

PharmTox Fights COVID-19

Week of June 1-5, 2020 Accolades

Dr. Peterson elected Chair of COM Research Council



Congratulations to associate professor, Dr. Eric Peterson, who was voted Chair-elect of the College of Medicine (COM) Research Council effective July 1 2020. He will move to the position of Chair in 2021. Dr. Peterson was chosen by his peers on the Research Council, who are basic, clinical and translational investigators in the COM.

The Research Council has umbrella responsibility for research development and coordination with the COM. It advises the Executive Associate Dean for Research on matters related to efficient and effective function of the COM's research missions. The Research Council also reviews applications for intramural pilot and bridging grants, reviews core facilities, and reviews proposed campus policies and revisions to existing policies that have the potential to impact the COM's research mission.

Melissa Clemens Visitation and Celebration of Life

Visitation for Melissa Clemens will be Friday, June 5, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Roller Owens Funeral Home in North Little Rock. The department would like to thank everyone that contributed to a beautiful grapevine wreath, which has been delivered to the funeral home. Additional funds will be donated to the National Adrenal Disease Foundation. Melissa was a very active and engaged volunteer with NADF, and served as the Support Group Leader for the State of Arkansas. You can visit the NADF website to make a donation in her memory: <https://www.nadf.us/tributes.html>



A Celebration of Life and Picnic for Melissa will be held from 1-5 p.m. on Saturday, June 6 at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Cabot. The family would like a head count for lunch, so if you plan to attend, please RSVP to Ashley Pike at 402-630-8115.

Department Spotlight: Fred Goad



We would like to take a moment to recognize grants business administrator (GBA), Fred Goad, who has been one of the unsung heroes in the department during the Covid-19 crisis. Since March, Fred has volunteered and worked extensive hours while taking a voluntary reduction in FTE to help the department and campus in multiple ways. In addition to other faculty and staff, Fred was an early volunteer at the health screening stations and he is the manager of the screening station at the entrance to the Cancer Institute, which includes responsibility for staffing the station.

All these efforts are additional to his duties as the GBA for the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, and the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. When asked about his efforts, Fred's humble response is "we all have to do our part to get through this difficult period". Next time you see Fred, thank him for all his efforts to keep the department and campus safe and running smoothly during this turbulent time.

Faculty and Staff Screeners

Thank you to department faculty and staff who answered the call to staff the screening stations across campus during June. Nine faculty, one post-doctoral fellow, five research staff, and one administrative staff have committed many hours to working at screening stations across the campus, which includes scanning badges, taking temperatures and providing compliance stickers to employees reporting to work, and patients going to appointments. Pictured right, professor and chair, Dr. Nancy Rusch and education specialist, Sylvia Stewart, who helped screen employees and patients at the Cancer Institute on Thursday.



Stocked and Reddie

Stocked and Reddie, the UAMS food pantry, is looking for volunteers, and donations of food and money. You can go to their [website](#) to give online.