

UMBC ACHIEVEMENTS



The University of Maryland, Baltimore County's commitment to innovative teaching, public impact research, and supportive community empowers and inspires inquisitive minds. UMBC combines the learning opportunities of a liberal arts college with the creative energy of a leading research university.

RANKINGS

- » National leader in innovation (#6) and undergraduate teaching (#6) (*U.S. News & World Report*)
- » A leading world university, including in social and economic impact (*Times Higher Education*)
- » Two Rhodes recipients and two finalists in the past five years
- » Top graduate programs in public policy, psychology, statistics, physics, computer science, chemistry, fine arts, and more (*U.S. News & World Report*)
- » Global leader in geosciences and space science (*U.S. News & World Report*)
- » "Best Value" university (Princeton Review, Kiplinger's, *Forbes*, *Money*, and *Fiske Guide to Colleges*)
- » Nation's #1 producer of Black undergraduates who go on to complete a Ph.D. in the natural sciences or engineering and #1 for Black undergraduates who complete an M.D./Ph.D.
- » Top-100 public university in federal research support (NSF)
- » National leader in NASA funding (#15) and federal funding for social sciences (#30) and for geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences (#39) (NSF)
- » "Best College to Work For" for over a decade (*Chronicle*)

RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACHIEVEMENT

- Faculty research is supported by the NIH, NSF, NASA, NOAA, DoD, ONR, USDA, NEH, NEA, Dept. of Energy, Dept. of Ed., Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, Google, Northrop Grumman, Amazon, Merck, Morgan Stanley, Microsoft, the State of Maryland, and more.
- UMBC faculty submitted over \$530M in proposals in FY21, leading to \$84M in extramural awards and \$84M in R&D expenditures.
- Among UMBC faculty's writing awards, historian Marjoleine Kars won both the Cundill History Prize and Frederick Douglass Book Prize for *Blood on the River: A Chronicle of Mutiny and Freedom on the Wild Coast*.
- NASA committed \$110M in new awards to support UMBC research through the Goddard Earth Sciences Technology and Research (GESTAR II) center, Center for Space Sciences and Technology (CSST), and Goddard Planetary Heliophysics Institute (GPHI).
- UMBC faculty produced significant research related to environmental issues, such as how different kinds of tree canopies cool cities, how humans have shaped Earth's ecology for 12,000 years, the status of endangered bird species, and helping the public see and hear urban aquatic ecosystems.
- UMBC received \$20M through a \$68M partnership with UMD and the Army Research Lab to advance artificial intelligence.
- NSF awarded \$13M to launch iHARP, a UMBC-led climate-focused NSF data science institute that will examine polar ice melt and sea level rise.
- Substantial grants supported work on topics such as scaling up land-based salmon aquaculture, genetic architecture of spider glues, and improving data-driven diagnosis of mood disorders.

INNOVATION IN TEACHING AND LEARNING

- UMBC won APLU's 2021 Gold Award in Leadership and Pervasiveness for Internationalization, reflecting work to expand UMBC's global interconnections, including study abroad and much more.
- UMBC launched Finish Line in 2020 to encourage former students to re-enroll and complete their degrees online. From Fall 2020 through Fall 2021, 267 students returned through Finish Line; 89 earned degrees in the program's first year.
- UMBC's Academic Success Center and Academic Advocates provide centralized help for undergraduates to tackle personal, academic, and financial challenges. Based on a strong record of success, they have expanded to include first-year, transfer, and peer advocate programs.
- At the Universities at Shady Grove, UMBC's new intensive biotech training program for displaced workers was named a Biobuzz Workforce Champion of the Year finalist for supporting community members and the region's robust biotech industry.
- UMBC launched the ESTEEMED Scholars, helping first- and second-year STEM students prepare for advanced honors programs, with the goal of bringing engineering solutions to biomedical challenges.



UMBC leads \$3 million Mellon grant to diversify senior leadership in higher ed

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has granted \$3 million to launch Breaking the M.O.L.D., developing a pipeline to higher ed leadership for arts and humanities scholars, focusing on associate and full professors from underrepresented groups. Interim Dean Kimberly Moffitt (above, left) and Vice Provost Patrice McDermott (above, right) lead the work at UMBC. Partners include Morgan State University and the University of Maryland, College Park.



NASA awards \$72 million for new UMBC-led Earth science research partnership

UMBC leads the new GEAR II national consortium, advancing Earth and atmospheric science, directed by physicist Belay Demoz (above, second from right). UMBC will receive \$38 million of the award. Morgan State University is the primary partner.

COMMUNITY AND EXTENDED CONNECTIONS

- UMBC produces top K-12 educators, including alumni earning Teacher of the Year honors. Each year, UMBC students work closely with local schools on art and STEM enrichment and more. Sherman STEM Teacher Scholar Haleemat Adekoya '22 is the student member of the Maryland Higher Education Commission.
- UMBC and the State of Maryland launched the Maryland Institute for Innovative Computing to address pressing challenges related to computing, analytics, and workforce in state agencies, with a focus on cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, and data science.
- The bwtech@UMBC Research and Technology Park houses 131 companies and organizations that employ nearly 1,900 people and have generated \$700M in labor income and business sales.
- UMBC leaders serve in prominent roles with groups such as the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities, GRE Board, Council of Graduate Schools, Maryland Career Consortium, Maryland Juvenile Justice Reform Council, Maryland Association on Higher Education and Disability, EDUCAUSE, and the National Academies.
- UMBC alumni serve as leaders at all levels, including Adrienne Jones '76, speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates; Letitia Dzirasa '03, M11, Baltimore City health commissioner; and Ralph Semmel, Ph.D '92, director of the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory.

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Student Enrollment (Fall 2021): 13,638 (10,835 undergraduate, 2,803 graduate)

First-Year Class Profile (Fall 2021): average GPA: 3.97; average SAT: 1277 (two-part)

- UMBC welcomed its largest-ever freshman class in Fall 2021, just after reaching its highest six-year graduation rate – surpassing 70%.
- A record-setting 1,400 international students from more than 100 countries are enrolled at UMBC. International enrollment increased 51% between Fall 2019 and Fall 2021.
- UMBC students pursue applied learning in huge numbers, and these experiences have an impact: 90% of new grads head directly to a job, advanced degree, or both. Of those employed, half interned or worked for their employer as a student.
- In the most recent annual data, over 4,000 students and alumni connected with the Career Center, over 3,000 received career coaching, and nearly 1,300 students interned. By the time they graduate, 81% of seniors have engaged with the Career Center at least once.
- UMBC volleyball had an undefeated season and successfully defended their America East title, advancing to the NCAA Championship. Emily Ferketic '23, a 4.0 physics major, took home America East's Elite 18 Award. UMBC men's and women's swimming and diving won first and second place at the ECAC Championships, respectively.
- The UMBC Cyber Dawgs defended their title as Mid-Atlantic Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition champions.
- UMBC students frequently earn prestigious honors, recently including a Marshall Scholarship, Knight-Hennessy Scholarship, Goldwater Scholarships, Newman Civic Fellowships, Fulbright awards, and graduate fellowships from NASA and the Dept. of Energy.



UMBC Mock Trial defeats Yale to win national championship

After an undefeated season, UMBC bested Yale to win the American Mock Trial Association's national championship. The team also won the Spirit of AMTA Award for their commitment to civility, justice, and fair play.

