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You’re invited to the annual Paul A. Pumplin Memorial Lecture, Nov. 19 at 1 p.m. in Baltimore and Shady Grove.

Dear friends and colleagues,

The Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research continues to grow with the arrival of our newest faculty member, Julia Slejko, PhD, and the largest cohort of postdoctoral fellows ever. The Fall semester also saw the introduction of a new course for our PhD students on patient-centered outcomes research. In the months to come, we will be formalizing an announcement regarding our affiliate faculty, so look for that information closer to the end of the year. I know that many of you visit the Baltimore/DC area for vacation, business travel, or other reasons. We’d love to see you, so please feel free to stop in to say hello during your next visit to the area!

Sincerely,

C. Daniel Mullins, PhD
Professor and Chair
Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research

Faculty Member Named an AACP Research Fellow

Fadia Shaya, PhD, MPH, professor and vice chair for academic affairs, has been accepted into the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy's (AACP) Academic Research Fellows Program. This year-long program is designed to expand the leadership capabilities of established pharmacy faculty researchers to assist them in cultivating collaborative research teams and graduate education programs across their institutions. Through her participation in the program, Dr. Shaya will gain experience in research-focused leadership
Laura Cranston, RPh, executive director of the Pharmacy Quality Alliance, will present "Health Care Reform and Quality of Care: What Does It Mean for Pharmacy Practice?"

**Postdoc Opportunity**

PHSR has an exciting opportunity available for a postdoctoral fellow in comparative effectiveness and patient-centered outcomes research. Please visit the School's website for more information.

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**UMB Named Partner in Optum Labs Research Collaborative**

Optum Labs has named the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) as one of the latest partners to join its research collaborative. Led by PHSR professor Eleanor Perfetto, PhD, MS, this new partnership will enhance and augment UMB’s existing research and informatics resources with the data, tools, expertise, and infrastructure available at Optum Labs to increase the scope and impact of Alzheimer’s disease and healthy aging research. In addition to expanding the University’s partnerships with other prestigious organizations across the health care industry, the new partnership allows UMB researchers to access Optum Labs’ high-quality, integrated clinical and claims data. This data will expand research opportunities for faculty and students in a wide range of fields, including comparative effectiveness, behavioral and policy topics, translation and dissemination, epidemiology and economics, safety and pharmacovigilance, heterogeneity in treatment response, resource utilization, and variations in care. Read more here...

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**UMB Researcher of the Year**

C. Daniel Mullins, PhD, professor and chair of PHSR, was selected as one of the University of Maryland, Baltimore’s Researchers of the Year. Dr. Mullins was selected for this honor along with his colleague Robin Newhouse, PhD, professor and chair of the Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health at the School of Nursing, for their work to develop a program that engages patients as advisors in designing research on health issues important to patients. As PI of the University’s PATIENTS (Patient-centered Involvement in Evaluating the Effectiveness of Treatments) Program, Dr. Mullins fosters collaborations among researchers from all of the schools on campus, the School of Public Health at the University of Maryland, College Park, the University of Maryland Medical Center, and external collaborators. Funded with a $5 million grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, PATIENTS focuses on bringing patients into the health research equation by using patient-centered outcomes research methods, an innovative perspective promising that studies will focus on design, methods, and outcomes that patients care...
PHSR Hosts First "Shark Tank" Competition
The teeth were out on Aug. 19 as four interdisciplinary teams led by PHSR faculty competed in the department's first-ever "Shark Tank" competition. Though the competition was fierce, team PRC² led by Eleanor Perfetto, MS, PhD, professor, and Ebere Onukwugha, MS, PhD, assistant professor, landed the big catch -- a $75,000 award that they will use to help "power up" the School's Pharmaceutical Research Computing (PRC) center. The competition was modeled after ABC Network's popular reality television show Shark Tank in which aspiring entrepreneurs make business presentations to a panel of "sharks" (potential investors). Each team delivered a 10-minute presentation that addressed its proposed project, team members and their areas of expertise, as well as how the $75,000 award would be used to fund the project. Following each presentation was a five-minute question-and-answer session during which the competition's "sharks" (judges) had an opportunity to have their questions and concerns addressed by team members. Read more here...

