



UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

# SOMnews

September 11, 2023

## Did You Know?

**Elijah Saunders, MD, FACC, FACP, FAHA, FASH, '60** was an internationally-renowned expert on hypertension in African Americans. Dr. Saunders became the first African American resident in internal medicine at the University of Maryland School of Medicine in 1960. More than 40 years ago, Dr. Saunders first introduced the concept of utilizing Baltimore-based barbershops as community centers to screen patrons for hypertension. In recent years, a number of similar programs have followed.



## What's New

[New Innovation in CAR T-Cells](#)  
[Preparing for AI in Medicine](#)  
[Health Risks of E-cigarette Use](#)  
[27th Annual White Coat Ceremony](#)  
[OSR Student Research Forum](#)  
[Remembering Dr. Irving Kessler](#)

## SOMnews **Noteworthy**



## Win-Win Collaborate Investigate Event Series

***Save the dates!***

Junior and mid-level investigators are invited to three collaboration events in fall. Each event features five, 5-minute talks on a research theme followed by an opportunity to network and discuss potential collaboration ventures. Refreshments will be provided.

### Renal/Cardiovascular

Tuesday, September 12, 2023

4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

BioPark, 1<sup>st</sup> floor

[Register Now >](#)

### Genomics/Genetics

Tuesday, October 17, 2023

4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

BioPark, 1<sup>st</sup> floor

[Register Now >](#)

### Big Data

Thursday, November 16, 2023

4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

BioPark, 1<sup>st</sup> floor

[Register Now >](#)



Visit [UMSOM's Heart Walk webpage](#) to join the SOM's Heart Walk Team and/or support our fund-raising efforts. Donate directly to the UMSOM Team or in the name of one of your SOM colleagues who have registered to participate in the 3-mile charity walk.

**Please consider lending your support to this important event.**

[Register Now >](#)

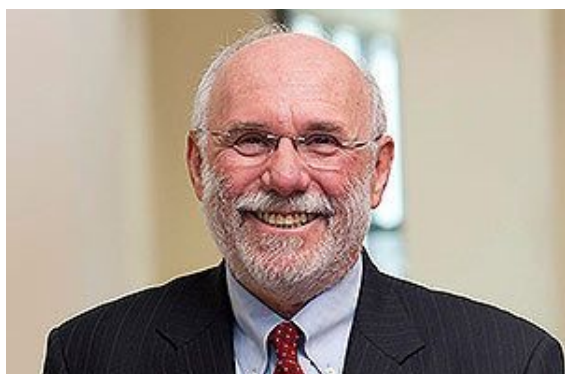
### Support UMSOM's 2023 Heart Walk Team!

Saturday, October 21, 2023,  
8 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Maryland State Fairgrounds

Join the UMSOM community as we participate in the **American Heart Association's 2023 Greater Maryland Heart Walk**.

*The American Heart Association (AHA) has provided over \$5 billion to fund more than 49,000 scientific research projects since 1949.*



### Frontiers in Vaccinology - 30th Annual Honorary Lectureship

Thursday, October 5, 2023, 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

UMB Leadership Hall

The **Frontiers in Vaccinology Honorary Lecture** is an esteemed event bringing together experts and thought leaders from the field of vaccinology to share their insights and discoveries. Renowned scientists and researchers will present their cutting-edge work and discuss the latest advancements in vaccine development, efficacy, and safety. [Myron M. Levine, MD, DTPH](#), will serve as this year's keynote speaker.

[Register Now >](#)

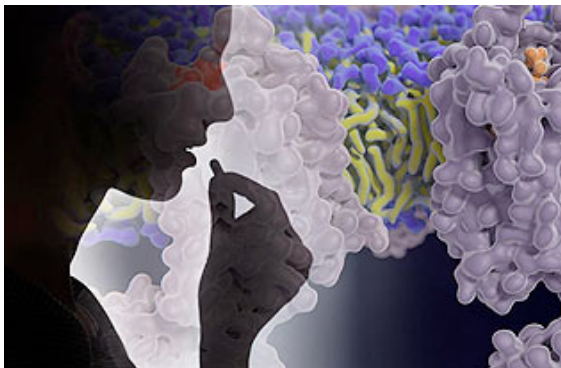


## UMSOM's IGS Founding Director Claire Fraser Elected to NAS; Receives Prestigious Award from New York Academy of Medicine

**The National Academy of Sciences (NAS)** has announced that **Claire M. Fraser, PhD**, the Dean E. Albert Reece Endowed Professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM), and the Founding Director of the Institute for Genome Sciences (IGS), has been elected as a new member of the prestigious academy.

