

OFFICE OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR FOR RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

USM Board of Regents
Committee on Research and Economic Development
May 6th, 2025
Zoom

AGENDA**10:30 a.m. – Noon****Call to Order****Bill Wood****10:30 a.m. to 10:35 a.m.**[Welcome and Approval of the minutes](#)

Regent William Wood

10:35 a.m. to 10:50 a.m.[USM Research and Economic Development Update](#)Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic
Development, Dr. Michele Masucci**10:50 a.m. to 11:25 a.m.**[Research Report for University of Maryland Eastern Shore](#)Dean of the School of Agricultural and Natural
Sciences, Dr. Moses T. Kairo**11:25 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.**[Mid Atlantic Quantum Alliance](#)Executive Director and International Engagement
Workgroup Co-Lead, Dr. John Sawyer**11:45 a.m. to 11:55 a.m.**[xFoundry NEXPLORE Summit](#)Co-Founder and Executive Director of xFoundry,
Amir Ansari**11:55 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

Closing Remarks

Regent William Wood

USM Board of Regents Research and Economic Development Committee Minutes for March
20th, 2025

Call to Order: Regent Wood called the meeting to order of the University System of Maryland Board of Regents Committee on Research and Economic Development to order in public session at 10:31am on Tuesday March 20th, 2025, via Zoom.

In attendance:

Panelists: Michele Masucci, Bill Wood, Denise Wilkerson, Ellen Herbst, Julia Chadwick, Bill Dennison, Lindsay Ryan, Alison Wrynn, Jay Perman, Ralph Mueller, Anwer Hasan, Elena Langrill, Mike Ravenscroft, Harry Coker Jr., Ralph Mueller

Audience: 28 attendees in the audience.

Agenda:

- 1. Approval of Minutes.** Regent Wood noted that we did not have a quorum to approve the minutes from the January 31 meeting of the Board of Regents Committee on Research and Economic Development. The Committee agreed to vote on the meeting minutes at the next full Board meeting in April
- 2. Federal Research Landscape Update.** Vice Chancellor Masucci presented an update on the current federal research landscape to the committee. During the presentation, the committee discussed challenges in federal research funding, including delays and communication issues, but noted an overall increase in grant applications across USM, aided by new technologies. All meeting materials are available to the public on the USM website.

3. Research Report for University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science. Vice

President Dennison gave a detailed report on the University of Maryland Center for Environment Science research ventures over time. Updates included facility expansions, citizen science initiatives, major research funding, and steps toward achieving higher research status. Dr. Dennison emphasized UMCES's growing role in addressing environmental challenges especially. Additionally, he recognized UMCES's 100-year anniversary and its historic contributions to environmental science, including numerous books, groundbreaking science, and a century of collaboration with local and federal partners. All meeting materials are available to the public on the USM website.

4. Momentum Fund Update. Mike Ravenscroft, Managing Director of the Maryland Momentum Fund, gave a presentation on the fund before the committee. An update on the Maryland Momentum Fund was provided, covering recent investments, company progress, and the Venture Fellows Program. The Chancellor asked that the Maryland Momentum Fund work with Vice Chancellor of Communications and Marketing Michael Sandler to create a strategy to communicate the benefits and impacts of the Venture Fellows program. All meeting materials are available to the public on the USM website.

5. Major Programs and Resources for Commercialization and External Engagement Report Outs from working groups. Executive Director of Economic Development Lindsay Ryan gave a presentation on the USM External Engagement Task Force before the committee, as well as the USM Innovation Collective. She highlighted the task force's findings to boost Maryland's competitiveness through initiatives in climate innovation, cybersecurity, AI, and quantum technologies. She also updated on the USM Innovation Collective, a network of fund managers and venture specialists across USM's economic development offices, which supports startup growth. She reported USM adds about 180 startups annually, a third led by students, and

offers over 23 resources, including funding and training. Impact metrics and growth data were shared. All meeting materials are available to the public on the USM website.

Action items:

- 1) Minutes from the 1/31/202 RED Committee meeting were unable to be approved due to a lack of quorum, approval postponed to the next full board meeting.
- 2) The Chancellor tasked Mike Ravenscroft with working with Vice Chancellor Michal Sandler and his team to better communicate the benefits and impacts of the Venture Fellows Program.

Adjourned: Regent Wood gave his closing remarks and adjourned the meeting at 12:04 p.m.

USM Venture Development Report

Prepared by: Lindsay Ryan, Director of Economic
Development
May 6, 2025



Notes and Trends

July - December 2025

- Typical seasonal fluctuations, with spring seeing most activity
- Decrease in amount and number of ventures capitalized generally due to variability in related programming, with some impacts due to the general investment environment.

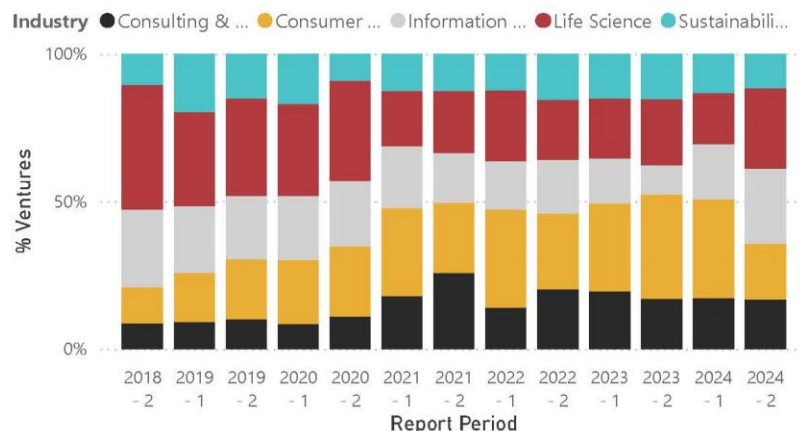
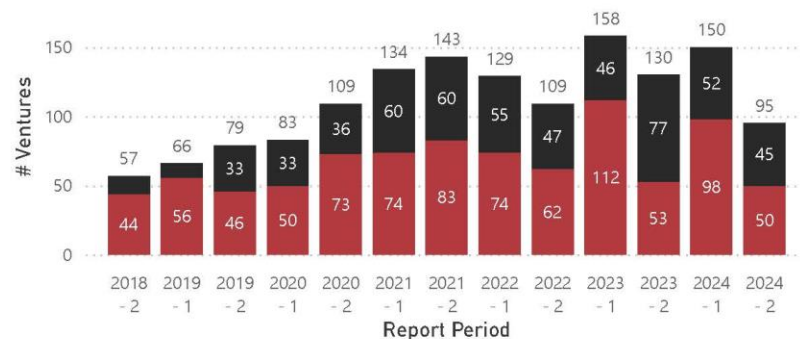
Ventures Supported

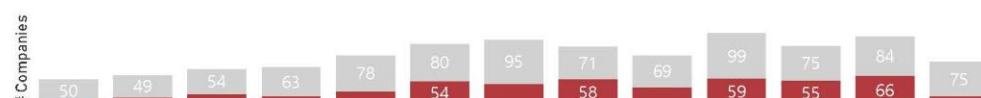
USM Status

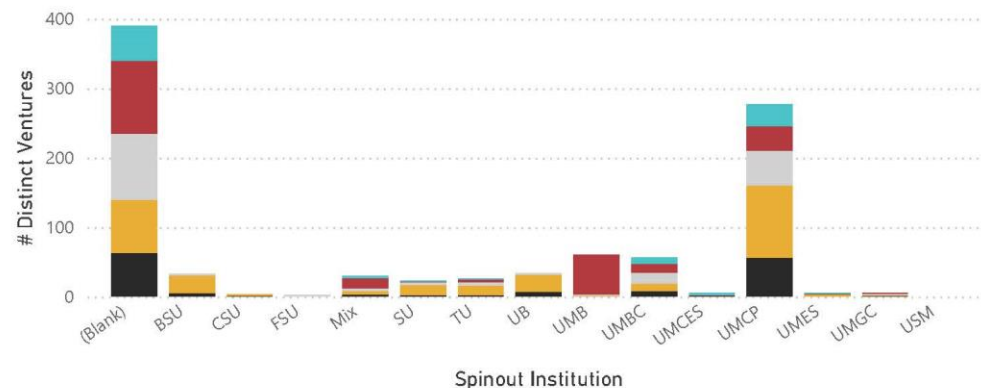
All

Report Period

All

USM Status ● NEW TO USM ● RE-ENGAGED

USM Founders (Red)

Student Founders (Red)

USM IP (Red)

Industry ● Consulting & Other ● Consumer & Food ● Information Technol... ● Life Science ● Sustainability & ...


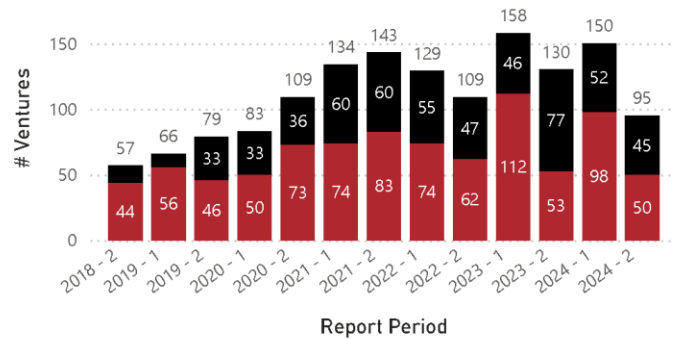
Ventures Supported

USM Status

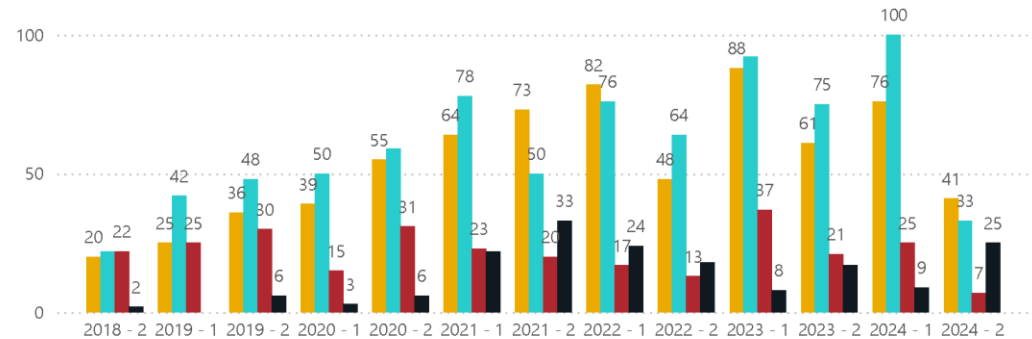
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Report Period

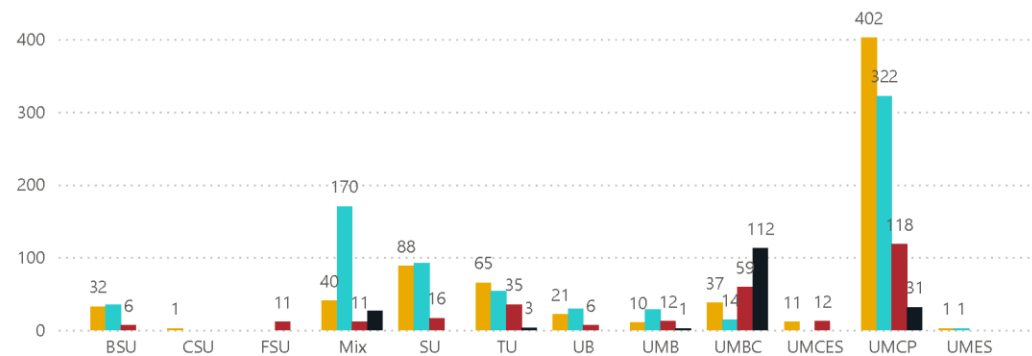
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USM Status ● NEW TO USM ● RE-ENGAGED

