

The Monthly Newsletter for  
Faculty, Staff and Friends of the  
UAMS College of Medicine

UAMS  
College of Medicine

# COMmunication

February 2020

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## Swabbing to Save Lives

For the past four years, second-year medical students in the UAMS College of Medicine have called on students in the class behind them to pay it forward as they learn about blood cancers and other diseases that can make a bone marrow transplant a lifesaver.

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## In the Spotlight



**Scott Dickson, M.D.**, Residency Program Director for the UAMS Northeast Regional Campus, was invested Feb. 6 in the Arkansas Blue Cross and Blue Shield, George K. Mitchell, M.D., Endowed Chair in Primary Care.

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The popular “TED talks” focus on “ideas worth spreading.” That philosophy was on display as UAMS held its first ever TEDx talks earlier this month. Bravo to the COM faculty and staff and other UAMS team members who presented talks!

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*Medicine and Meaning* – UAMS' new literary journal featuring fiction, non-fiction, poetry and images by creative UAMS team members – kicked off this month under the leadership of Editor-in-Chief **Erick Messias, M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H.**

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## New Faculty



**Fenghuang “Frank” Zhan, M.D., Ph.D.**, has joined the faculty as a Professor of **Internal Medicine** and Research Director of the **UAMS Myeloma Center**.

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**Kaitlin Cockerell, M.D.**, has rejoined the Department of **Pediatrics** as an Assistant Professor in the Division of **General Pediatrics**.

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**Meghan Wilson, M.D., Ph.D.**, has joined the Department of **Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation** as an Assistant Professor.

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# COM Spring Faculty Meeting

with information and discussion on:

**1-2-3 GO** - the new pilot program launching this spring  
**Active Learning** - the future of medical education

**THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2020**

5:00-6:00 PM

Pauly Auditorium - Rahn Building G210

Also available through IVN at Arkansas Children's Hospital (Chairman's Hall) and the Northwest Regional Campus (room TBD) and other locations. If your IVN-capable location would like to connect, please contact [video@uams.edu](mailto:video@uams.edu).



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## Recent Grants

### Extramural Awards

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



**Laura James, M.D.**,  
Department of **Pediatrics**,  
Rapid Genomic Sequencing  
of Pneumococcal Meningitis  
Isolates, Arkansas Research  
Alliance (02/01/2020 –  
01/31/2021), \$25,107.



**Sufna Gheyara John, Ph.D.**, Department of  
**Psychiatry**, The ARBEST  
Trauma Assessment and  
Mental Health Case  
Management Program, U.S.  
Department of Justice  
(10/01/2019 – 09/30/2020),  
\$242,166.68. Pass through  
from Arkansas Department  
of Finance & Administration.



**Mark Smeltzer, Ph.D.**,  
Department of  
**Microbiology and  
Immunology**, Antibiotic  
Delivery Platform for  
Prevention and Treatment  
of Bone Infections While  
Enabling Accelerated Bone  
Regeneration, Arkansas  
Research Alliance  
(03/01/2020 – 08/12/2020),  
\$49,930.

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# Mark Your Calendar!

## 10th ANNUAL DEAN'S HONOR DAY

Wednesday, April 8

4:00-5:00 p.m.

Fred Smith Auditorium  
12th Floor, Stephens Spine Institute

Distinguished Faculty Service Award  
Faculty Awards in Education, Research & Clinical Care  
Staff Excellence Awards

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## Accolades



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 this month:

Amit Agarwal  
Nidhi Agarwal  
Zain Alfaneq  
Aline Andres  
Rick Barr  
David Becton  
Jade Beshears  
Amber Booth-McCoy  
Katie Brown  
Mark Brown  
Stephanie Byrum  
John Carroll  
Richard Clark  
Jamie Collier  
Shelley Crary  
Abdallah Dalabih  
Romona Davis  
Linda Deloney  
Scott Dickson  
Alan Diekman  
Kevin Dinh  
Carly Eastin  
Rick Edmondson  
Nadir El Sharawi  
Emily Erion  
Victoria Flynn  
Jerad Gardner  
Elizabeth Gath  
Emmanouil Giorgakis  
James Graham  
Sarah Beth Harrington  
Shawn Harwell  
Tiffany Haynes

Tammy Henson  
Micah Hester  
Dawn Hughes  
Jennifer Hunt  
Laura Hutchins  
Katherine Irish-Clardy  
David Jacks  
Kedar Jambhekar  
Thomas Jennings  
Stephen Johnson  
Kimberly Jones  
Stacie Jones  
John Lane  
Gary D. Lewis  
Kristen Long  
John Lytle  
Joana Mack  
Sam Mackintosh  
Pat Magann  
Jimmy Magee  
Spencer McClure  
Bobby McGehee  
Jeanne McLachlin  
Kevin Means  
Paulette Mehta  
Erick Messias  
Jill Mhyre  
Grover Paul Miller  
Sofie Morgan  
Richard Morrison  
Chesley Murphy  
Linda Murphy  
John Musser

Krishna Nalleballe  
Daniela Ochoa  
Sanjeeva Onteddu  
Rachel Pahls  
Sara Peeples  
Tamara Perry  
David Ratcliff  
Becky Rogers  
Kisha Rogers  
Kevin Ryan  
Mary Salassi-Scotter  
Adam Sandlin  
Mary "Allie" Schleiff  
Angie Scott  
Jeannette M. Shorey II  
Amy Scurlock  
Sen Sheng  
Laura Spradley  
Leslie Stone  
Mohsin Syed  
Alan Tackett  
Dana Thomas  
Mark Thomas  
Joe Thompson  
Samidha Tripathi  
Bill Ventres  
Wendy Ward  
Susan Ward  
Jerry Ware  
Erin Willard  
Feng Zheng

### These COM departments were represented in Accolades this month:

Anesthesiology  
Biochemistry/Molecular Biology  
Dermatology  
Emergency Medicine  
Family/Preventive Medicine  
Geriatrics  
Internal Medicine  
Medical Humanities  
Microbiology/Immunology  
Neurobiology/Developmental Sciences  
Neurology

Obstetrics/Gynecology  
Ophthalmology  
Pathology  
Pediatrics  
Physical Medicine/Rehabilitation  
Physiology/Biophysics  
Psychiatry  
Radiation Oncology  
Radiology  
Surgery

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## In Memoriam



**John E. Pauly, Ph.D.**, Professor Emeritus and former longtime Chair of the Department of **Anatomy**, died on February 9. He was 92. Dr. Pauly garnered enormous respect as an educator, researcher and leader during his three decades on campus following his recruitment to UAMS as Chair of Anatomy in 1967. Over the next 15 years, the department became a model for all basic science departments, as well as for programs Dr. Pauly went on to develop as Associate Dean of the UAMS Graduate School and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Sponsored Research in 1983-1992. He did double duty as Interim Chair of **Physiology and Biophysics** in 1978-1980. When Dr. Pauly retired in 1995, UAMS' Pauly Auditorium was named in his honor. He was inducted into the College of Medicine Hall of Fame in 2007.

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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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