Study Examines Life Expectancy for Individuals with Dementia
According to a first-of-its-kind study conducted by Sarah Tom, PhD, assistant professor in PHSR, and her colleagues at the Group Health Research Institute in Seattle, Wash, University of Washington Schools of Medicine and Nursing, Swedish Neuroscience Institute in Seattle, Wash, Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, Wash, and Harvard School of Public Health in Cambridge, Mass, the rate of dementia onset continues to increase into oldest ages and years spent living with dementia are few and represent a small percentage of an individual's life. Published in the American Journal of Public Health, the study aimed to estimate dementia incidence rates as well as the average number of years that an individual is expected to live with and without the condition. Its results suggest that an individual's
risk for dementia increases by 60 percent between ages 85-89, and by 40 percent after age 90. Based on the study’s findings, a 70-year old could be expected to live 15 years without and two years with dementia. Read more here...

Beardsley Named Icon of Pharmacy by Alma Mater
Oregon State University College of Pharmacy has named Robert Beardsley, RPh, PhD, professor and vice chair for administration in PHSR, as a recipient of its 2014 Icons of Pharmacy Award. The award, which was presented in May, is given annually to an alumnus of the college in recognition of his or her sustained, meritorious contributions to the pharmacy profession. Originally from Roseburg, Ore., Beardsley received his Bachelor of Science in pharmacy from the college in 1972. He credits the institution with helping him to establish leadership skills that have aided him in succeeding in a number of important roles throughout his career, including his service as former associate dean for student affairs at the School of Pharmacy, past president of the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), past chair of the Council of Deans for the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP), and member of the Board of Directors of both ACPE and AACP. Read more here...

Kudos
Our department’s faculty, staff, and students are regularly recognized at the local and national level for their expertise. Here is a short list of recent accomplishments.

- Abdullah Aly and Viktor Chirikov, graduate students, were recipients of PHSR’s 2014-2015 Donald O. Fedder Memorial Fellowship Award.
- Mehmet Burcu and Xinyi Ng, graduate students, were recipients of PHSR’s 2014-2015 Arthur Schwartz Memorial Scholarship Award.
- Ting-Yang "Jane" Huang, a graduate student, won first place in AcademyHealth's Presenting Research in Compelling Ways Student Pecha Kucha Style Competition.
- Patience Moyo, a graduate student, received a Junior Investigator Travel Award from the National Institute on Drug Abuse to attend the Addiction Health Services Research Conference in Boston, Mass., in October.
- Xinyi Ng, a graduate student, won third place in AcademyHealth's Presenting Research in Compelling Ways Student Pecha Kucha Style Competition.
- Ebere Onukwugha, PhD, assistant professor, has been named a guest editor of a 2015 big data-themed issue of the journal PharmacoEconomics.
- Eleanor Perfetto, PhD, professor, has been named to the board of directors of the Center for Medical Technology Policy.

Grants
• **Peter Doshi, PhD**, an assistant professor, received a one-year $90,000 contract from the British Medical Journal Publishing Group.

• **Francoise Pradel, PhD**, professor, received a one-year $380,000 contract from the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene for "Maryland Strategic Prevention Framework Process & Outcome Evaluation."

• **Linda Simon-Wastila, PhD**, professor, received a two-year $207,178 contract from Novartis Pharmaceuticals for "Health Economics and Outcomes Research Fellowship."

• **Bruce Stuart, PhD**, professor and executive director of the Peter Lamy Center on Drug Therapy and Aging, received a six-month $43,000 contract from Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America for "2012 PhRMA Abbreviated Chartbook on Medicare Part D Drug Adherence & Outcomes" and received a six-month $42,625 contract from The Lewin Group for "Analysis of the Medicare 5% Files for 2011."

### Publications

- **Ross, M**, Bridges, JFP, **Ng, X**, Wagner, L, Frosch, E, Reeves, G, dosReis, S. A Best-Worst Scaling Experiment to Prioritize Caregiver Concerns with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) Medicine. *Psychiatric Services*, 2014, in press
- **Chirikov VV**, Shaya FT, Howell C. Association between Interferon Use and Reduced Metabolic and Vascular Complications Among Patients with Hepatitis C. *Expert Review of Gastroenterology & Hepatology*. (Accepted)
- Anna Hung and **Francoise Pradel**, *International Journal of STD and AIDS Online First*, published on July 16, 2014 as doi:10.1177/0956462414543938. A Review about how the Quality of HIV Clinical Services has been Evaluated or Improved.