

# COMmunication

June 2019

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## COM Faculty Meeting Focuses on Education

The Spring Faculty Meeting was devoted to an interactive panel discussion of some of the education-related issues that are foremost on the minds of College of Medicine faculty members.

Executive Vice Chancellor and Dean **Christopher T. Westfall, M.D.**, moderated the June 5 panel, which included leaders in undergraduate and graduate medical education from multiple campuses. Questions from faculty members drove discussion of topics including those listed at right (below in mobile view).

[Read the Meeting Summary](#)

- **Potential impacts of the two new osteopathic schools in Arkansas**
- **Revising the P&T document to strengthen criteria relating to educational activities**
- **Effects of Step 1 emphasis on coursework, and consideration of alternative residency applicant screening tools**
- **Concerns about anonymous student evaluations after providing feedback**
- **Need for protected time for teaching**

**DID YOU KNOW?** Agendas, summaries, slides and documents from the COM's biannual Faculty Meetings since 2009 are available on the [COM Faculty Meetings page](#) on InsideUAMS.

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## New Faculty and Leaders



### Dr. Arabinda Choudhary Appointed Next Chair of Radiology

**Arabinda Choudhary, M.D., M.B.A., FACHE**, has been named Chair of the Department of **Radiology** in the UAMS College of Medicine. He will join the faculty on August 1, following the retirement of current chair **James McDonald, M.D.**

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### Dr. J. Paul Mounsey to Lead Cardiovascular Medicine

**J. Paul Mounsey, M.D., Ph.D., FACC**, a nationally recognized leader in electrophysiology, will join UAMS on Oct. 1 as Director of the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine in the UAMS College of Medicine Department of **Internal Medicine** and Director of the Cardiovascular Program at UAMS.

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*Editor's note: This issue features some of the faculty members who are joining us this summer and fall. We will continue to introduce new colleagues in the months ahead.*





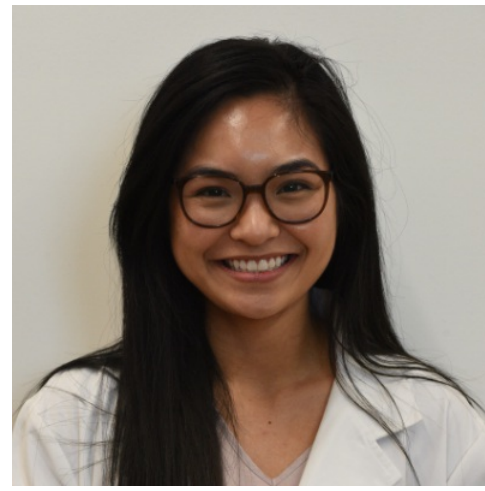
**Brian Russ, D.O.**, will join the Department of **Emergency Medicine** as an Assistant Professor on July 1.

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**Lauren Evans, M.D.**, will join the Department of **Emergency Medicine** as an Assistant Professor on July 1.

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**Meryll Bouldin, M.D.**, will join the Department of **Emergency Medicine** as an Assistant Professor on July 1.

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**Nhan 'Marc' Phan, M.D.**, will join the Department of **Emergency Medicine** as an Assistant Professor on July 1.

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**Jason Arthur, M.D., M.P.H.**, will join the Department of **Emergency Medicine** as an Assistant Professor on July 1.

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**Aneesha Ananthula, M.D.**, will join the Department of **Internal Medicine** as an Assistant Professor in the Hematology/Oncology Division on July 1.

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**Manojna Konda, M.D.**, will join the Department of **Internal Medicine** as an Assistant Professor in the Hematology/Oncology Division on July 1.

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**Bilal Alqam, M.D.**, will join the Department of **Internal Medicine** as an Instructor and Chief Resident on July 1.

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**Courtney Bundrick, M.D.**, will join the Department of **Internal Medicine** as an Instructor and Chief Resident on July 1.

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**Gayathri Krishnan, M.D.**, will join the Department of **Internal Medicine** as an Instructor and Chief Resident on July 1, 2019.

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**Mary Price, O.D.**, will join the Department of **Ophthalmology** as an Instructor in July.

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**Megan Shirey, O.D.**, has joined the Department of **Ophthalmology** as an Instructor.

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**Aaron J. Wyble, M.D.**, will join the Department of **Pathology** in July as an Assistant Professor and Section Director of the UAMS Blood Bank.

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**Anwar A. Rjoop, M.D.**, will join the Department of **Pathology** in July as an Instructor with clinical functions in Hematopathology and Transfusion Medicine.

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**Victoria Flynn, M.D.**, will join the Department of **Psychiatry** as an Assistant Professor on July 1.

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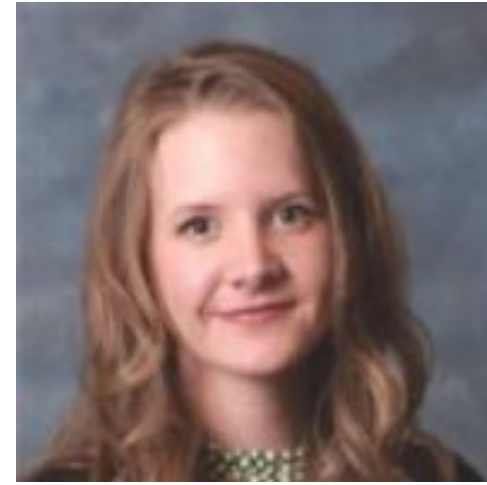
**Hunter Gibbs, M.D.**, will join the Department of **Psychiatry** as an Associate Professor on July 1.

