

## HIGHLIGHTS: UMBC HONORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Located between Baltimore and Washington, D.C. with a student body of 12,000, UMBC is a public research university with a deep commitment to undergraduate education.

Read more about our innovative programs at [www.umbc.edu/bestcolleges](http://www.umbc.edu/bestcolleges).

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UMBC is among the top five national universities recognized as innovative “Up-and-Coming Schools” in *U.S. News & World Report’s Best Colleges Guide*. The University’s selection is based on survey responses from presidents and provosts across the U.S. UMBC is among the top 5 national universities recognized as innovators, along with George Mason, Clemson, University of Southern California and Arizona State University.

UMBC President Freeman A. Hrabowski, III, has been named to the prestigious *U.S. News & World Report “America’s Best Leaders 2008”* list. A collaborative effort between *U.S. News* and Harvard’s Center for Public Leadership, the Best Leaders awards recognize ability to set direction, achieve results and cultivate a culture of growth.

The Princeton Review features UMBC in its 2008 edition of the *Princeton Review Guide: “Best 366 Colleges”* and ranks UMBC 2<sup>nd</sup> on its Diverse Student Populations list. Only 15 percent of four-year colleges in the U.S. and two Canadian colleges were chosen for the book, with “outstanding academics” as the primary criterion for inclusion.

The Meyerhoff Scholars Program is a national model for preparing students of all backgrounds for careers in science and engineering-related fields. Meyerhoff Scholars are twice as likely to graduate with a science or engineering major than students who decline the scholarship offer. Their GPAs in science, math and engineering are higher, and they are significantly more likely to enroll in a graduate program in these fields. Currently, 200 Meyerhoff alumni have completed graduate degrees, and 250 more are in graduate and professional programs.

UMBC is a leader in increasing the number of women university faculty in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields. The University’s ADVANCE program, funded by the National Science Foundation, has helped to increase the number of female tenured and tenure-track STEM faculty at UMBC by 50 percent over the past five years.

UMBC ranks second among U.S. universities in NASA funding, according to U.S. Census Bureau data.

The University’s geoscience research was ranked third nationally for citation impact by Thomson Scientific’s *Science Watch*.

UMBC faculty have an impressive 4.53 per capita ranking for such major competitive awards as Fulbright, Guggenheim and National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowships.

Michael Summers, professor of chemistry and biochemistry, is one of only two Howard Hughes Medical Investigators at Maryland public universities. Summers is conducting groundbreaking AIDS research with both undergraduate and graduate students. He is the recipient of a 2000 Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering.

UMBC has recently had several Fulbright Scholars, an NIH Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers winner, a U.S. Department of State Jefferson Science Fellow, a Mellon Research Fellow, a Woodrow Wilson Career Enhancement Fellow, a National Endowment for the Arts Fellow, an American Association for the Advancement of Science Mentoring awardee and an Optical Society of America Fellow.

Over the years, UMBC faculty members have been consistently among recipients of the prestigious NSF Career Awards for young scientists.

Three UMBC graduates have received the Gates Cambridge Fellowship, which is becoming known as the Rhodes of the 21st century. The recipients are Ian Ralby '02, modern languages and linguistics, M.A. intercultural communication; Philip Graff '08, physics; and Simon Gray '08, chemical engineering. Ralby has received two Gates Cambridge Fellowships.

UMBC's men's basketball team, the 2008 America East Champions, advanced to the NCAA tournament. Head Coach Randy Monroe was named the 2008 America East Men's Basketball Coach of the Year.

UMBC was named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction, recognizing innovative and effective community service and service-learning programs.

The Shriver Center's 20-year-old Choice Program has become a national model for supporting at-risk youth. This delinquency prevention program has provided support to over 18,000 children throughout Maryland. Choice has been successfully replicated in Hartford, Connecticut; San Diego, California; and Syracuse, New York.

Department of Theatre student productions have been invited to perform six times at the finals of the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival – more often than any other university theater program in Maryland.

The Albin O. Kuhn Library's Photography Collections contain more than 1.8 million images documenting the development of photography from daguerreotypes to digital imaging. Holdings that have influenced public thought or legislation include the 5,400 photographs of child labor made by Lewis Hine and the mining photographs (1870-1895) of George Bretz.

Director of Undergraduate Admissions and Orientation Dale Bittinger was named one of "10 Admissions Deans Who Are Shaping Their Field" by the *Chronicle of Higher Education* in 2007.