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

Communication

Happy Thanksgiving from the College of Medicine!

November 2021

Leadership Appointments | New Faculty | Recent Grants & Research | Accolades

In the Spotlight



Arkansas Children's Research Institute (ACRI) will be a key partner in a 14-state consortium focused on pediatric COVID-19 long haul cases, part of a massive nation-wide research effort funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The work at ACRI, led by **Jessica Snowden, M.D.**, will be funded through an NIH award of an estimated \$25 million and will leverage scientists at both Arkansas Children's and UAMS. [READ MORE](#)

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More than 20 years in the making, a drug discovered at UAMS to counter the effects of methamphetamine will be tested in a phase 2 clinical trial as the only potential treatment of its kind for methamphetamine use disorder. The study, funded by a three-year, \$13.8 million grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse, is led by startup company InterveXion Therapeutics LLC. [READ MORE](#)

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Commitment to Service

The College of Medicine salutes
all of our dedicated veterans
and service members!

The call to serve our country is strong across UAMS, with many veterans, active duty, Guard and Reserve members of the Armed Forces on our team. For **Brian Barnett, MHA**, Associate Chair in the departments of **Family and Preventive Medicine** and **Radiation Oncology**, it meant never giving up hope. [READ MORE](#)

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Leadership Appointments

Psychiatry Chair & Psychiatric Research Institute Director

Laura B. Dunn, M.D., has been appointed as the next Chair of the Department of **Psychiatry** and Director of the **Psychiatric Research Institute**. Currently a Professor and Section Chief for Geriatric Psychiatry in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University, she will start at UAMS on Feb. 1, 2022.



Laura Dunn, M.D.

“We are thrilled to have Dr. Dunn join UAMS as we continue to enhance our excellent clinical, research and education programs in psychiatry,” said Executive Vice Chancellor and Dean **Susan Smyth, M.D., Ph.D.**

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New Faculty



Cari Anne Bogulski, Ph.D., has joined the Department of **Biomedical Informatics** as an Assistant Professor.

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John D. Shaughnessy Jr., Ph.D., has rejoined the faculty as a Professor of **Internal Medicine** and a principal staff scientist in the **Myeloma Center**.

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Eric U. Yee, M.D., has joined the Department of **Pathology** as an Associate Professor in the **Surgical Division**.

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Pouya Sabouri Ph.D., has joined the Department of **Radiation Oncology** as an Assistant Professor.

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Recent Grants & Research



GROUNDBREAKING STUDY | The Department of **Biostatistics** played a key role in a successful national clinical trial to treat anal cancer in persons living with HIV.

Jeannette Y. Lee, Ph.D., Professor of **Biostatistics** and biostatistics leader for the **Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute**, served as the statistical center director for the NCI's Anal Cancer/HSIL Outcomes Research (ANCHOR) study.

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Congratulations to the following College of Medicine faculty members who received new extramural grants in October. This list, courtesy of the Office of the Executive Associate Dean for Research, excludes clinical trials and awards under \$10,000, as well as grants we have previously reported and those highlighted above.

Fred Prior, Ph.D., Department of **Biomedical Informatics**, RII Track-1: DART: From Smart Curation to Socially, National Science Foundation, (10/27/2021-6/30/2022), \$788,626. Pass through from Arkansas Economic Development Commission.

Judith Weber, Ph.D., RD, Department of **Pediatrics**, Center for Childhood Obesity Prevention COBRE Admin Supplement – Equipment, NIH, (8/1/2021-7/31/2022), \$242,670.

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Accolades



Have you read the latest *Accolades* from Dean Smyth? 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 [COM Internal Communications](#).

UAMS team members and students named in Accolades this month:

Gregory Albert	Tina Ipe	Arundathi Reddy
Kapil Arya	Noojan Kazemi	Taneicie Sabb
David Bumpass	Shashank Kraleti	Debopam Samanta
Destiny Chau	Harshad Ladha	Elizabeth Schmit
Karina Clemmons	Colleen Lassiter	Stephen Sorsby
Marybeth Curtis	Gary Lewis	Marcus Stephens
Sid Dassinger	Spyridoula Maraka	Krista Stephenson
David Davies	Todd Maxson	Surjith Vattoth
Erica Dewey	Marcene McVay-Gillam	Aravindhan
Gina Drobeno	Pilar Murphy	Veerapandiyan
Alysia Dubriske	Mayumi Nakagawa	William Ventres
Mario Ferruzzi	Jon Oden	Alexis White
Jill Fussell	Angela Odle	Linda Worley
Jennifer Gess	Angela Palmer	Deidre Wyrick
Matthew Helton	Viktoras Palys	Jennifer York
Ashley Herdman	Adrienne Parkey	Salman Zahoor
Andrea Hooten	Hakan Paydak	
Robert Hopkins Jr.	Fred Perkins	

COM departments represented in Accolades this month:

Anesthesiology	Orthopaedic Surgery
Family/Preventive Medicine	Pathology
Geriatrics	Pediatrics
Internal Medicine	Psychiatry
Neurobiology/Developmental Sciences	Radiation Oncology
Neurology	Radiology
Neurosurgery	Surgery
Obstetrics/Gynecology	

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The *COMmunication* is published monthly to highlight key events, initiatives and developments in the COM, introduce new faculty members and leaders, and shine a spotlight on our work in education, research, clinical care and service to Arkansas. To 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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