



October 2019

**GO TO:** [New Faculty and Leaders](#) | [Recent Grants](#) | [Accolades](#) | [In Memoriam](#)

**COM Faculty Meeting Focuses on Clinical Mission, Links to Education**



The Fall Faculty Meeting featured a panel discussion of the clinical mission, UAMS' and Arkansas Children's growing clinical footprint across Arkansas, and the crucial links between clinical programs and education in the effort to increase the numbers of physicians and improve health. Executive Vice Chancellor and Dean **Christopher T. Westfall, M.D.**, moderated the Oct. 15 discussion with the panel and other faculty leaders.

*“Regardless of what happens in Washington, one thing is very clear. Value-based care is the one sure direction. We must work to make health care less expensive.”*

– **Arabinda Choudhary, M.D., MBA**, Chair, Department of **Radiology**

[Read the Meeting Summary.](#) (Intranet)



**Congratulations to COM Faculty Invested in Endowed Chairs!**

October was a month for honoring extraordinary colleagues and celebrating the philanthropic spirit that makes endowed chairs possible. Four College of Medicine faculty members were invested in endowed chairs. Faculty who are named to endowed chairs at UAMS and premier institutions around the world are among the most highly regarded physicians, scientists and educators in their fields. Congratulations to these outstanding colleagues!



UAMS and Washington Regional Medical Center celebrated the investiture Oct. 3 of **Randy Shinn, M.D.**, Assistant Professor of **Geriatrics**, as the inaugural recipient of the Pat Walker Distinguished Chair in Senior Health at the UAMS Schmieding Center for Senior Health and Education in Springdale.

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**J.D. Day, M.D.**, Professor and Chair of the Department of **Neurosurgery**, was invested Oct. 10 in the Robert Watson, M.D., Chair in Neurological Surgery at UAMS.

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**Arabinda K. Choudhary, M.D., MBA**, Professor and Chair of the Department of **Radiology**, was invested Oct. 14 in the Ernest J. Ferris, M.D. Chair in Diagnostic Radiology at UAMS.

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**Mark Smeltzer, Ph.D.**, Professor in the departments of **Microbiology and Immunology** and **Orthopaedic Surgery**, was invested Oct. 28 in the Chair in Sciences Basic to Medicine at UAMS.

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[Back to the Top](#)

## New Faculty and Leaders



### Warm Welcome

Faculty members who joined UAMS in the past year were welcomed by campus and COM leaders at the new faculty reception on Sept. 24. Above left: **Christopher Westfall, M.D.**, visits with **Srinivasa Gokarakonda, M.D., M.P.H.**, who joined the Department of **Psychiatry** faculty in August. Above right: **David Walker, M.D.**, who joined the Department of **Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery** in August, shakes hands with Chancellor **Cam Patterson, M.D.**, as they visit with Otolaryngology Chair **John Dornhoffer, M.D.**

Below, say hello to some of the new faculty members who have joined us recently!



**David Nagy, M.D.**, has rejoined the Department of **Anesthesiology** as an Assistant Professor and Director of Trauma Anesthesia.

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**Sukanthi Kovvuru, M.D.**, has joined the Department of **Neurology** as an Assistant Professor and neuromuscular specialist.

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**Ramon Ylanan, M.D.**, has joined the Department of **Orthopaedic Surgery** as an Assistant Professor and orthopaedic sports medicine specialist in Fayetteville.

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**Leslie Harrell, D.O.**, has joined the Department of **Radiation Oncology** as an Assistant Professor.

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**Anna M. Privratsky, D.O.**, has joined the Department of **Surgery** as an Assistant Professor in the Division of Trauma, Critical Care & Acute Care Surgery.

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We will continue to introduce new faculty colleagues in future issues!

[Back to the Top](#)

## Recent Grants

*Congratulations to the College of Medicine faculty members who received new **extramural grants** in September. This list, courtesy of the Office of the Executive Associate Dean for Research, excludes industry trials and awards under \$10,000.*



**Maryam Garza, MMCi, MPH**, Department of **Biomedical Informatics**, CDISC eSource Project, FDA (05/01/2019 – 09/30/2019), \$188,972. Pass through from Clinical Data Interchange Standards Consortium.



