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# SOMnews

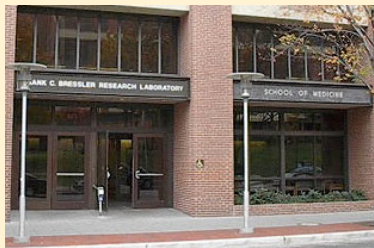
*November 10, 2023*

## Point of Pride

Many of us work in "Bressler" every day, but few know who "Bressler" actually was.

**Frank C. Bressler, MD,**

was a member of UMSOM's Class of 1885. Upon his death in 1935, Dr. Bressler left \$1.2 million in a bequest to benefit UMSOM. His extraordinary deferred gift has helped transform research, teaching, and patient care at the School of Medicine.



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## What's New

[Dean Gladwin Announces New Office and Director of Equity, Diversity, Inclusion](#)

[Peak Performance: UMSOM Faculty Members Climb to Top of Mt. Everest](#)

[Latest Research & Discovery at UMSOM](#)

[Results are in: Baltimore Magazine Features Our 'Top Docs'](#)

[Inspirational UMSOM Faculty Speakers at UMB Convocation](#)

## SOMnews **Noteworthy**



### UMSOM Forms New Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion; Ms. JP Pierre Named Director

As part of UMSOM's ongoing commitment to elevating issues of diversity, equity and inclusion for students, faculty and staff, UMSOM Dean [Mark T. Gladwin, MD](#), announced the formation of a new **Office**

[Learn More >](#)



### Next Win-Win Collaborate/Investigate Event Big Data

Thursday, November 16  
4:30 p.m. | BioPark, 1st floor

The third in a series, this collaboration event for junior and mid-level investigators will feature five, 5-minute talks on "Big Data" followed by an opportunity to network and discuss potential collaboration ventures. Refreshments will be provided.

[Register Now >](#)



### UMSOM's Matthew Laurens, MD, MPH, Honored for Pioneering Work in Tropical Medicine

**Matthew B. Laurens, MD, MPH**, Professor of Pediatrics at UMSOM's Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health (CVD) was recently awarded the **2023 Bailey K. Ashford Medal** by the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH).

[Learn More >](#)



### UMSOM's Sarah Kattakuzhy, MD, MPH, Receives Women to Watch Award from The Baltimore Sun

UMSOM's **Sarah M. Kattakuzhy, MD, MPH**, was recently named a **2023 Women to Watch** winner by *The Baltimore Sun*.

## SOMnews Research&Discovery



### The Climb to the Top: UMSOM Physician-Scientists Say Trek Up to The Top of Mt. Everest Inspires them to Make Quest for Scientific Discoveries

UMSOM physician-scientists [Konstantin G. Birukov, MD, PhD](#), and [Anna A. Birukova, MD](#), made an unfathomable climb to the top of Mount Everest this past spring.

[Learn More >](#)

### New Research Shows How Brain Inflammation in Children May Cause Neurological Disorders Such as Autism or Schizophrenia

For the first time, UMSOM scientists have discovered that inflammation alters the development of vulnerable brain cells, which could have mechanistic links to neurodevelopmental disorders.

[Learn More >](#)

### UMSOM Researchers Identify Important New Signaling Molecule Involved in Vascular Health

In a recent study published in *Nature Chemical Biology*, a team of UMSOM researchers in Dean Gladwin's lab found that heme, an iron-containing compound abundant in circulation and in our cells, binds to nitric oxide (NO) enabling it to regulate blood flow, blood pressure, blood clot formation, and likely other signaling



processes involved in healing damaged blood vessels.

[Learn More >](#)

## SOMnews Clinical Achievement



### UMSOM Researchers Provide First Statewide Prevalence Data on Two New Emerging Pathogens in Healthcare Settings

UMSOM researchers, along with their colleagues at the Maryland Department of Health, conducted a statewide survey of all patients on breathing machines in hospitals and long-term care facilities and found that a significant percentage of them harbored two pathogens known to be life-threatening.

[Learn More >](#)



### Baltimore Magazine Recognizes 115 University of Maryland School of Medicine Physicians As "Top Doctors" in 2023 Survey

The University of Maryland Medical System is once again well-represented in *Baltimore* magazine's annual "Top Docs" feature, with 220 physicians in 65 adult and 18 pediatric specialties recognized. Of the doctors recognized, 115 practice at the System's flagship academic hospital, the University of Maryland Medical Center.

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## SOMnews Academic Innovations



## UMSOM Faculty Speakers Deliver Inspirational Messages at UMB's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Faculty Convocation

Two faculty from the University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM) delivered compelling keynote addresses at the UMB Faculty Convocation held on September 14, 2023.

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## SOMnews DevelopmentMatters



### UMSOM Names Dr. Nader M. Habashi as the Hamish S. and Christine C. Osborne Distinguished Professor of Advanced Pulmonary Care

**Nader M. Habashi, MD, FACP, FCCP**, an internationally renowned expert on critical care medicine and a pioneer of innovative respiratory therapy, was invested as the Hamish S. and Christine C. Osborne Distinguished Professor of Advanced Pulmonary Care.

[Learn More >](#)



### UMSOM Names Irina Burd, MD, PhD, the Sylvan Frieman, MD Endowed Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences

**Irina Burd, MD, PhD**, a nationally renowned OB-GYN physician-scientist and fetal medicine expert who has made outstanding contributions to fetal medicine research, was invested as the Sylvan Frieman, MD Endowed Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences.

## Have You Made Your 2023 UMSOM Donation?



Make your 2023 tax-deductible donation before December 31 to support the areas of greatest need at UMSOM. When you donate today using [this link](#) or the QR code below, you invest in countless medical discoveries!



## Have You Made Your 2023 UMSOM Donation?

Will your annual gift fund the endless possibilities that stem from UMSOM's mission? Whether you want your contribution to support student scholarships, groundbreaking medical research, community partnerships, faculty support, or any other UMSOM initiative about which you are passionate – *your gift has an impact.*

If you prefer, your check, made out to **UMBF, Inc./26158**, may be mailed directly to the UMSOM Office of Development at: University of Maryland School of Medicine Office of Development  
31 S. Greene Street, Third Floor  
Baltimore, MD 21201  
Attn: Traci Morgan

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## SOMnews CommunityImpact

### Project Feast's 34th Annual Thanksgiving Meal



Nov. 23, 2023

11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Booker T. Washington Middle School

Join us for the 34th annual Thanksgiving Meal, hosted by the University of Maryland Baltimore's Project Feast. FREE food and clothing, health screenings, and community resources will be provided to the Baltimore community. Everyone is welcome!



[Donate Today >](#)

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## SOMnews What's the Buzz?



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