Support by Type

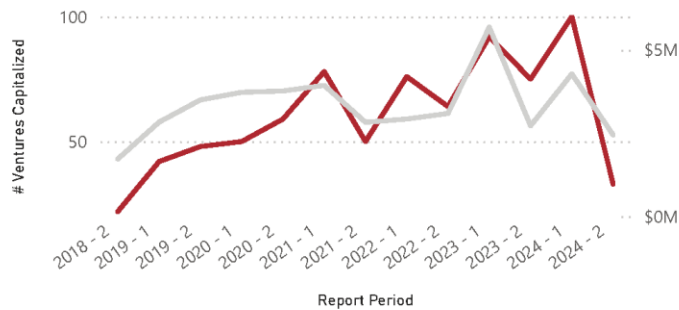
● Programming & Mentoring ● Capital (In-Kind and Cash) ● Incubator and/or Physical Space ● Talent Assistance


Support by Type and Institution (All-Time)

● Programming & Mentoring ● Capital (In-Kind and Cash) ● Incubator and/or Physical Space ● Talent Assistance


Capital Support

● # Ventures Capitalized ● \$ Capital

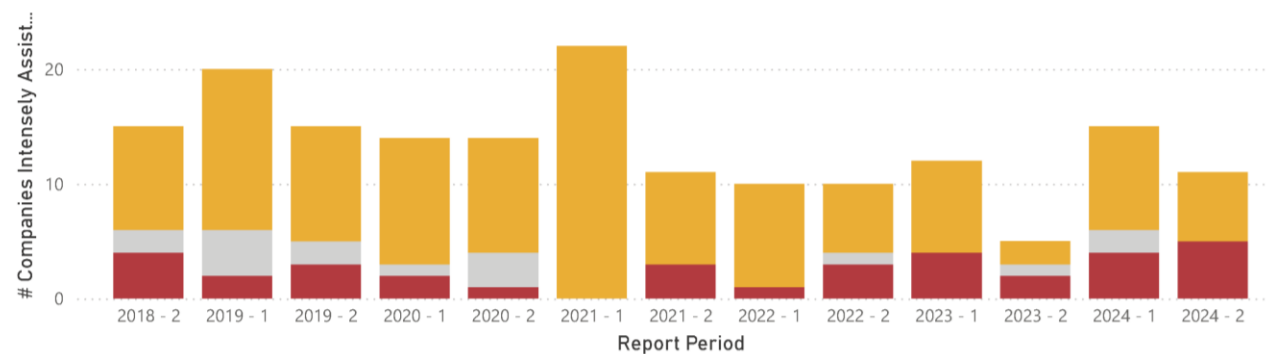




The Maryland Small Business Development Center (SBDC) is a public-private partnership between the U.S. Small Business Administration, the State of Maryland and UMCP. The Maryland network hosts entrepreneurial assistance programs at a number of USM institutions.

New Business Starts Receiving Intensive Mentoring

University ● Frostburg State University (FSU) ● Salisbury University (SU) ● University of Maryland





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The Research Enterprise At The University of Maryland Eastern Shore

USM Board of Regents
Committee on Research and Economic Development

May 6, 2025

Moses T. Kairo

10/82

Strongly Rooted in the Land Grant Mission of Teaching, Research and Extension

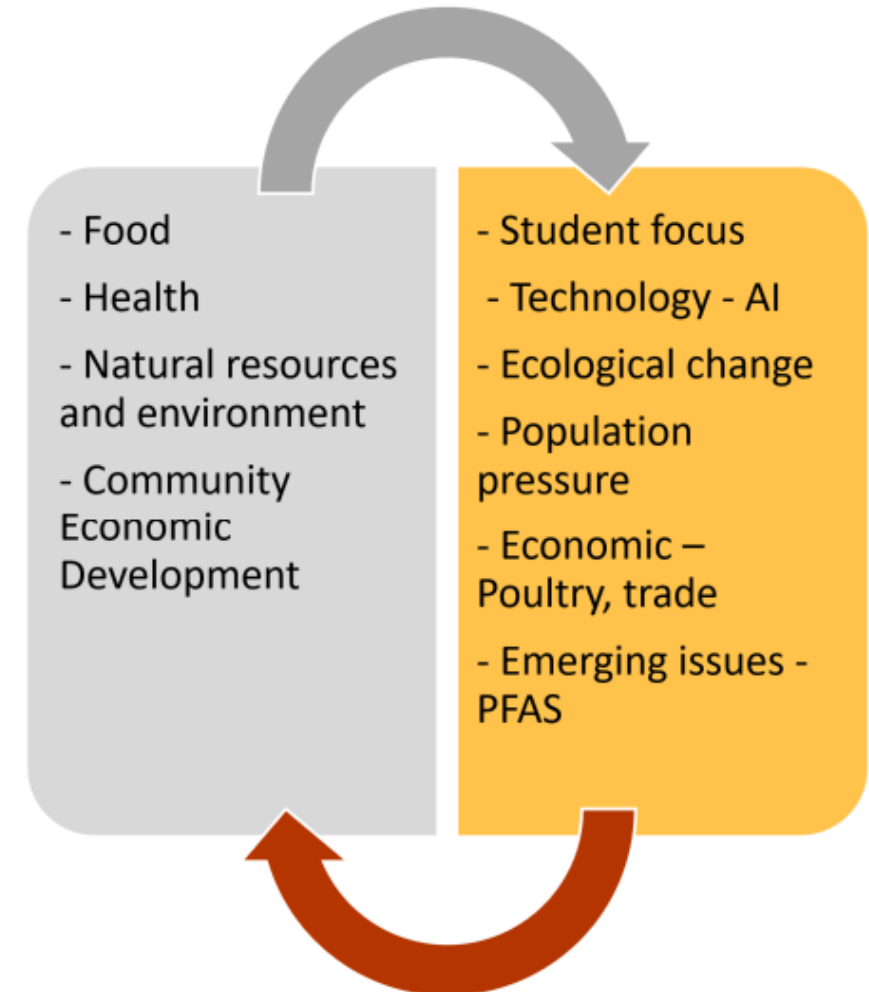
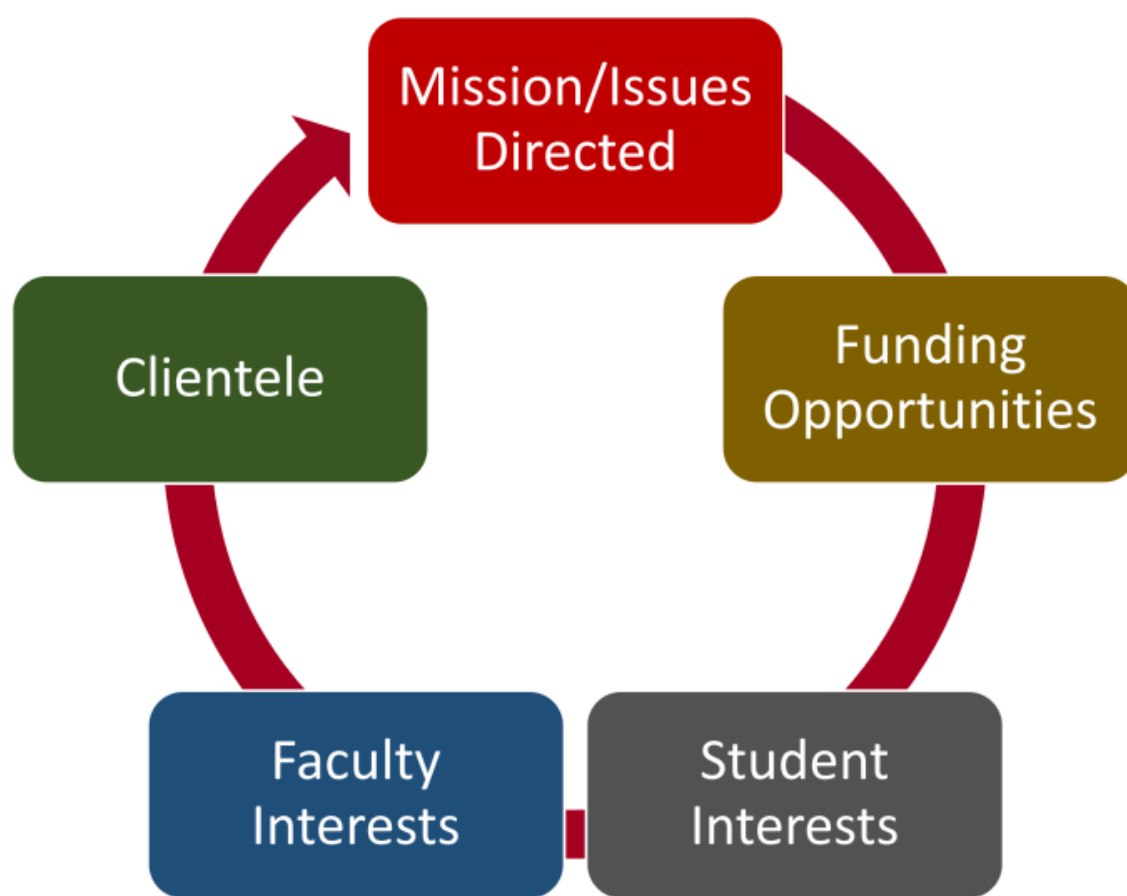


2025
135th Anniversary
Commemoration
of the Second
Morrill Act of
1890



Soaring Above
and Beyond

Major Research Drivers – Why and for Whom



Scope and Focus



Local



National



Global



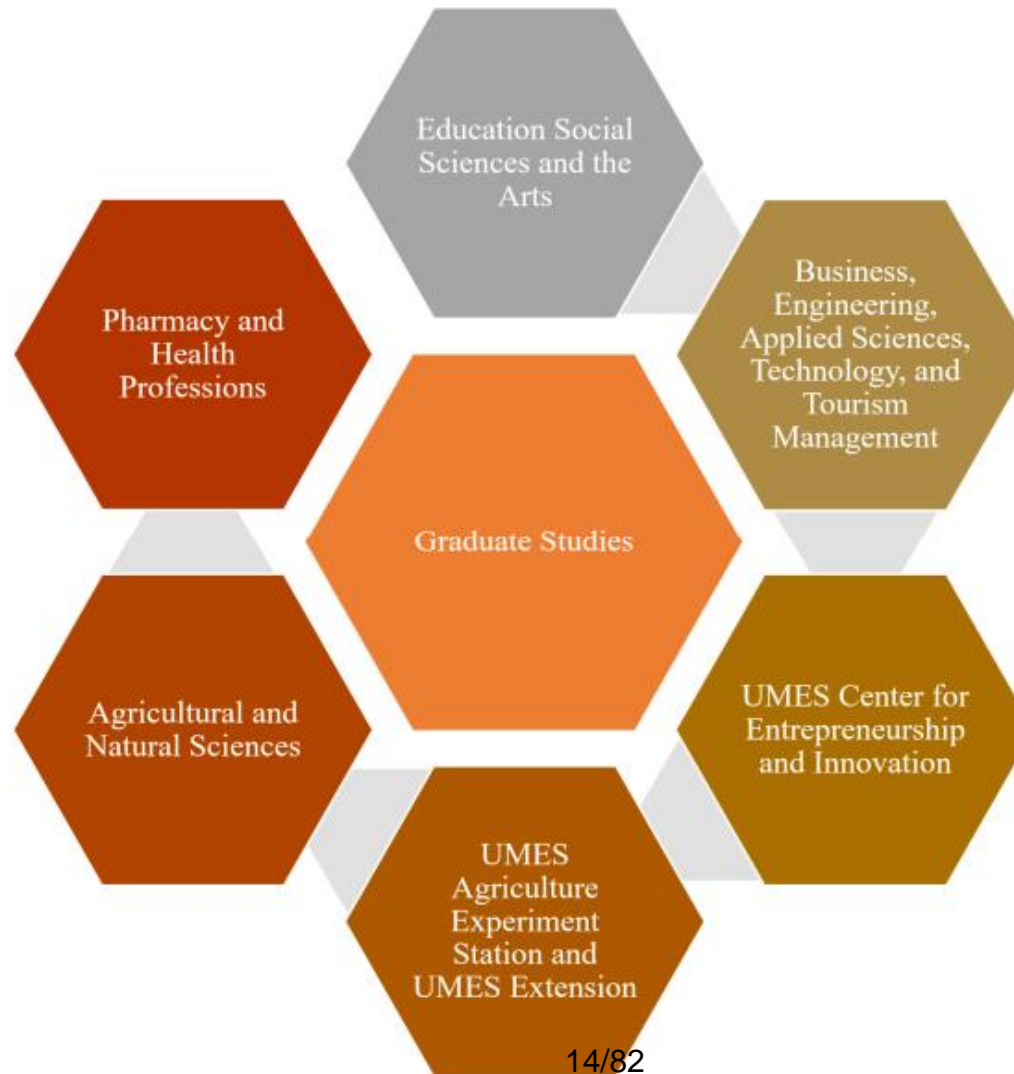
Space

Research at UMES – An Integrative Activity Linked to Undergraduate and Graduate Student Experience



M.S and/or Ph.D.

- Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Marine Estuarine and Environmental Sciences
- Food and Agricultural Sciences
- Toxicology
- Applied Computing and Engineering
- Organizational Leadership



M.S

- Chemistry
- Human Ecology
- Applied Computer Science
- Cybersecurity Engineering Technology
- Data Science and Analytics Engineering
- Electrical and Mechanical Engineering
- Criminology and Criminal Justice

Food and Agriculture



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Food Safety and Quality Center for Food Safety, Science and Technology



- Supporting the Delmarva poultry, seafood and fresh produce Industry
- Food Safety and development of healthy foods
- Workforce development



Food Safety Researchers: Drs. Parveen and Hashem



Overall Goal:

- Improve the safety and quality of seafood, poultry, meat & fresh produce quality

Research Objectives:

- Development and application of rapid methods for Detection of water and foodborne pathogens
- Genotypic and phenotypic methods for Microbial source tracking of food, soil and water-borne pathogens
- One Health Approach to understanding the Ecology, growth, survival and persistence - pathogens in food
- Antibiotic resistance, virulence properties, pathogenicity and genomics/metagenomics of *Vibrio*, *Salmonella*, *Listeria* and STEC
- Controlled Environment Agriculture: Greenhouse, aquaponics & hydroponics; Integrated Crop Livestock Farms (ICLFs): Animal grazing on cover crops, food safety of fresh produce, and soil health.



Major Activities and Impacts

- Funding: >\$35M
- Established: Collaboration, laboratories, research program Trained: >300 students, educators, scientists, 20 technicians & postdoctoral associates
- Graduated: >25 Ph.D. >14 M.S. & >100 B.S. students
- Developed: Predictive models, methods for tracking sources of contamination, detection and reduction of bacteria, control ammonia emission in poultry, effects of manure application on fresh produce safety; Filled: data gap for national (FDA, MDE & industry) & international (WHO & FAO) risk assessment
- Technology transfer: Seafood, produce, and poultry industries; state and regulatory agencies (industry, FDA; WHO and FAO)
- Published: >100 refereed journal articles, multiple book chapters, >200 abstracts & presentations; >100 invited presentations & >60 popular press & reports
- Awards: Outstanding accomplishments, technology transfer
- Outreach/extension/education programs



Collaborators and Funding Agencies



- **National:** J. Schwarz, P. Chigbu, J. Dhakal, C. Cotton, L. Marsh, A. Allen, J. Pitula, B. Min, C. Nindo, B. Khatabi, M. Schwarz, J. Timmons, E. May, E. Escobar (**UMES**); G. Richards, P. Millner, M. Sharma, C. Hapeman, P. Fratamico, Yanhong Liu (**USDA ARS**); D. Hively (**USGS**); G. Ozbay, C. Kim, H. William, J. Lee, V. Chhetri, A. Kilonzo-Nthenge (**1890 Schools**); A. Pires, C. Gomaes, J. Izursa, A. Sapkota, A. Islam, K. Kniel, D. Biswas, M. Jahncke, D. Webster, S. Micallef, C. Liu, E. McLamore, H. Li (**1862 Schools**); K. Brohawn, A. DePaola, J. Bowers, J. Jacobs, H. Townsend, C. Grim, N. Hasan, M. Tarnowski (**MDE, DNR, FDA, NOAA, Industry**);
>300 Technicians/postdoctoral associates/educators/scientists and graduate and undergraduate students
- **International:** M. Tamplin (Australia); V. Cleide and M. Miotto (Brazil); M. Fu (China), A. Abdelhafez (Egypt) and B. Amin (Bangladesh)
- **Industry & others:** Perdue Poultry Industry, Seafood Industry, Produce Industry, local farmers
- **Funding Agencies:** USDA-ARS, NSF, NOAA, LMRCSC, USAID and multiple industries



Crop Agriculture: Smart Agriculture, Expanding Market Opportunities for Farmers (Large Research and Extension Team)



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- Row Crops – Smart Agriculture
 - Precision application of nutrients and water
- Specialty Crops
 - Development of specialty crops to provide market alternatives for farmers
 - Value added – development of unique products from crops such as antifouling paints



New Economic Opportunities for Maryland Farmers: New Crops / Addressing Existing Challenges

Grapes



Quinoa



Industrial hemp



Grapevine Research Program

Researcher: Dr. Sadanand Dhekney



Focus: Conventional breeding, precision breeding and genome editing to improve disease resistance (powdery mildew) and quality traits such as improved berry colors, decreased browning and seedlessness



Field Establishment



Screening for powdery mildew resistance and quality traits

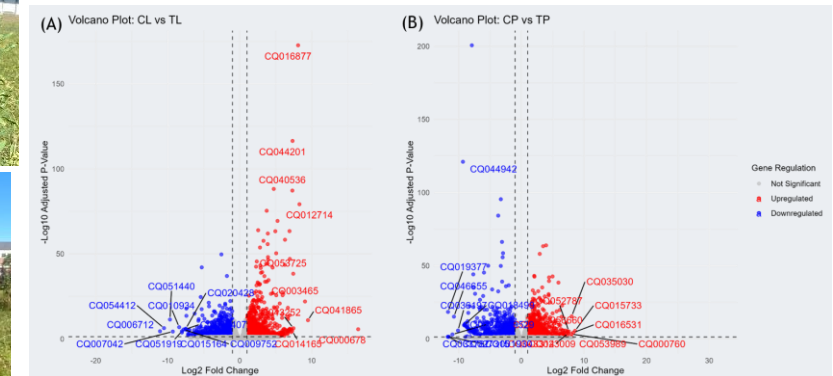
Quinoa Research Program

Researcher: Dr. Sadanand Dhekney

Focus: Screening quinoa genotypes for yield and stress tolerance on Maryland's Eastern Shore and identifying differentially expressed genes to heat stress for developing heat tolerant cultivars



Field Screening of Quinoa Genotypes for Yield and Abiotic Stress Tolerance



Differential Gene Expression Analysis

Industrial Hemp Research Program

Researcher: Dr. Sadanand Dhekney

Focus: Screening industrial hemp cultivars for Maryland's Eastern Shore and development of propagation technologies for production of high quality, disease-free plant material



Indoor Hemp Germplasm and Field Evaluation of Genotypes



Micropropagation for Disease-Free Plant Production

UMES Center for Integrated Pest Management

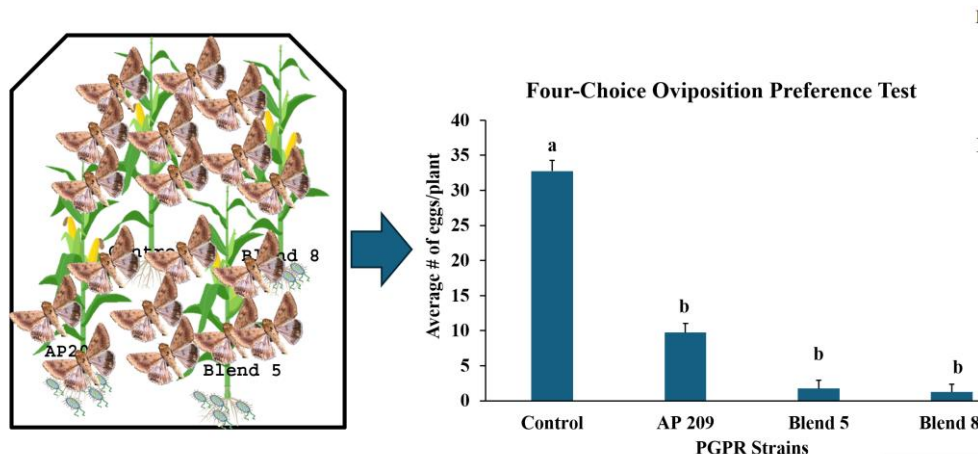
Researchers: Dr. Simon Zebelo and Team



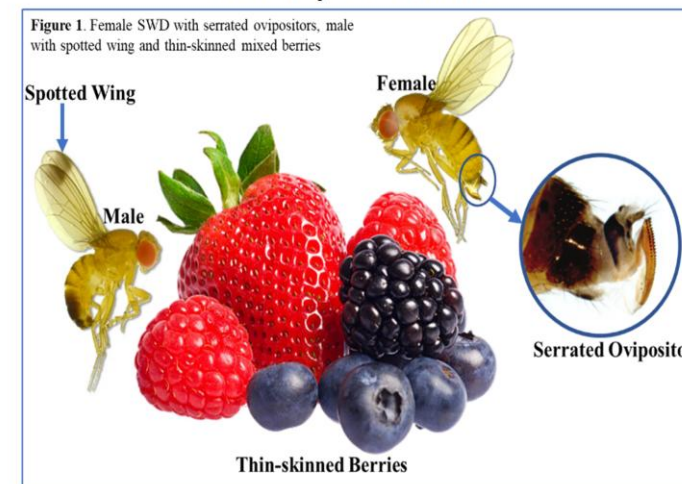
Focus:

- Development and dissemination of pest management solutions for Maryland's crops and invasive insects
- Coordination of the IR-4 Project Northeast Region - a USDA-funded national research program that facilitates the registration of safe and effective chemical and bio-based pesticides for fruits, vegetables, herbs, nuts, ornamentals, and other specialty crops and for minor uses on major crops like corn, soybean, cotton, wheat, and other small grains.

Plant Growth Promoting Rhizobacteria (PGPR) Mediated Sweet corn-insect interactions



Developing and Implementing Green Pesticides to Monitor and Manage the Invasive Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD) in Berry Production



IR-4
Project



Artificial Intelligence



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AI for Agricultural Resiliency for Small Farm Systems

Researcher: Dr. Nazia Arbab



Spatial Economic Decision Support (SEDS) Tool to Aid in Sustainable Agritourism

- Formalize, record, and refine agritourism decision-making process.
- Access agritourism information to improve farm profitability, consumer experience and policy making.

Making Smart Decisions with Enterprise Budgets

- Forecasting economic variables for a farm enterprise.
- Assist to make short and long-run decisions on a individual farm enterprise basis.

