As we close out another calendar year, we extend best wishes to everyone for a happy and healthy new year! Listed are a few opportunities and noteworthy accomplishments. Congrats to all!

Meeting the needs of our medical students...
The Scholarly Concentrations course has recently started in the School of Medicine, with all first-year medical students looking for mentors and summer research projects. If you’d like to work with a medical student, please reach out to the course director, Dr. Mary Catherine Beach at mcbeach@jhmi.edu and the academic coordinator, Carly Wasserman at cwasser3@jhmi.edu. Let them know your academic area and any details you can about potential student projects. Although there is no guarantee that there will be a match in interests with a student this year, Mary Catherine and Carly will keep your information and reach back out to you as students join the course each fall to ascertain your current interests and availability.

Summer Research Training Opportunity for Underrepresented Junior Faculty
The Programs to Increase Diversity among Individuals Engaged in Health-Related Research (PRIDE) is an all-expense-paid Summer Institute, research education and mentoring initiative sponsored by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI). This Summer Institute initiative addresses the difficulties experienced by junior investigators and transitioning postdoctoral scientists in establishing independent academic research careers and negotiating through the academic ranks. The primary outcome of this program is to increase the number of scientists and research-oriented faculty who are from backgrounds currently under-represented in the biomedical sciences and those with disabilities, by preparing them to successfully compete for external funding for scientific research in heart, lung, blood, and sleep (HLBS) disorders.

For more information, please refer to the following web links: NHLBI, PRIDE, PRIDE Coordinating Center.

Application deadline: March 1, 2017 (with a rolling deadline until all positions are filled). Application form.

Women of Color Toolkits
In partnership with the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Group on Women in Medicine and Science (GWIMS) and the Group on Diversity and Inclusion (GDI), Dr. Barbara Fivush, associate dean, office of women in medicine and science along with Dr. Chiquita Collins, associate dean of diversity and cultural competence joined scholars from various academic medicine centers to design two unique toolkits to address barriers and challenges facing women of color faculty. These toolkits provide practical strategies and recommendations from both an individual and institutional perspective.

- Strategies for Advancing the Careers of Women of Color in Academic Medicine (Part 1: Institutional Strategies)
- Strategies for Advancing the Careers of Women of Color in Academic Medicine (Part 2: Individual Strategies)
Dr. Lisa Cooper, James F. Fries Professor of General Internal Medicine and Vice President of Health Care Equity, was named the 25th Bloomberg Distinguished Professor. With her new appointment, Dr. Cooper joins a cohort of scholars working to address major world problems and teach the next generation. The program—which has now reached the halfway mark of its goal to create 50 new professorships—is backed by a $350 million gift from Johns Hopkins alumnus, philanthropist, and three-term New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg.

Dr. Cooper is a nationally and internationally recognized physician and public health researcher whose scholarship on clinical communication is improving medical outcomes for minorities in the United States.

The Johns Hopkins University press release of this announcement can be found here.

Dr. Felicia Hill-Briggs, Professor of Medicine, and Senior Director of Population Health Research and Development for Johns Hopkins HealthCare, has been named to the board of directors of the American Diabetes Association. Dr. Hill-Briggs is also a member of the Welch Center for Prevention, Epidemiology and Clinical Research, where she studies diabetes self-management, behavioral intervention trials, health disparities, neuropsychology and functional impairment disability.

Dr. Namandje Bumpus, Associate Professor in the Division of Clinical Pharmacology, was recently named an associate editor of Drug Metabolism and Disposition starting January 2017.

In a recent issue of the Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities, several Hopkins researchers were recognized for their work in “The Top 100 Cited Papers in Health Care Disparities: a Bibliometric Analysis.” Three articles with a total of 1,789 scientific citations combined were authored by UIM faculty in the Department of Medicine: Dr. Ebony Boulware, Dr. Chiquita Collins, and Dr. Lisa Cooper. Johns Hopkins, Harvard and the University of Michigan were credited with the highest number of institutions with authors recognized on this list.

Recently elected as Member-at-large on the Steering Committee of the AAMC Group on Women in Medicine and Science (GWIMS), Dr. Chiquita Collins is also serving on the national advisory board for the inaugural summit “Inspiring Intersections: A Call to Collaborate, Challenge, and Change.” A premiere event scheduled for May 2017 for individuals in academic medicine who work to advance diversity and inclusion, women in medicine and science, equity, and/or community engagement.

Dr. Rafael Guerrero-Preston, Assistant Professor of Otolaryngology and a team of Johns Hopkins Medicine specialists report they have developed a urine test for the likely emergence of cervical cancer that is highly accurate compared to other tests based on genetic markers derived directly from cervical tissue. For more information, please refer to the press release.