I can't believe we've reached the end of another year, let alone closing out a decade! We've seen so many amazing things in 2019 - the growth of our program (which is pretty amazing if I say so myself), our first graduation (47 students!), the stories I hear of career advancement, and impact on patients and families thanks to the brilliant students in our program!

The need for palliative care continues to grow exponentially, particularly as it expands into community-based palliative care. To do that, we need well-prepared practitioners, including every discipline across the spectrum. I continue to be delighted with the diversity of our student population - chaplains, social workers, physicians, pharmacists, administrators, nurses, physician assistants, advance practice nurses and so much more!
I'd like to thank our world-class faculty, and all our brilliant, dedicated students for the time, effort and caring they put into this program (no, this is not just the Lake Wobegon effect, because all the faculty and students ARE exceptionally good-looking and smart!). I hope you get the opportunity to "fill your well" over the holidays, and can spend time with family and friends. I know 2020 will be even more amazing, and I look forward to continuing our work!

Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD, MA, MDE, BCPS (PALC 601, 602, 605, 607, 612, 615, 617)  
Executive Director Advanced Post-Graduate Education in Palliative Care Program  
Online Master of Science and Graduate Certificate in Palliative Care

Welcome!

Erika Pixley has moved on to a different role within our School (so we still have access to her) and we wish her all the best. But fate has smiled on us - please join me with a warm welcome for Eric Lee, who is the new Senior Program Coordinator for the Master of Science and Graduate Certificates in Palliative Care program!

Eric was born and lived in Maryland his whole life, which makes him a die-hard Ravens fan! He comes to us from Johns Hopkins School of Medicine graduate school where he put in twelve years on similar job functions! He has embraced his new charge of keeping all of us straight, and recognizes what a Herculean task lies before him!

You can reach him on the same phone number - 410-706-PALL (7255).

Congratulations to Erika! Welcome Eric!

What's on your reading list?

Here are some interesting articles from the Journal of Palliative Medicine  
ISSN: 1096-6218 | Online ISSN: 1557-7740 | Published Monthly | Current Volume: 22

"Development of the PC-7, a Quantifiable Assessment of Spiritual Concerns of Patients Receiving Palliative Care Near the End of Life"  
George Fitchett, Anna Lee Hisey Pierson, Christine Hoffmeyer, Dirk Labuschagne, Aoife Lee, Stacie Levine, Sean O'Mahony, Karen Pugliese, and Nancy Waite

"International Association for Hospice and Palliative Care Position Statement: Euthanasia and Physician-Assisted Suicide"  
Liliana De Lima, Roger Woodruff, Katherine Pettus, Julia Downing, Rosa Buitrago, Esther
"Benefit of Tetrahydrocannabinol versus Cannabidiol for Common Palliative Care Symptoms"
David J. Casarett, Jessica N. Beliveau, and Michelle S. Arbus

"Breaking Barriers: Prospective Study of a Cohort of Advanced Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Patients To Describe Their Survival and End-of-Life Palliative Care Requirements"
Daniel Gainza-Miranda, Eva Maria Sanz-Peces, Alberto Alonso-Babarro, Maria Varela-Cerdeira, Concepción Prados-Sánchez, Guadalupe Vega-Aleman, Ricardo Rodriguez-Barrientos, and Elena Polentinos-Castro

"The Impact of a Home-Based Palliative Care Program in an Accountable Care Organization"
Dana Lustbader, Mitchell Mudra, Carole Romano, Ed Lukoski, Andy Chang, James Mittelberger, Terry Scherr, and David Cooper

"Effects of a Population Health Community-Based Palliative Care Program on Cost and Utilization"
Lori Yosick, Robert E. Crook, Maria Gatto, Terri L. Maxwell, Ian Duncan, Tamim Ahmed, and Andrew Mackenzie

"Taking Psychedelics Seriously"
Ira Byock

Upcoming Events

The AAHPM Annual Assembly (AAHPM/HPNA)
The Annual Assembly (AAHPM/HPNA) is allowing students in this program to register under the student rate, with a letter from our office. Please let us know if we can assist with this.
The Annual Assembly is a wonderful meeting, so we hope you can attend!

**CONTACT US**

**International Conference on Opioids**

Come see us at the International Conference on Opioids (ICOO 2020) held by the Journal of Opioid Management.

**Opioids in Medicine: Improving Pain Management in the Midst of Crisis**

May 31 - June 2, 2020 in Boston Massachusetts at the George Sherman Union at Boston University

**CHECK IT OUT!**

**Brag Book**

We always say we have the MOST amazing faculty and students in the universe.

Read on to see where they've spoken, what they've published, and what they're doing.

**Shirley Otis-Green MSW, ACSW, LCSW, OSW-C (PALC 603)**
- **Otis-Green S.** Quality Care = Culturally Congruent Care and Care in Context: Advance Care Planning and Medical Decision Making. Breakout Sessions presented at the California Association for Adult Day Services Conference; Nov. 2019. Redondo Beach, CA.
- **Otis-Green S.** "My Doc Has Mentioned Palliative Care: Should I Be Afraid?" Marrow Masters Podcast Interview: Busting Marrow Myths; Nov. 2019

**Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD, MA, MDE, BCPS (PALC 601, 602, 605, 612, 615, 617)**
- **McPherson ML, Finan PH, Hogans BB, Shuffett ML.** Managing chronic pain among patients with serious illness during a national opioid crisis. Panel Discussion at University of Maryland Center to Advanced Chronic Pain Research; Nov. 2019; Baltimore, MD.
Congratulations

Melissa Holowaty, PhD MD CCFP(AM) (Class of 2020) has been appointed the new Chair of Addiction Medicine medical interest group at the College of Family Physicians of Canada (November 2019).

Shirley Otis-Green MSW, ACSW, LCSW, OSW-C (PALC 603) has been recognized as an National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Social Work Pioneer. (Washington, DC, November 2019)

What's your New Year's Resolution?

Are you interested in earning your Master of Science Degree or Graduate Certificate in Palliative Care?

If the answer is YES!, then what are you waiting for?

Our program is 100% online! All disciplines welcome!

Interested in learning more?
View a recording from a previous information session.

Have a question?
Send us an e-mail or call us at 410.706.7255

APPLY TODAY!

Referral Program

Anyone, current student or alumni, who sends a referral, and they enroll in either a certificate or the MS, will receive a package of goodies. All your referral has to do is e-mail palliative@umaryland.edu with your name and once they submit their application, we'll send you the goods! What could be easier than that?

What to join the fun?
Get started on your application today!