Data Driven Automation and AI

- Nutrient and water (weed) management for annual crops (Corn, Soybean, Wheat)
- Integration of automation, remote sensing and geospatial information technologies, subsurface drip irrigation, semi-automated soil sampling for smart agriculture and precision farming.
- Digital data fusion and predictive analytics aligned with sense, infer, act, and learn paradigm
- Data science, AI, ML, and DL to process digital data from several sources at different spatial and temporal resolution to provide farm management decisions that are climate resilient and maximize productivity and profit while minimizing environmental footprint
- Provide educational support and outreach activities



AI Synergistic Projects

Researchers: Dr. Nagchaudhuri and Colleagues



AIRSPACES



Approach

1.Sense: Sensors gather data on environmental conditions, plant health, and resource usage within the farming environment.

2.Think: AI processes this data to identify patterns, predict outcomes, and recommend adjustments

3.Act: Automated systems implement the recommended changes, such as adjusting irrigation or modifying temperature settings.

4.Learn: The system evaluates the outcomes of these actions, refining its algorithms based on real-world results.

5.Repeat: The refined strategies are continually applied and adjusted, leading to continuous improvements in efficiency and yield.



ISURF_DEL

DREAM: DEVELOPING ROBOTIC EXPLORATION WITH AGROBOTS AND MOONBOTS

Supported by NASA-MSTAR

UMES Lead – Dr. Abhijit Nagchaudhuri UMD Lead -Dr. David AkinUMES

Co-I : Dr. Madhumi Mitra, UMD Collaborator : Dr. Mary Bowden



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Human Health



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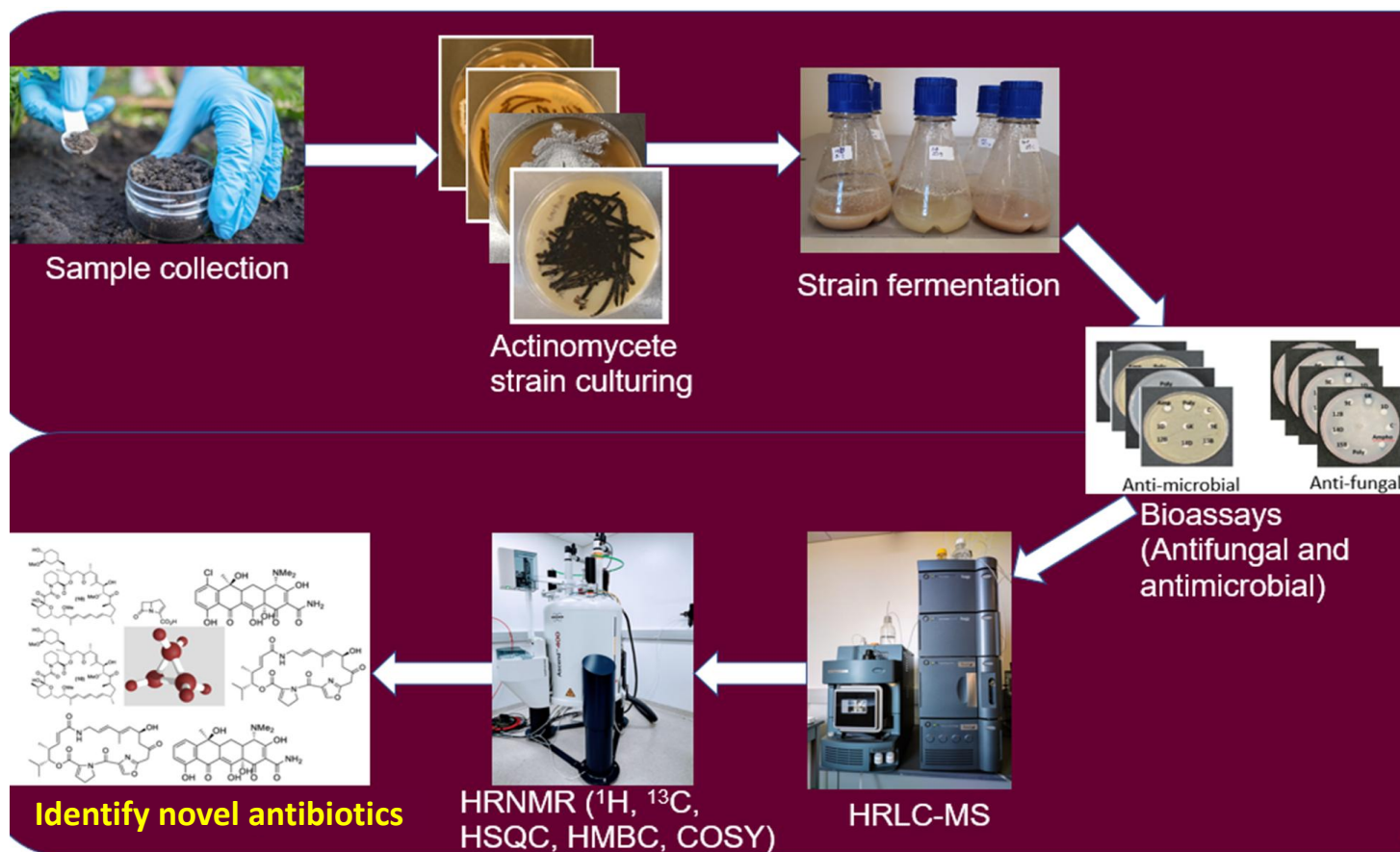
Health and Wellness Walk at UMES



Antibiotic Research Program

Researcher: Dr. Madan Kharel

Focus: Discovery of novel antifungal and antibacterial agents



Dr. Kharel's research is sponsored by a
NSF Excellence in Research (EiR)
Grant.

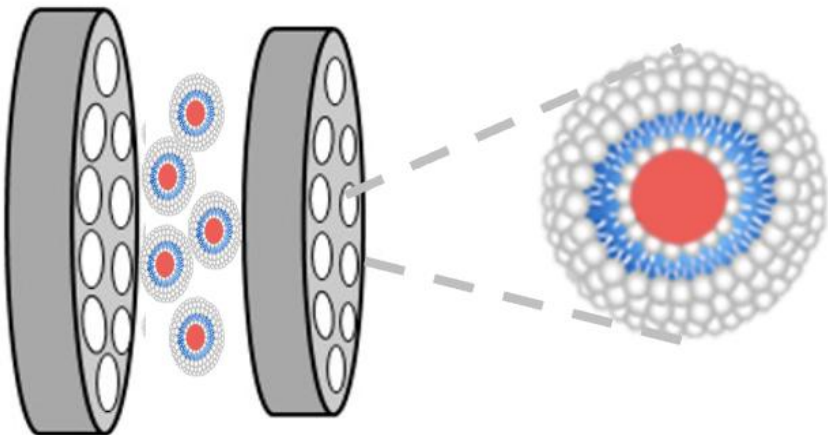
Bone Regeneration Research Program

Researcher: Dr. Jiabing Fan

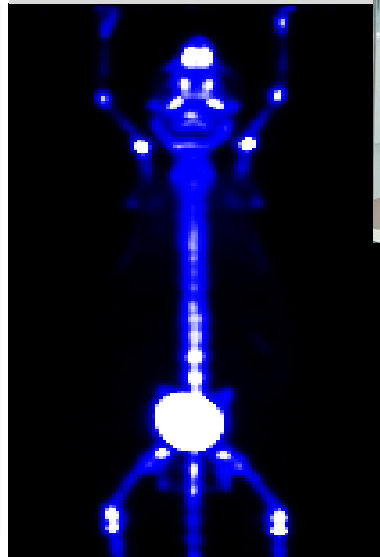


Focus: Develop Novel Exosome Mimetics-Based Approach for Aging-Related Bone Loss Disease (Osteoporosis) Treatment

Fabrication of Exosome Mimetics from Mesenchymal Stem Cells



PET Image for Mouse Bone Density



Dr. Fan and his research team.

Left to right: Meghna, Angela, Iram, Jiabing, Emmanuelle, Priscilla, and Sabhasis

Dr. Fan is supported by [Osteo Science Foundation Grant](#).

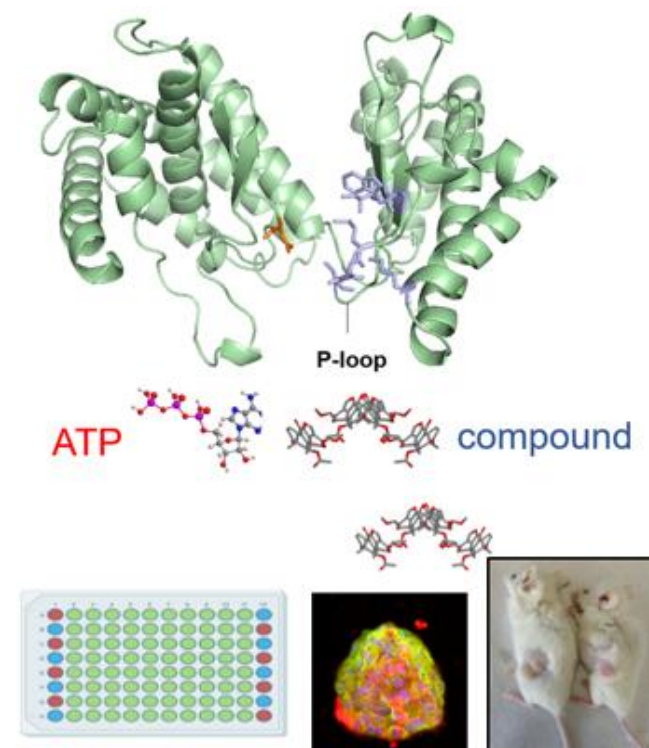
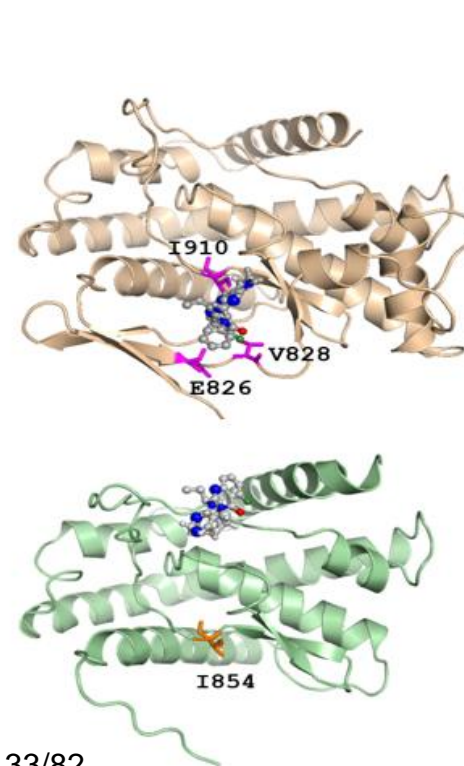
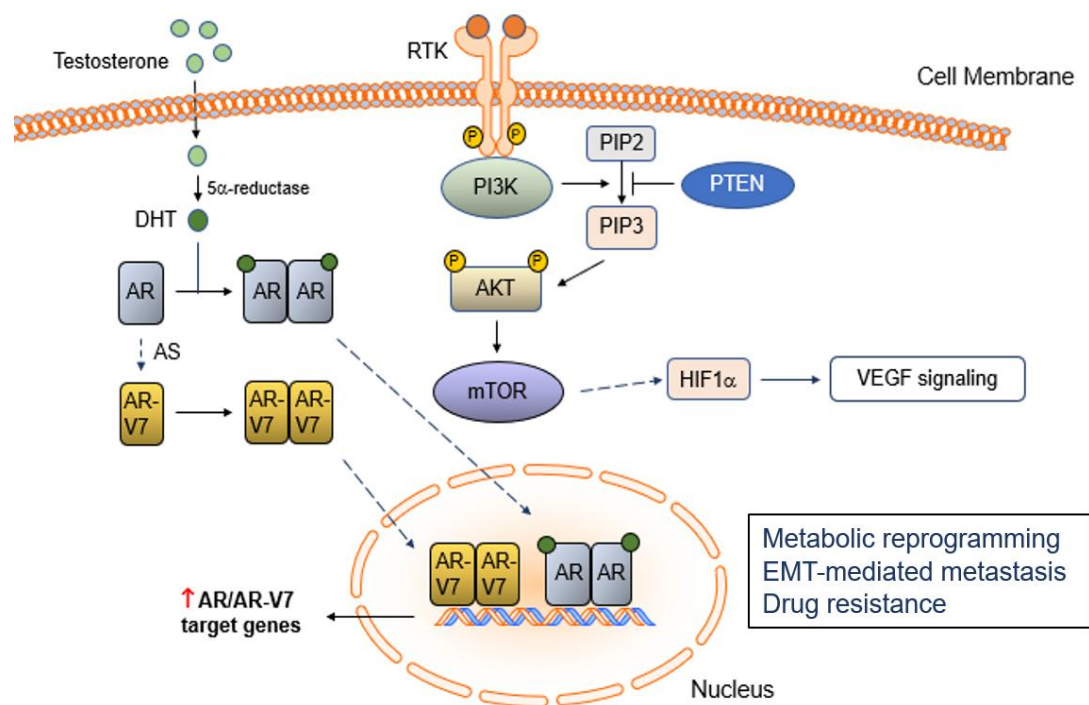
Cancer Research Program

Researcher: Dr. Peter Wang



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Focus: Systems biology (integrating genomics, epigenomics, and proteomics) in understanding the molecular mechanisms underlying cancer metastasis, drug resistance, and cancer health disparities.