**Fred Prior, PhD.**, Department of **Biomedical Informatics**:

TCIA TO6 IROC, NIH/Nat. Cancer Institute (09/12/2019 – 08/30/2020), \$165,952. Pass through from Leidos.

TCIA TO7 Apollo, NIH/Nat. Cancer Institute (09/12/2019 – 08/30/2020), \$372,416. Pass through from Leidos.

TCIA TO8 PDX, NIH/Nat. Cancer Institute (09/12/2019 – 08/30/2020). \$31,056. Pass through from Leidos.





**Xiawei Ou, Ph.D.**, Department of **Radiology**, and **Ashley Acheson, Ph.D.**, Department of **Psychiatry**, Co-PIs, HEAL Consortium: Establishing Innovative Approaches for the HEALthy Brain and Child Development Study, NIH/ Nat. Inst. On Drug Abuse (09/30/2019 – 03/31/2021), \$516,375.

*(Top photo: Dr. Ou; Bottom photo: Dr. Acheson)*



**Back to the Top**

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### That's the Spirit!



[Check out the action at this year's Academic House Olympics!](#)

**Back to the Top**

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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](#)!

**These UAMS team members and students were named in Accolades Sept. 25-Oct. 30:**

Maria Almeida	Jennie Kirby	Safeer Siddicky
Omar Atiq	Sara Landes	Randy Shinn
Lowry Barnes	Candace Lane	Asa Shnaekel
Lindsay Blake	Joseph Levy	John Shock
Chuck Bower	Xuehua Li	Raj Singh
John Bracey	Erin Mannen	Lovepreet Singh
John Bumpass	Spyridoula Maraka	Mark Smeltzer
John Carroll	Linda McGhee	Vikki Stefans
Jason Chang	Meredith McKinney	Leslie Stone
Arabinda Choudhary	Simon Mears	James Suen
Karina Clemmons	Jay Mehta	Lindsey Sward
Shelley Crary	Jill Mhyre	Sara Tariq
Benjamin Davis	Amir Mian	Puru Thapa
J.D. Day	Jason Mizell	Billy Thomas
Alan Diekman	Becca Moreira	Joe Thompson
Dr. Tad Fiser (posthumous)	Intawat Nookaew	Aravindhan Veerapandiyan
Jerad Gardner	Janice Nottenkamper	Jasna Vuk
Annee-Taylor Glass	Eylem Öcal	Junsig Wang
Akshay Goel	Zach Pettis	Brandi Whitaker
Basililia Gonzalez	Steve Post	Alexis White
Santiago Gonzalez	Charles Matthew Quick	Jennifer White
James Graham	Brien Rabenhorst	Anna Witt
Hoda Hograss	Luann Racher	Jinhu Xiong
Li Han	Sung Rhee	Feliciano "Pele" Yu
Steve Hemberger	Gloria Richard-Davis	
Gwen Higgenbotham	Eric Rosenbaum	
Gloria Kemp		

**These COM departments were represented in Accolades Sept. 25-Oct. 30:**

Anesthesiology	Obstetrics/Gynecology
Biochemistry/Molecular Biology	Ophthalmology
Biomedical Informatics	Orthopaedic Surgery
Dermatology	Otolaryngology-Head/Neck Surgery
Emergency Medicine	Pathology
Family/Preventive Medicine	Pediatrics
Geriatrics	Pharmacology/Toxicology
Internal Medicine	Physical Medicine/Rehabilitation
Microbiology/Immunology	Physiology/Biophysics
Neurobiology/Developmental Sciences	Psychiatry
Neurology	Radiology
Neurosurgery	Surgery

[Back to the Top](#)

## In Memoriam



**Howard Barnhard, M.D.**, a longtime Professor of **Radiology** and Chair of the department from 1960 to 1973, died October 7. Dr. Barnhard graduated from the Medical University of South Carolina. A Navy veteran of World War II, he came to UAMS in 1954 and in 1960 became the youngest Chair of Radiology in the country. He stepped down in 1973 to serve as the first Director of the UAMS Department of Planning, Organization and Development. While in this role he instituted the first campus plan and added several educational and research facilities to the campus.

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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*.

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**[Back to the Top](#)**