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**Srinivasa Gokarakonda, M.D., M.P.H.**, will join the Department of **Psychiatry** as an Assistant Professor on August 1.

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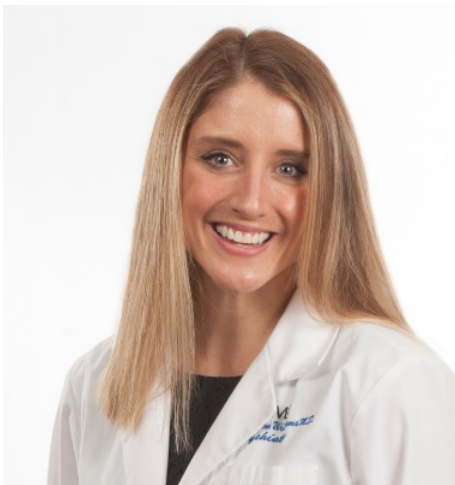
**Amy Grooms, M.D.**, will join the Department of **Psychiatry** as an Assistant Professor on July 1.

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**Martin Watts, M.D., Ph.D.**, will join the Department of **Psychiatry** as an Assistant Professor on July 1.

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**Hannah Williams, M.D.**, will join the Department of **Psychiatry** as an Assistant Professor on July 1.

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**Daniel Ashton, M.D.**, has joined the Department of **Radiology** as an Associate Professor in the Division of Pediatric Radiology.

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## Recent Grants

*Congratulations to the College of Medicine faculty members who received **fiscal year-end intramural grants** from the Chancellor's Office and the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research for the purchase of equipment or software. This list is courtesy of the COM Office of Research. (Grant period: 05/23/2019 - 06/30/2019)*



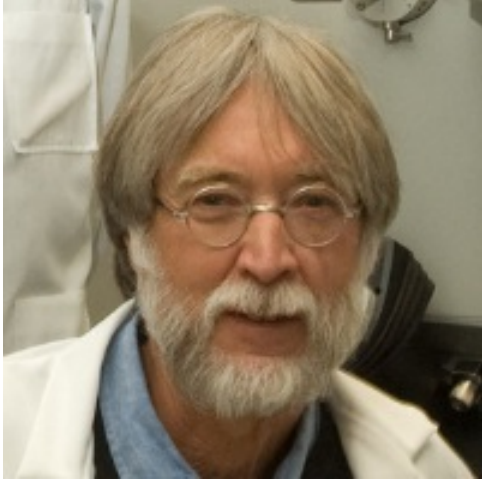
**Alicia Byrd, Ph.D.,**  
Department of  
**Biochemistry and  
Molecular Biology,**  
\$39,011.16



**Grover Miller, Ph.D.,**  
Department of  
**Biochemistry and  
Molecular Biology,**  
\$17,576.25



**Shengyu Mu, Ph.D.,**  
Department of  
**Pharmacology and  
Toxicology,** \$27,401.00



**Brian Storrie, Ph.D.,**  
Department of  
**Physiology and  
Biophysics,** \$10,525.00

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Have you read the latest Accolades from Dean **Christopher T. Westfall, M.D.**? The weekly email highlights recent honors and accomplishments of COM faculty, staff, residents and students. You can also [read Accolades here](#). If you know someone who deserves a shout-out, send your ideas to Dr. Westfall via [COM Internal Communications](#)!

*Editor's Note: Accolades is taking the next few weeks off and will return in July. But you can still send ideas for future editions to the email link above.*

**These UAMS team members and students were named in Accolades May 29-June 19:**

Aline Andres  
Debra Becton  
Jayne Bellando  
Lyle Burdine  
Bob Burns  
Rebecca Cantu  
Joe Chacko  
Parimal Chowdhury  
Lu Dai  
Sid Dassinger  
Daniel Escobar  
Jared Gardner  
Priya Gupta  
Diane Jarrett

Donald Johann  
Shashank Kraleti  
Jeannette Lee  
Todd Maxson  
J.L. Mehta  
Raymond Molden  
Brendan Moore  
Shengyu Mu  
Xiawei Ou  
Sowmya Patil  
Cam Patterson  
Steven Post  
Naga Venkata Pothineni  
Zhiqiang Qin

Aru Reddy  
Kim Rhodes  
Thea Rosenbaum  
Ashley Ross  
Marwan Saad  
Ron Sanders  
Emily Smith  
Sam Smith  
Ronda Henry-Tillman  
Sanjaya Viswamitra  
Wendy Ward  
Brandi Whitaker  
Lindsey Wilbanks

**These COM departments were represented in Accolades May 29-June 19:**

Anesthesiology  
Biostatistics  
Emergency Medicine  
Family Medicine  
Internal Medicine  
Neurobiology/Developmental Sciences  
Ophthalmology

Pathology  
Pediatrics  
Pharmacology/Toxicology  
Psychiatry  
Physiology/Biophysics  
Radiology  
Surgery

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The *COMmunication* is published monthly to highlight key initiatives and developments in the COM, to introduce new faculty members and leaders, and to celebrate major

professional honors and awards. The Dean's Office works in partnership with designated newsletter liaisons throughout the COM. To find your department's contact, read our submission guidelines or view past issues, visit the [COMmunication webpage](#).

**Comments, questions and suggestions for improvements are always welcome.** Call Tamara Robinson, Senior Communications Writer, at 526-5163, or click the red button below to email the *COMmunication*.

[Comments? Ideas? Email Us!](#)



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