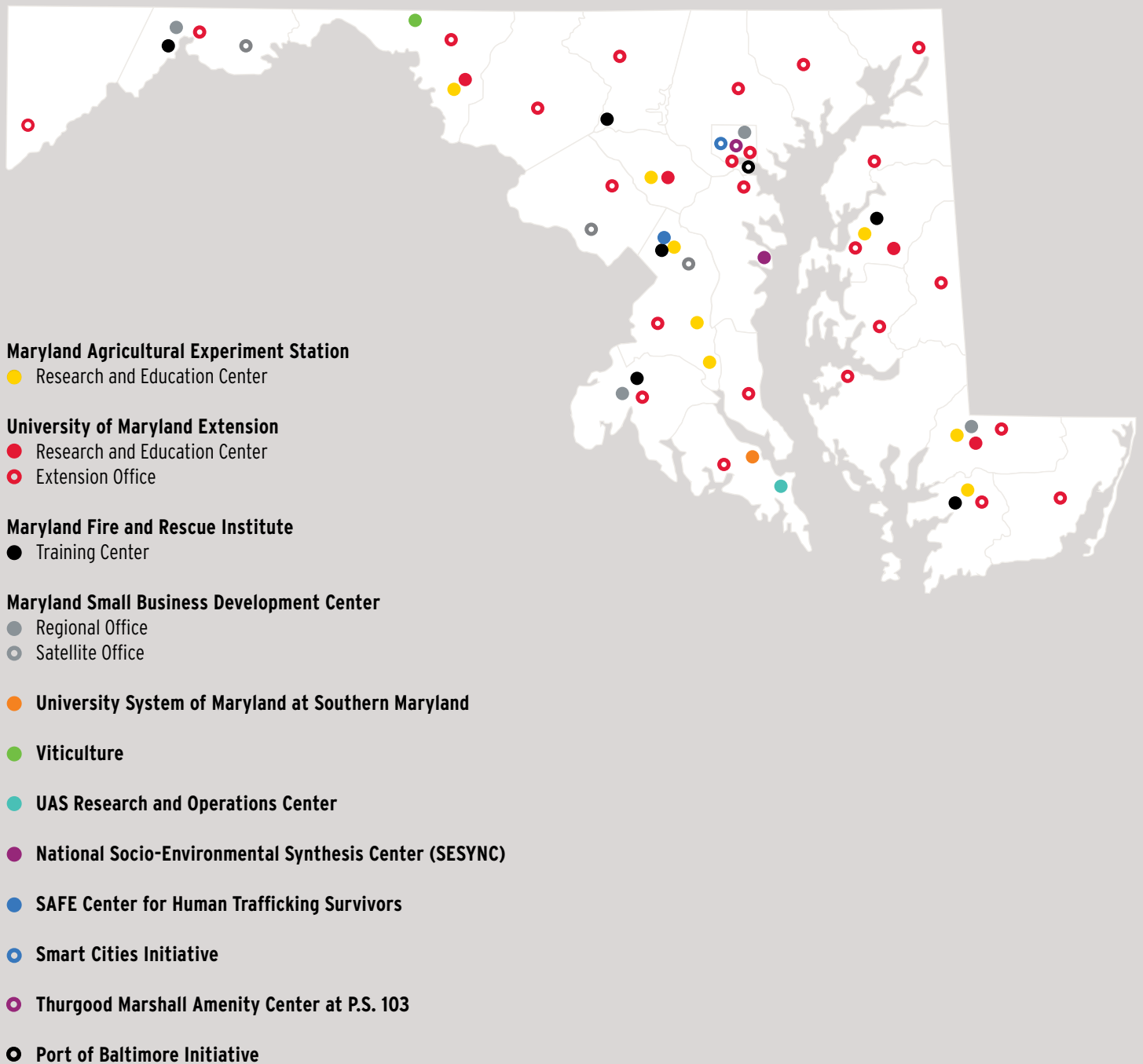
INNOVATION PIPELINE



*MII=Maryland Innovation Initiative

STATEWIDE IMPACT

From viticulture, aquaculture and crops to drones, small business and first responders, UMD reaches every jurisdiction in Maryland.







UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND

Office of the President

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University of Maryland College Park
Fiscal Year 2026 Operating
Response to Department of Legislative Services Analysis

Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Senate Education, Business and Administration Subcommittee
Senator Nancy King
February 27, 2025

House Appropriations Committee
House Education and Economic Development Subcommittee
Delegate Stephanie Smith
March 3, 2025

The President should comment on how the institution will address the reduction in State support.

The University of Maryland plans to address the current round of reductions in state support through a range of actions designed to lower expenses and increase revenues. To manage expenses, we plan to slow down hiring and strategically manage positions. We will reduce non personnel expenses including but not limited to travel, professional consultants, supplies and materials and equipment purchases. In addition, we will reduce facilities expenses while continuing to focus on those related to health and safety, compliance with laws and regulations and critical systems maintenance. We will explore areas to increase efficiencies through restructuring and streamlining operations. Additionally, we will look to increase revenues wherever possible. For instance, we will attempt to increase professional masters programs and pursue other entrepreneurial activities. It's important to note we will prioritize the safety of our students, faculty and staff. And in all we do, we will protect the academic core of the campus to the greatest extent possible.