Virology Research Program

Researcher: Dr. Victor Hsia



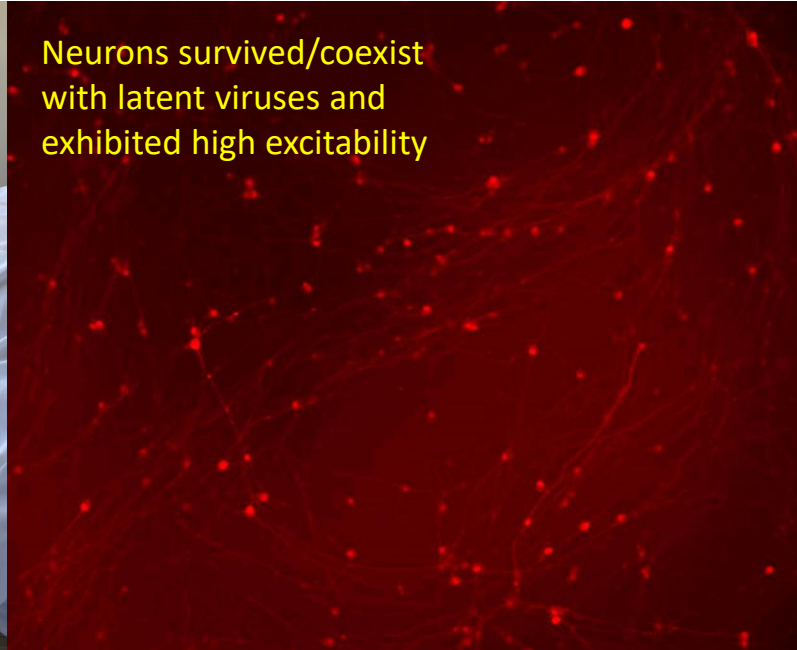
Focus: 1. Understand how neurons adapted to viral assaults.

2. Develop a safe protocol for gene delivery into brain.



Dr. Hsia with PhD student Daniel in the lab.

Neurons survived/coexist with latent viruses and exhibited high excitability



Defective virus with special enhancer generated by AI showed layer-specific gene expression in cortex



Dr. Hsia is the Principal Investigator of two NIH Grants R01NS138288 and U24MH137478.

Environment, Natural Resources and Food



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Living Marine Resources Cooperative Science Center



Geographic Focus

- N.E. US Continental Shelf
- Chesapeake Bay
- Maryland Coastal Bays
- Coastal Waters of the Gulf of America

Investigators: Drs. Ishaque, Richardson and Chigbu

- Effects of Environmental (e.g., temperature) Changes on Abundance, Feeding, and Nutritional Quality (Fatty Acids Content) of fish & shellfish Species

Investigators: PFAS – Drs. Pitula and Omagamre
Nanoplastics – Dr. Ishaque

- Emerging Contaminants of Concern in the Marine Environment: Perfluoroalkyl & Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) and Microplastics & Nanoplastics

Investigator: Drs. Parveen, DaSilva and Chigbu

- Water Quality & Seafood Safety (e.g., Pathogenic *Vibrios* & *Shewanella* spp. in water, oysters & blue crabs)



NOAA Educational Partnership Program with Minority
Serving Institutions Cooperative Agreement
No: NA16SEC4810007; NA21SEC4810005



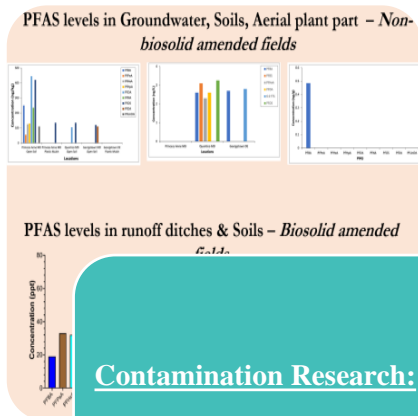
Emerging Contaminants of Concern – PFAS in Agricultural Ecosystems

Researchers: Drs. Pitula and Omagamre



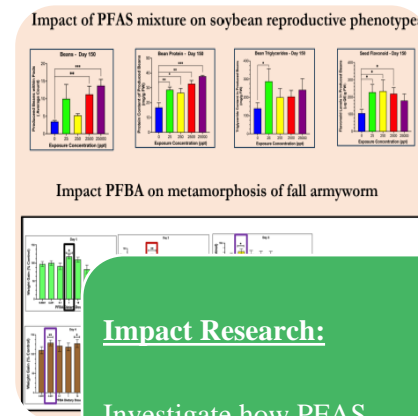
Stakeholder Engagement:

PFAS Workshop at UMES brings together, farmers researchers and regulators



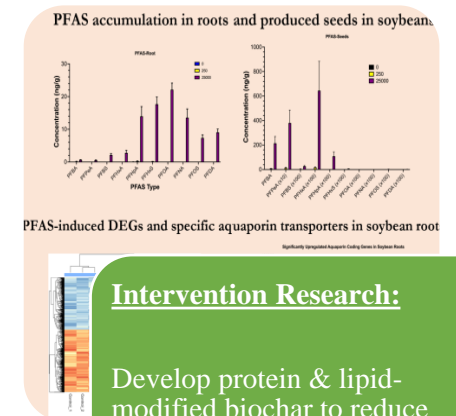
Contamination Research:

Investigating PFAS levels in groundwater, soils, runoff ditches/ponds & plant parts in farm fields



Impact Research:

Investigate how PFAS exposure & accumulation impacts crop health, productivity, resilience, pest resistance using phenotypical, biochemical & molecular approaches.



Intervention Research:

Develop protein & lipid-modified biochar to reduce soil-PFAS bioavailability

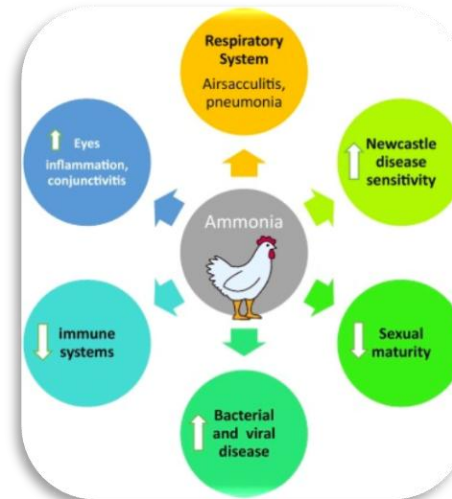
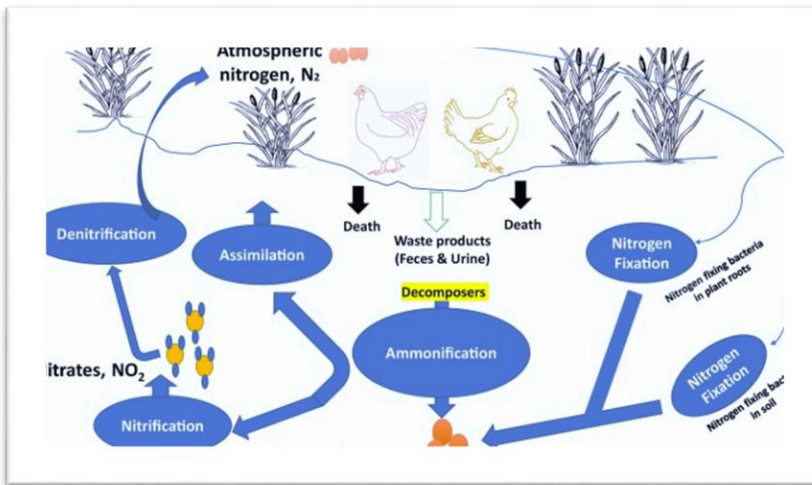
Optimize phytoremediation by identifying and overexpressing membrane transporter genes correlating with PFAS uptake and accumulation in transgenic plants

The Eastern Shore's Air Quality Dynamics and its Impacts to the Chesapeake Bay and Maryland Coastal Bay's Air Quality

Researcher: Dr. Meng Xia



Focus: Studying the influence of air quality on the water quality of Chesapeake Bay and the Maryland Coastal Bays.



<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/air/sources.htm>

Partners: MDE, Campbell Foundation

Value Addition in Agriculture



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Value Addition in Agriculture: Understanding and addressing challenges to growth of agritourism.

Researcher: Dr. Prem Bandari and Team



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- **Addressing the challenges to growth of Agritourism in Maryland including:**
 - Research on market access and marketing (of value-added produce and their destination), Regulations and liability issues, Seasonality and weather challenges, Labor (availability and management), Time management, Access to services and resources, Taxation, and Capacity building needs and training.

UMES hosts inaugural
Maryland Agritourism Conference



1890 Universities - Center of Excellence for Global Food Security and Defense



Broad based partnership
– 19 Strong



Working across the
globe



Strengthen agricultural
development
Address new and
emerging animal and
plant pests and diseases
Engage in Agricultural
disaster recovery
Workforce development



Community Economic Development

THE PERCH



Learning from Successful Revitalization Efforts



Lessons from other towns

Overview of
successful case studies

Main Street Maryland
workshops



Best practices are driving development of
The Perch

Turning Research Into Action at 'The Perch'



EDUCATION



MENTORING



NETWORKING



SHOWCASING



COMMERCE

Turning Research Into Action at The Perch



Increase in Business Ventures

30+ new businesses in the first 2 years

Job Creation

50+ new jobs in first 5 years

Revitalization of Vacant Properties

Grow & Go model

Other Research Thrust Areas

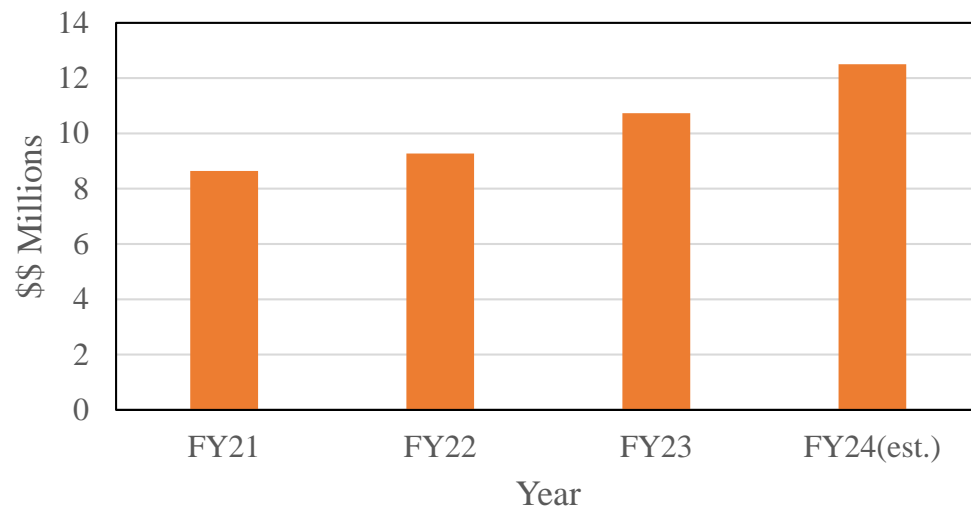


- Microbial ecology and utilization
- Sea level rise impacts on agriculture and forests
- Biofuel crop production
- Management of mosquitoes and vectors of Leishmaniasis in Africa
- Social science and policy research
- Artificial Intelligence/Artificial Neural Networks
- Language Learning and AI
- Evaluation of Criminal Justice/Social Work-related programming
- Etc.