[Learn More >](#)

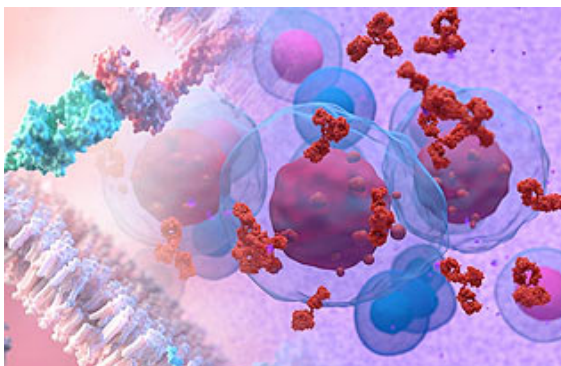
## SOMnews **Research&Discovery**



### Structure of Opioid Receptors May Reveal How to Better Design Pain Relievers, Addiction Therapies

Researchers are working to develop safer pain reliever drugs that target a specific opioid receptor, potentially preventing opioid addiction and death due to overdose.

[Learn More >](#)



### New Innovation in CAR T-Cells Paves Way for Less Toxic Therapy Against Multiple Myeloma

UMSOM researchers have engineered an innovative type of CAR T-cell therapy that has proven to selectively attack multiple myeloma cancer cells while sparing healthy cells.



## Preparing for AI in Medicine

As artificial intelligence systems like ChatGPT find their way into everyday use, physicians will start to see these tools incorporated into their clinical practice. However, the success of these new technologies largely depends on how physicians interpret and act upon a tool's risk predictions – and that requires a unique set of skills.

[Learn More >](#)



## Current Evidence Identifies Health Risks of E-cigarette Use; Long-Term Research Needed

Research increasingly reveals health risks of **e-cigarette** use, and more studies are needed about the long-term impact e-cigarettes may have on the heart and lungs, according to a new scientific statement from the American Heart Association recently published in the Association's flagship journal *Circulation*.

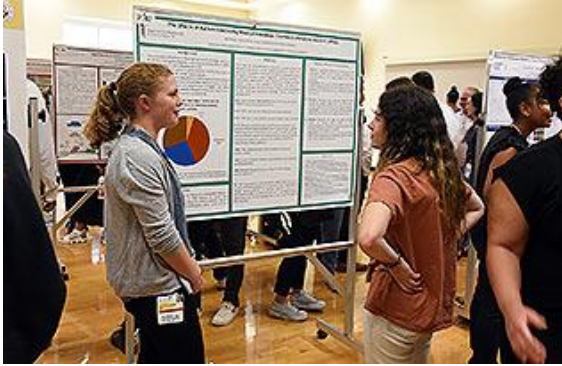
[Learn More >](#)



## UMSOM's 27th Annual White Coat Ceremony

UMSOM's Class of 2027 received their white coats for the first time at the annual White Coat Ceremony celebration.

[Learn More >](#)



## UMSOM'S Office of Student Research Hosts Annual Student Research Forum

Hosted by the Office of Student Research (OSR), the annual Student Research Forum provides an opportunity for undergraduate pipeline and medical students to present discoveries from their summer research projects.

[Learn More >](#)

## SOMnews DevelopmentMatters



## UMSOM Names Dr. Graeme F. Woodworth as the Howard M. Eisenberg, MD Distinguished Professor of Neurosurgery

**Graeme F. Woodworth, MD, FACS**, a highly recognized neurosurgeon and physician-scientist who has made outstanding contributions to treatment research for brain tumors, was invested as the inaugural Howard M. Eisenberg, MD Distinguished Professor of Neurosurgery.

[Learn More >](#)



## IN MEMORIAM: Irving Kessler, MD, PhD

The University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM) Community honors the memory one of its beloved faculty members, **Irving I. Kessler, MD, PhD**, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Epidemiology & Public Health.

[Learn More >](#)

## Help Support Student Activities and Resources!



Will you help fund the endless possibilities that stem from a good medical education? Your contributions support the House Advisory System, the White Coat Ceremony, essential wellness programming, mentorship activities, the Renaissance Curriculum, and more!

No students graduate without somehow being impacted by private giving. When you **donate today**, you enhance the quality of education for which UMSOM is nationally recognized.

You may also mail your donation directly to the **UMSOM Office of Development** with a check made out to **UMBF, Inc./2604** and sent to:

University of Maryland School of Medicine, Office of Development, 31 S. Greene Street, Third Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21201

***Thank you for your gift!***

[Donate Today >](#)

# What's the Buzz?

Check Out the Latest Issue of  
What's the Buzz?

UMSOM What's the Buzz? is produced by  
the University of Maryland School of  
Medicine Office of Public Affairs

[Learn More >](#)

---

**Editor:** Lauren Wright  
**Email:** [LaurenWright@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:LaurenWright@som.umaryland.edu)

---



University of Maryland School of Medicine | 655 West. Baltimore Street, Baltimore, MD 21201

[Unsubscribe Iroberts@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:Iroberts@som.umaryland.edu)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [publicaffairs@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:publicaffairs@som.umaryland.edu)