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

UAMS
College of Medicine

COMmunication

April 2022

GO TO: [New Faculty](#) | [Recent Grants](#) | [Accolades](#)

DEAN'S HONOR DAY

Celebrating the accomplishments and contributions of exemplary faculty and staff

NEXT TUESDAY!

May 3, 4:00-5:00 PM

Join us in Fred Smith Auditorium, 12th Floor Stephens Spine

CEREMONY ALSO WILL BE LIVESTREAMED | MEDICINE.UAMS.EDU

Congratulations
TO OUR 2022 HONOREES

Staff Excellence Awards

Education

Baylee Field, AA

Research

Pamela Kahler, BA

Clinical

Jan Wall, MS, RD

Administration

Chad Sievers, MSSW

Faculty Awards in Education

Master Teacher

R. Dale Blasier, M.D.

Educational Innovation

Emily Kocurek, M.D., and

Deepa Raghavan, M.D.

Educational Research

Sung Rhee, Ph.D.

Residency Educator Awards

Program Director

Mary Katherine Kimbrough, M.D.

Program Coordinator

Darlene Clinton

Excellence in Research

Hari Eswaran, Ph.D.

Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine

Presented by the Arnold P. Gold Foundation

Nicholas Long, Ph.D.

Clinical Excellence Awards

Quality and Safety

Simon Mears, M.D., Ph.D.

Best Consulting Physician

Raghu Ramakrishnaiah, MBBS

Clinical Collaborations & Teamwork

Zachary Lewis, M.D.

Rising Star Clinical Faculty

Emily Kocurek, M.D.

Physician of the Year

Randy Maddox, M.D.

and the recipient of the

2022 Distinguished Faculty Service Award

Billy R. Thomas, M.D., MPH

Also honoring:

Faculty Receiving Promotion and/or Tenure

Associate Professors | Professors | Distinguished Professors

Please join us on Tuesday, May 3, to help us honor these exemplary team members – and learn what makes them so special. Also watch for photos and coverage of the awards on the College of Medicine website and in the *COMmunication* newsletter in May.

[Back to the Top](#)

New Faculty



Sujit Kumar Kotapati, M.D., has joined the Department of **Family and Preventive Medicine** as an Assistant Professor.

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Mojdeh Taghizadeh Khamesi, M.D., has joined the Department of **Internal Medicine** as an Assistant Professor in the Division of

Rheumatology.

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Rahul Jadhav, MBBS, has joined the Department of **Radiology** as an Assistant Professor in the Division of **Interventional Neuroradiology.**

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[Back to the Top](#)

Recent Grants



DIAGNOSING FETAL CONDITIONS | Three grants in six months from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) are helping **Hari Eswaran, Ph.D.**, Professor and Vice Chair for Research in the Department of **Obstetrics and Gynecology** and Director of Research for the **Institute for Digital Health & Innovation**, explore promising noninvasive methods for diagnosing serious fetal health conditions. (Dr. Eswaran is also this year's recipient of the COM Excellence in Research Award, which will be presented at Dean's Honor Day on May 3!)

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Extramural Awards

Congratulations to College of Medicine team members who received new extramural grants in March. 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 or highlighted above.

Zufeng Ding, Ph.D., Department of **Pharmacology and Toxicology**, Impact of hemodynamics on efferocytosis, NIH/NHLBI, (3/7/2022-3/31/2027), \$1,710,000.

Mario Ferruzzi, Ph.D., Department of **Pediatrics**, Dietary and Physical Activity Influences on Infant/Child/Adolescent/Maternal Health and Development, ACRI Flow Through, (3/10/2022-12/31/2022), \$2,288,000.

J. Craig Forrest, Ph.D., Department of **Microbiology and Immunology**, Defining mechanisms of gammaherpesvirus-driven genomic instability in B cells, NIH/NCI, (3/11/2022-2/28/2027), \$1,840,360.