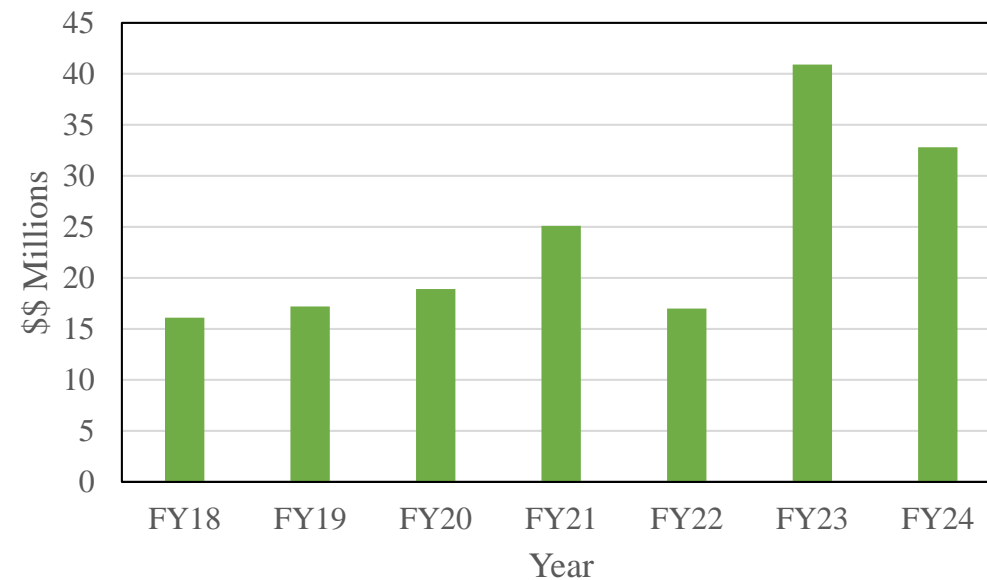
UMES Research \$\$



HERD Survey Data



Yearly Grants and Contracts



Future Outlook



- New facilities such as the Agriculture Research and Education Center (AgREC) will increase capacity
- The new *UMES School of Veterinary Medicine* will increase the scope and breadth of expertise to address broader challenges
- The current uncertainty and upheaval in the funding space is extremely destabilizing and the impacts will have far reaching consequences on the research enterprise
- We are confident to continue undertaking great stakeholder inspired research and engagement that makes a difference



Acknowledgements



- All Funding sources – Maryland Legislature and State Agencies, USDA-NIFA, NSF, NIH, NOAA, NASA, Dept. of Ed. Dept. of Energy, MIPS, DOD Office of Naval Research, USDA-ARS, Campbell Foundation, HHMI, 1890 Foundation, Osteo Science Foundation and Others
- Numerous partner institutions.
- Stakeholders and students who inspire our work.

Moses T. Kairo, Ph.D. DIC

Professor and Dean, School of Agricultural and Natural Sciences & Acting Vice President for Research

Email: mkairo@umes.edu

Soar Above and Beyond!



Growing the Quantum Ecosystem

John P. Sawyer
Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Quantum Alliance



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MARYLAND

**FEARLESSLY
FORWARD**

MID-ATLANTIC
QUANTUM
ALLIANCE

Why Quantum?



UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND

**FEARLESSLY
FORWARD**

MID-ATLANTIC
QUANTUM
ALLIANCE

- Great Frontier of Scientific Discovery

- Huge Economic Potential*

- *Economic Impact by 2035: up to \$2 trillion*
- *Startups: 350+*

- National Security Priority

- \$40+ billion global investment
- National Quantum Initiative: “whole-of-government” priority, \$1-2 billion
- CHIPS+ Act: \$570 million for quantum
- US Federal Post-Quantum Cyber Upgrades: \$7.1 billion



What is Quantum?

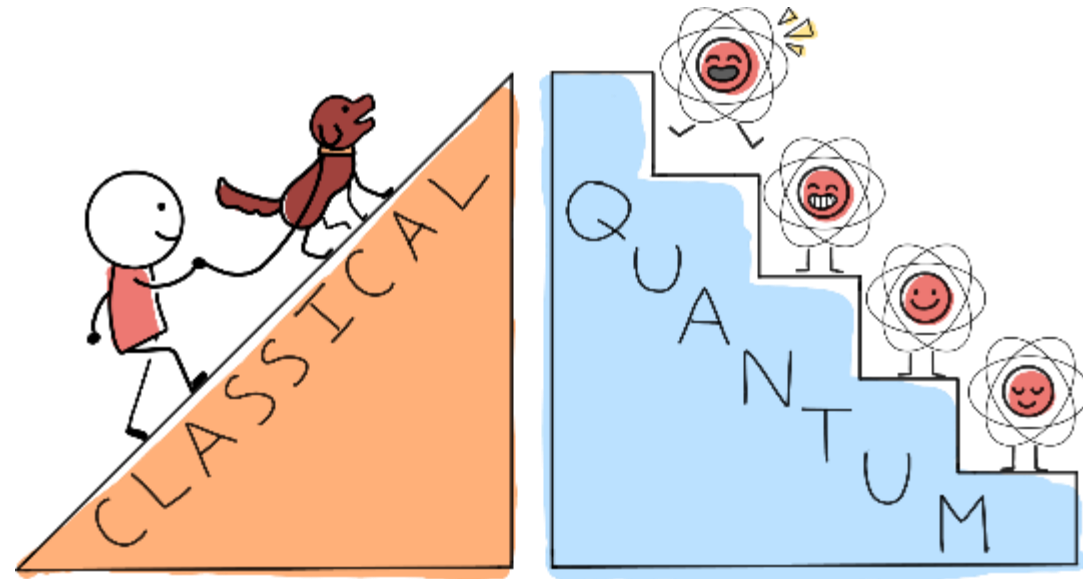


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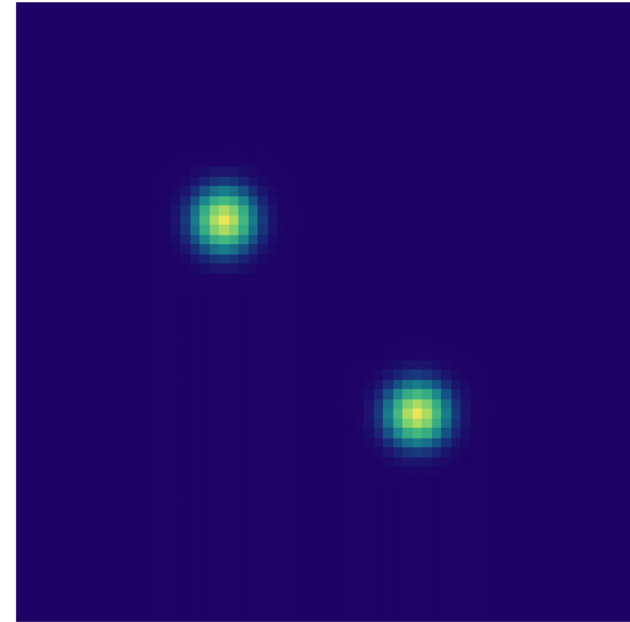
**FEARLESSLY
FORWARD**

MID-ATLANTIC
QUANTUM
ALLIANCE

REALLY SMALL & COLD → QUANTUM MECHANICS

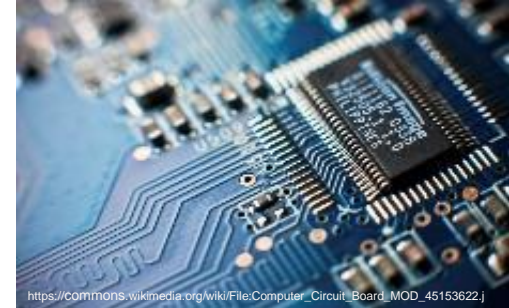


Eileen Stauffer/The Quantum Atlas ([CC BY-NC-SA 4.0](#))

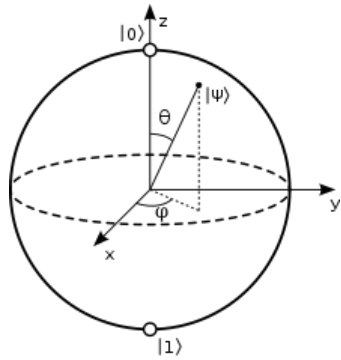


<https://gfyat.com/smuguntidydonkey>

1ST QUANTUM REVOLUTION: LARGE QUANTUM SYSTEMS



2ND QUANTUM REVOLUTION: SMALL QUANTUM SYSTEMS



Sensing

GPS-Denied Nav

Microchip
Characterization

Low-Power
Imaging

Biosensing

Gravitational
Waves

Compute

Quantum System
Simulation

Complex
Optimization

Break
Encryption

Rare Disease
Modeling

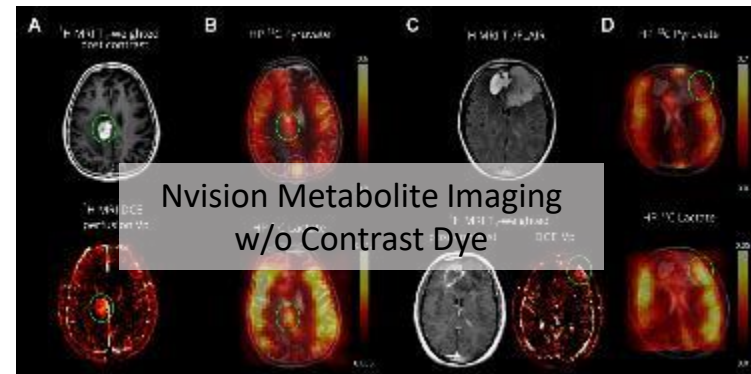
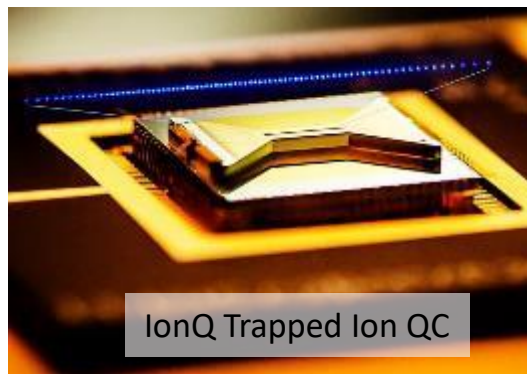
True
Randomness

Comms

Post-Quantum
Encryption

Ultra-Secure
Comms

EXAMPLES



Capital of Quantum



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**FEARLESSLY
FORWARD**

MID-ATLANTIC
QUANTUM
ALLIANCE

PITTSBURGH QUANTUM INSTITUTE

● FT. DETRICK
● FREDERICK NATIONAL LAB
FREDERICK
● QUANTUM LOOPHOLE

MARYLAND

You Are Entering the "Capital of Quantum"

QRYPT

LEESBURG

QUANTUM COMPUTING

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY

AMAZON WEB SERVICES

BOOZ ALLEN HAMILTON

LEIDOS

DEFENSE ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY

AIR FORCE OFFICE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

MITRE

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

NORTHROP GRUMMAN

IBM

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

NOBLIS

QUANTINUUM

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

OFFICE OF NAVAL RESEARCH

VIRGINIA

● VIRGINIA TECH INNOVATION CAMPUS



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58/82

HARRISBURG UNIVERSITY

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND,
BALTIMORE

● ASPEN QUANTUM CONSULTING
● TOWSON UNIVERSITY

● QUANTUM SENSOR TECHNOLOGIES
● MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

● PROTIVITI

● UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND,
BALTIMORE COUNTY

NORTHROP GRUMMAN'S
ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY LAB

JOHNS HOPKINS
APPLIED PHYSICS LAB
BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY

● LESCHACK INTEGRATIONS

● NATIONAL CANCER
INSTITUTE

QUANTUM XCHANGE
FOOD AND DRUG
ADMINISTRATION

● ERROR CORP.

ARMY RESEARCH LAB
NASA GODDARD

LOCKHEED MARTIN
NATIONAL INSTITUTES
OF HEALTH

● QUAXYS
● PERATON LABS
● RIVERLANE

● AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

● GEROGETOWN UNIVERSITY

● QUANTUM AI SOLUTIONS

● XANADU

● THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

● HOWARD UNIVERSITY

● SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

● DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

● NAVAL RESEARCH LAB

● NAVAL SEA SYSTEMS COMMAND

● NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC
ADMINISTRATION

WD ADVANCED
MATERIALS

NATIONAL
SECURITY AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE

KBR

● CONDENSED MATTER THEORY CENTER

● DISCOVERY FUND

● IONQ

● JOINT CENTER FOR QUANTUM INFORMATION AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

● JOINT QUANTUM INSTITUTE

● LABORATORY FOR PHYSICAL SCIENCES

● LPS QUBIT COLLABORATORY

● MARYLAND QUANTUM-THERMODYNAMICS HUB

● MID-ATLANTIC QUANTUM ALLIANCE

● NANOQT

● NATIONAL QUANTUM LAB

● PATERO

● POTOMAC QUANTUM INNOVATION CENTER

● Q-CAT

● QC82

● QUANTUM LEAP CHALLENGE INSTITUTE ON ROBUST QUANTUM SIMULATION

● QUANTUM MATERIALS CENTER

● QUANTUM STARTUP FOUNDRY

● QUANTUM TECHNOLOGY CENTER

● QUBIT BY QUBIT

NAVAL AIR WARFARE
CENTER AIRCRAFT DIVISION

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE OF MARYLAND

ARTIFICIAL BRAIN
UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE

BEIT

UMD PERSPECTIVE

- FEDERAL AGENCIES AND LABS
- QUANTUM COMPANIES
- QUANTUM RESOURCES
- UNIVERSITIES

**FEARLESSLY
FORWARD**

Customers

A target-rich environment for quantum sector

- National Security / Aerospace (#1 in world)
- Cybersecurity (#1 in world)
- HPC Data Centers (#1 in world)
- Life-Sciences / BioTech (#4 in US)



III-V semiconductor devices, MEMS-VCSEL lasers, quantum cascade lasers, and LiNbO₃ optical modulators

Advanced Electrical Fabrication Lab



Specialty Electronic Materials & Sensors Cleanroom (Class 10/100)



CNST Nanofab
(Class 100/1000)



micron
DRAM fabrication



CVD diamond substrates and thin films for electronics, quantum technology, and optics



Nanofabrication & Imaging Center



Nanofab (Class 100/1000),
Materials Growth Facility,
Adv. Materials Characterization

ATL Foundry (dual use): silicon, compound semiconductors & super conducting technologies; adv. packaging.

Nanofab (Class 1000)

Adv. Imaging & Microscopy

Q. Materials Synthesis

Q. Materials Characterization

Secure Supply Chain





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**FEARLESSLY
FORWARD**

35+ Years of Quantum Research

200+ Researchers

200+ Publications Annually

#2 Among Public Institutions in
Quantum Physics

100+ Graduates in 10 Years with
Quantum Ph.D.s

11 Quantum-Focused Centers

1 Quantum-Focused Accelerator

1 Faculty Nobel Laureate
(William Phillips)



**IONQ**
LISTED
NYSE**IONQ****IONQ**
LISTED
NYSE

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

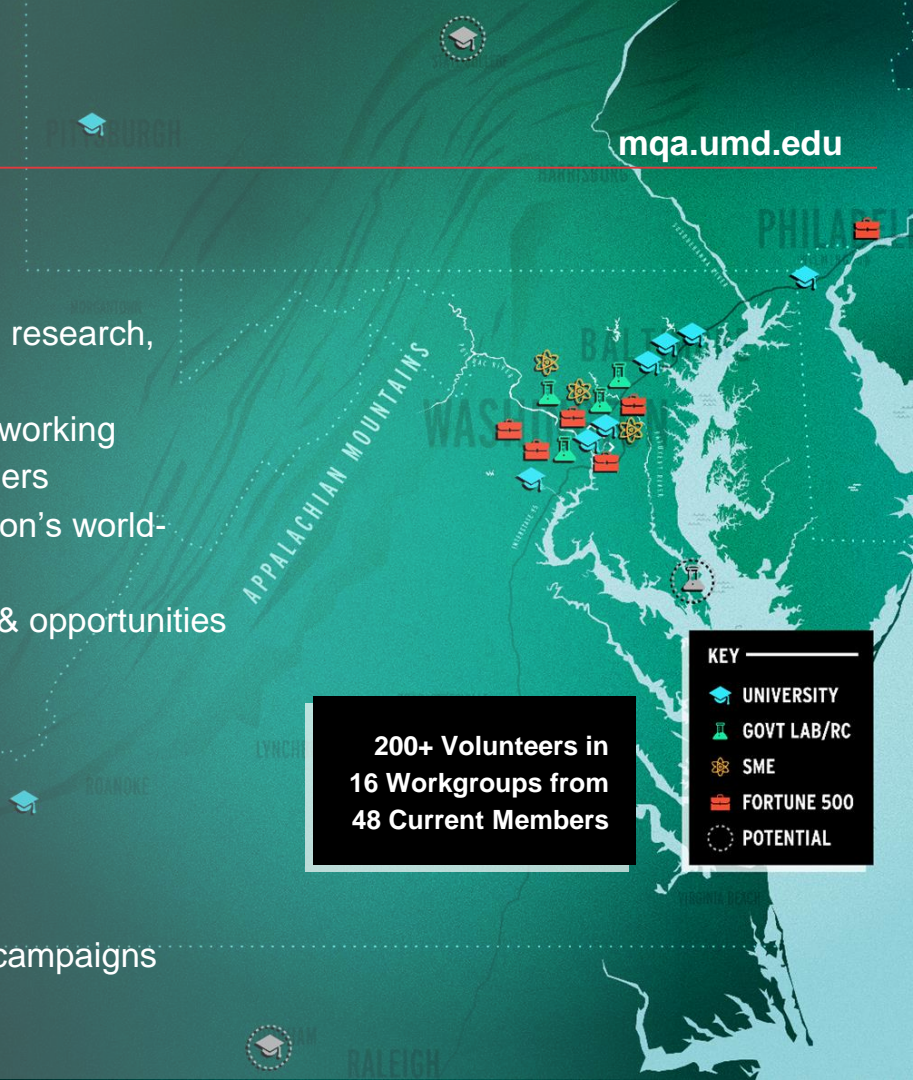
IONQ Laboratory to Market Path**UMD Spinout | HQ in College Park, MD | 400+ Employees | \$6 Billion Valuation**

Accelerate Quantum Innovation in the Region

- Promoting interdisciplinary, applied & translational research, commercialization efforts & impact outcomes
- Encouraging quantum RDT&E collaboration & networking
- Enabling dialog with potential end-users & customers
- Improving the visibility and accessibility of the region's world-leading quantum expertise & tech
- Identifying regional research infrastructure needs & opportunities

Build the Quantum Workforce

- Facilitating curriculum sharing & access to unique equipment/labs/expertise
- Creating shared experiential learning programs
- Elevating diversity, equity & inclusion
- Connecting / amplifying public & K-12 education campaigns





QUANTUM STARTUP FOUNDRY

Incubator/Accelerater Programs

TraQtion Customized access to offices & specialized facilities, equipment, talent, collaborators, etc.

Pre-TraQtion Cohort program for early stage companies & entrepreneurs

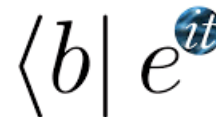
Capital Qonnections Grow & connect quantum investor network

Int'l Soft Landing Facilitate landing & growth in US market

40+ startups supported

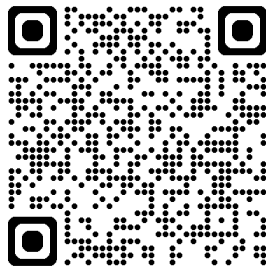


dwh
technical solutions
simulation services



- Founded in 2021 with **IonQ** as a user facility supporting the global community developing near-term, real-world computing and networking applications and talent
- Launched partnership with **Xanadu** in 2025 (others in pipeline)
- QLab provides
 - Access to advanced NISQ systems & the Mid-Atlantic Regional Quantum Internet (MARQI)
 - Expertise to optimize implementing algorithms on hardware
 - Support for interdisciplinary collaboration
 - Training & bootcamps
 - Large collaboration space inside IonQ HQ that includes large-RAM workstations to develop and test quantum algorithms
- **Personnel:** 11 Fellows
- **Director:** Franz Klein (Norbert Linke on Sept. 1, 2025)





QLab GLOBAL USER PROGRAM

APPLY NOW

<https://go.umd.edu/3FcNYgV>

Expert Collaborators
Privileged Access

Up to
\$250K QPU Credits

Current Projects

QML for Medical Image Processing
Quantum Kernels for Fluid Dynamics Equations
VQE for Battery Materials Research
QML for Exploration of Topological Superconductors
Optimization of Quantum Control Engineering
Quantum Cybersecurity
Quantum Computing for Earth Science

QUANTUM LEAP CAREER NEXUS

THE PREMIERE NETWORKING, RECRUITMENT, AND MENTORSHIP EVENT

SAVE THE DATE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2025 | COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND



GO.UMD.EDU/1W5D
RQS@UMD.EDU



Institute for
Robust Quantum
Simulation

MID-ATLANTIC
QUANTUM
ALLIANCE



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF
Quantum Science
and Technology



UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND



Undergraduate
Quantum
Association



QUANTUM
STARTUP
FOUNDRY



250+ ATTENDEES
20 STATES REPRESENTED IN 2024

Capital of Quantum Initiative

- *\$1B Public-Private Partnership*
- *Reinforcing decades of leadership & investment*
- *Concentrated growth in College Park*