Rajikha Raja, Ph.D., postdoctoral fellow, Department of **Radiology**, Towards optimal diffusion MRI acquisition processing protocols for infant brain studies via development of a generic and robust framework, ABI, (3/17/2022-7/31/2022), \$11,473.

Heather Williams, M.D., Department of **Obstetrics and Gynecology**, Ovarian Cancer Detection by Uterine Lavage DNA and Serum Proteins: A Phase 2 Biomarker Study, NIH/NCI, (3/11/2022-3/31/2022), \$29,249. Pass through from Massachusetts General Hospital.

[Back to the Top](#)

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:

Aubrey Adams	William Henry	MaKenzie Presley
Nickolas Alsup	Laura Hobart-Porter	Paul Pugh
Aline Andres	Laura Hollenbach	Zhiqiang Qin
Tucker Andrews	Lu Huang	Luann Racher
Jason Arthur	Ryan Hui	Yasir Rahmatallah
Cody Ashby	Nishank Jain	Sharon Reece
Muhammad Athar	Laura James	Sung Rhee
Omar Atiq	Joe Jimmerson	Gloria Richard-Davis
Zainab Atiq	Donald Johann	Ron Robertson
Pearl Atlan	Stacie Jones	Valarie Robinson
Britni Ayers	Tammy Jones	José Romero
Ashley Banks	Kyle Kalkwarf	Brian Russ
Lowry Barnes	Katie Kimbrough	Ahmed Sallam
Lance Benson	Emily Kocurek	Carina Sanvicente
Seth Berney	Michelle Krause	Sara Shalin
Avi Bhavaraju	Sara Landes	Lorin Smith
Aliza Brown	Kristin Larsen	Greg Snead
Heather Broyles	Jeremy Lemmons	Antoinette Solomon
Sheena CarlLee	Yuet-Kin "Ricky" Leung	Kathryn Stambough
Joseph Chacko	Spencer Lewis	Alvin Stewart
Karina Clemmons	Zachary Lewis	Kara Stewart
Shannon Coleman	Lin-Xi Li	Jumin Sunde
Stewart Coleman	Yunmeng Liu	Terry Takamaru
Pam Collier	Sophia Ly	Sara Tariq
Angi Covert	Joana Mack	Chad Taylor
Erin Creighton	Shelli Madison	Marilee Taylor
Stefanie Daniels	Alyson McKinnon	Tondra Thomas
David Davies	Nikhil Meena	Collette Tilly
Ben Davis	Alli Meyers	Sydney Timmerman
Stacia Dean	Jodi Miles	Natalie Tips
Katherine Deck	Grover Miller	Don Vickers
Tucker Doiron	Isabelle Racine Miousse	Jennifer Vincenzo
John Dornhoffer	Christoph Mora	Meredith Von Dohlen
Lyndsay Dupree	Shengyu Mu	Adam Watkins
Jillian Edwards	Madison Nichols	Tiffany Weinkopff
Lauren Evans	Thomas Nienaber	Alexis White
Mario Ferruzzi	Tamara Osborn	Carla Williams
Craig Forrest	Shana Owens	Henry Wong
Lucy Fry	Pearman Parker	Kevin Wong
Franklin John Gray	Alejandra Pelayo	Venus Wright
Valeri Green	Kara Phillips	Deidre Wyrick
Yunping Guo	Paul Phillips	Melissa Zielinski
Morgan Gurel-Headley	Arpan Prabhu	

COM departments represented in Accolades this month:

Anesthesiology	Obstetrics/Gynecology
Biomedical Informatics	Ophthalmology
Biochemistry/Molecular Biology	Orthopaedic Surgery
Dermatology	Otolaryngology-Head/Neck Surgery
Emergency Medicine	Pathology
Family/Preventive Medicine	Pharmacy/Toxicology
Internal Medicine	Pediatrics
Medical Humanities/Bioethics	Psychiatry
Microbiology/Immunology	Radiation Oncology
Neurobiology/Developmental Sciences	Radiology
Neurology	Surgery

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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