Quantum Placemaking in the Discovery District





**Capital Quantum
Benchmarking Hub**
(up to \$200M over 4 years)

70/82





UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

John Sawyer, PhD

2114 Lee Building, College Park, MD 20742

301.314.8132 / jsawyer2@umd.edu

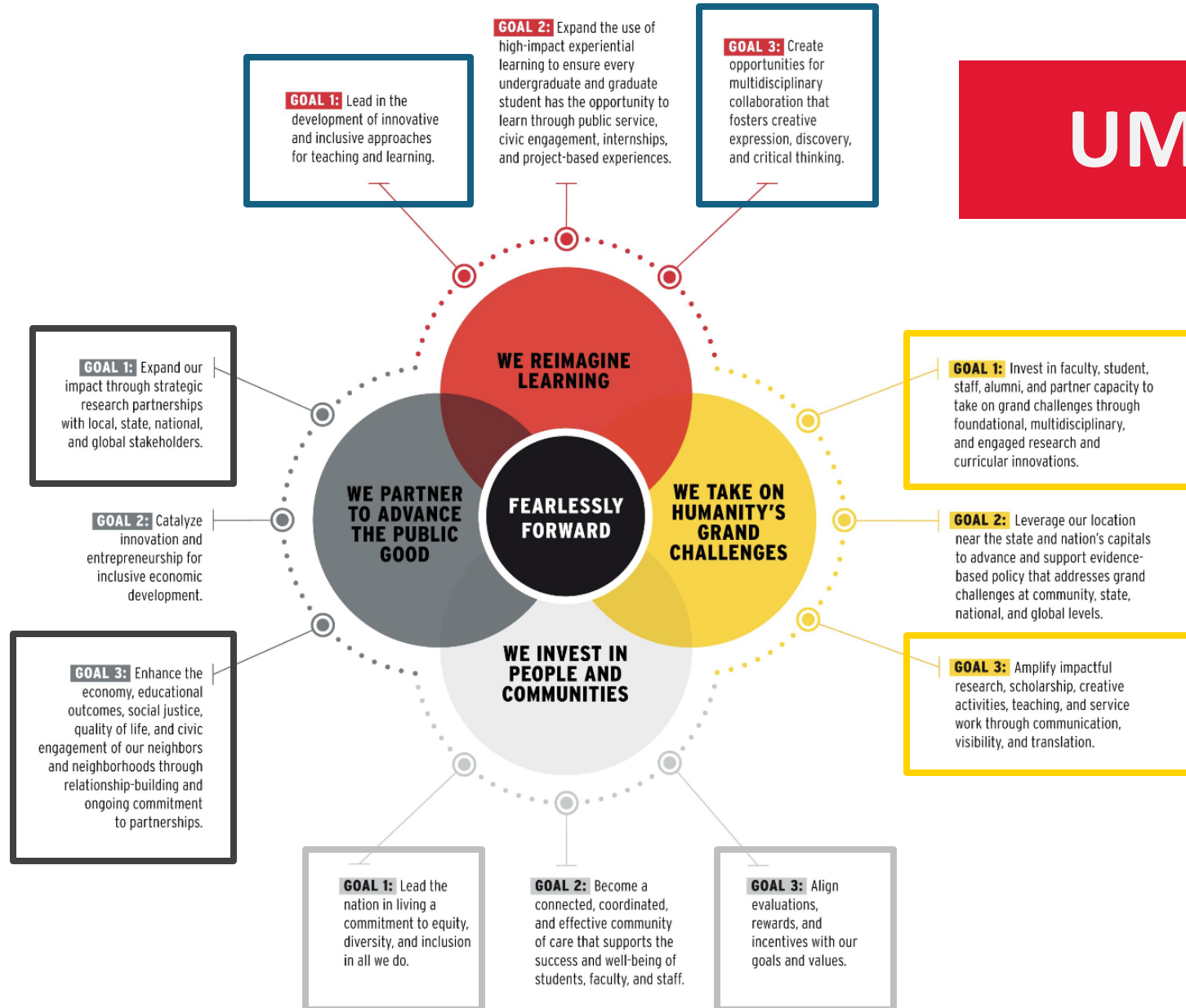
XFOUNDRY

A Solution Engine Inside Higher Education

Amir Ansari
Co-founder & Executive Director
xFoundry@UMD IDEA Factory



UMD strategic mission



Reimagine Learning

+

Taking on Grand Challenges

+

Invest in People and Community

+

Partner to Advance the Public Good

= X



How can we enable universities to become the “**Solution Engine**” for grand challenges?

Go beyond research
and basic education

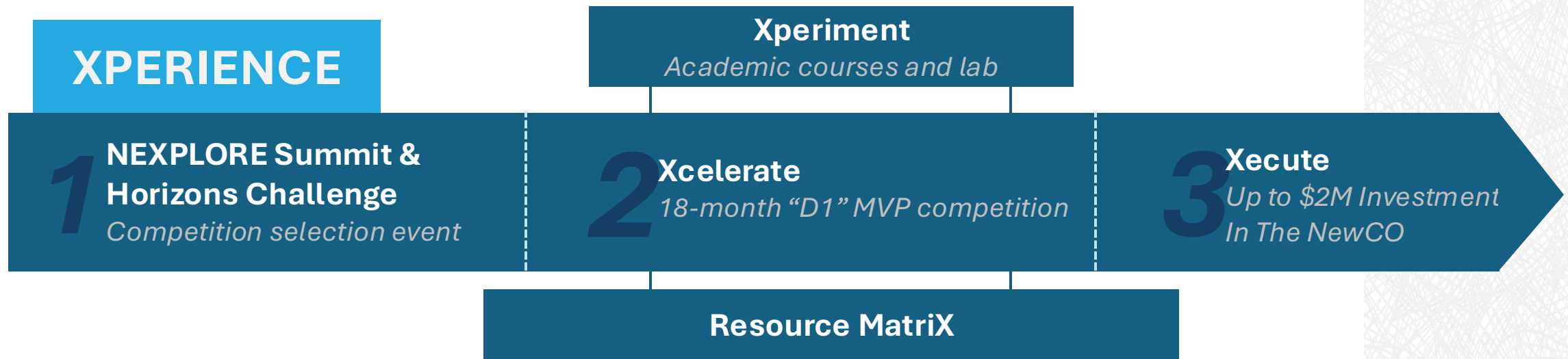
Build experience while
learning

Energize students’
passion, energy, and
talent

XFOUNDRY

A selective, multi-university, multidisciplinary program that uses student entrepreneurship as a vehicle for solving grand challenges.

- ✓ Competition multiplier effect
- ✓ Address grand challenges while delivering a valuable experience
- ✓ Unique resource ecosystem supporting launched ventures



The TEAMS Approach

A unique framework encouraging students to tackle complex, real-world problems as part of founding teams rather than as isolated individuals, an essential shift in today's interconnected world.

- Focus on team formation - individual skills complementing their teammates.
- A cohesive unit equipped to solve multidimensional challenges.
- Open entrepreneurship to a broader range of students.
- Students become “solution-makers,” contributing their technical, creative, or analytical strengths.

Enhances students' skills and mindsets and positions universities as key drivers of innovation and solutions to global problems.

Technology
Entrepreneurship
Arts & Athletics
Marketing
Science





xFoundry@UMD

125+
STUDENTS
IN XFOUNDRY PROGRAMS

ALL 12
UMD COLLEGES &
SCHOOLS ENGAGED

\$2M
INVESTED INTO STUDENT TEAMS
THAT WIN THE COMPETITION

Active Xperience Competitions

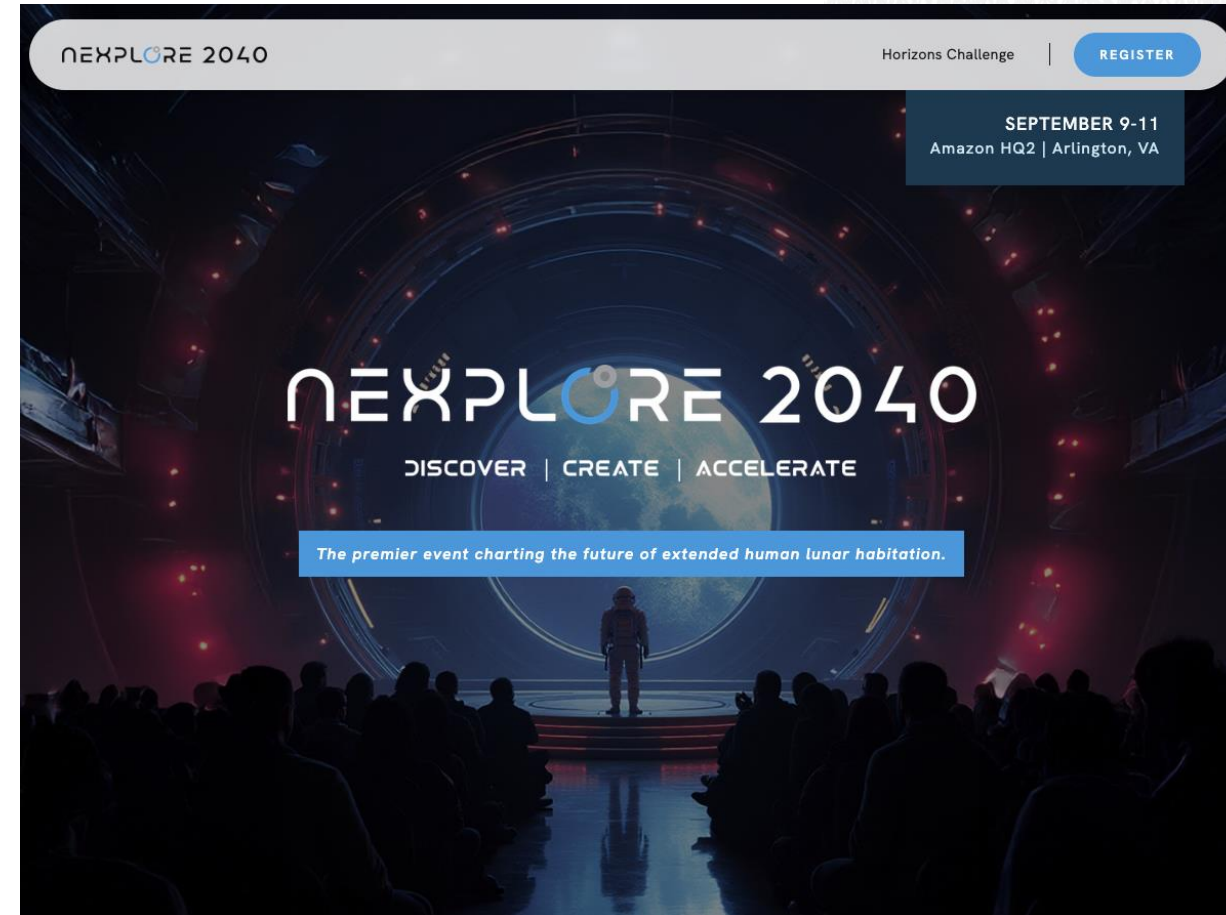
- 2025** Active school shooter detection and notification (in progress)
- 2026** Mental health in adults 18-29
- 2026** Chronic care management in adults 65+ (**First UMB+UMD Competition**)

NEXPLORE 2040

xfoundry.org/nexplore

- Gathering stakeholders to discuss near-term needs and impacts of NASA 2040 development pathways
- Seminars, roundtables, experiences, and showcases
- Launch of Xperience 2040 competition for '26-'27 via Horizon Challenge
- Academic/industrial partnerships created and highlighted

[View NASA's NEXPLORE Vision Here](#)





HORIZON CHALLENGE Program Goals

- Provide a mechanism for early university engagement that can be completed in 6 months.
- Have on-ramp for students into 18-month multi-million-dollar xFoundry Xperience competitions.
- Increase democratization of the down-selection mechanism for better stakeholder engagement.
- Incentivize early relationship-building between R1s and community colleges.



Horizons Challenge Process



01

Start with a focus area

02

Ask questions to do something

03

Develop your solution topic

04

Work on your team pitch

05

Pitch live at the NEXPLORE Summit



XFOUNDRY @ UMD

2/2024 – 2/2025

Universities:	1
Top Industry Partners:	7
Ventures/Influencers:	1

XFOUNDRY @ UNIVERSITY

2/2025 – 4/2025

Universities:	14
Top Industry Partners:	20
Ventures/Influencers:	14

NEXPLORE 2040

DISCOVER | CREATE | ACCELERATE

xfoundry.org/nexplore