

MESSAGE FROM THE Dean



Dear Colleagues,

As Thanksgiving nears, I want you to know how much I appreciate your hard work to make UAMS an essential institution for our state, and for making the College of Medicine a great place to work.

I continue to be impressed with the collegiality and dedication of our faculty and staff to education, research, clinical care and service to communities across Arkansas. Likewise, I am proud of our students, residents and fellows, both for their accomplishments and for always being eager to volunteer wherever needed.

Highlights this past month included the investitures of two outstanding faculty members, **Dr. Corey Montgomery**, Associate Professor of **Orthopaedic Surgery**, and **Dr. Ashley Acheson**, Professor of **Psychiatry**, in endowed chairs.

Congratulations also to the five UAMS faculty who received Chancellor's Awards of Excellence on Nov. 19, including COM faculty members **Dr. Stacie Jones**, Professor of **Pediatrics**, who received the Chancellor's Award for Scholarship; and **Dr. Shashank Kraleti**, Chair of **Family and Preventive Medicine** and Director of the Primary Care & Population Health Service Line, who received the Chancellor's Award for Clinical Innovation.

I have enjoyed getting to know many of you during my first nine months at UAMS – and I look forward to meeting many more. If you see me in the corridors, please stop and introduce yourself! Meanwhile, I wish you and your loved ones a very happy Thanksgiving.

Steven A. Webber, MBChB, MRCP
Dean, College of Medicine
Executive Vice Chancellor, UAMS

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IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Congratulations, Newly Invested Faculty!



Corey Montgomery, M.D., Associate Professor of **Orthopaedic Surgery**, was invested in the Richard W. Nicholas, M.D., and Corey O. Montgomery, M.D., Chair in Orthopaedic Oncology on Oct. 29. Dr. Montgomery, who specializes in malignant and benign tumors of the bone and soft tissue, is the only fellowship-trained orthopaedic oncologist practicing in Arkansas.

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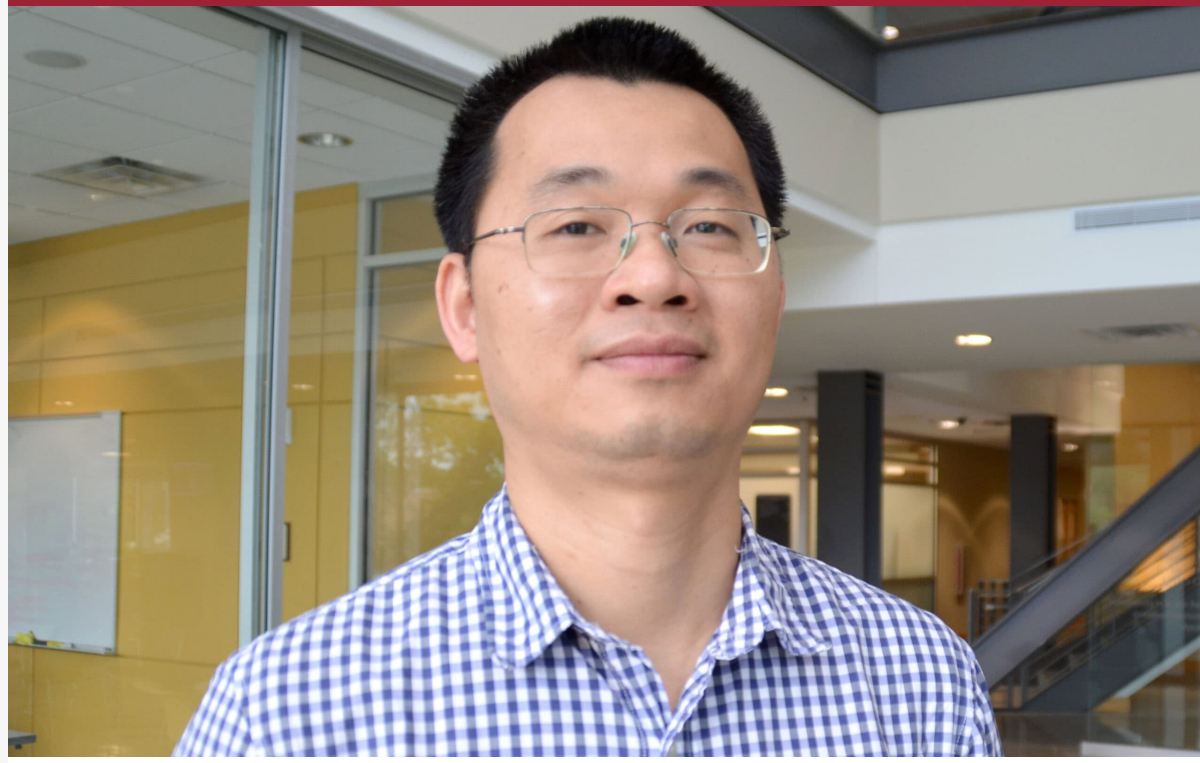


Ashley Acheson, Ph.D., Professor and Vice Chair for Research in the Department of **Psychiatry**, was invested in the Wilbur D. Mills Distinguished Chair in Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Prevention on Nov. 12. Dr. Acheson, a behavioral neuroscientist, is highly regarded for his research including the behavioral and biological factors underlying risk for addictions.

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RECENT GRANTS & RESEARCH



UNRAVELING ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE | **En Huang, Ph.D.** (College of Public Health/Environmental Health Sciences), is leading an interdisciplinary research team at UAMS examining the critical knowledge gap relating to resistance to the antibiotic cefiderocol. The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases awarded Dr. Huang \$3.6 million for the five-year study, which launched this fall. Collaborators include postdoctoral fellow **Sun Hee Moon, Ph.D.**, along with College of Medicine faculty members **Lu Huang, Ph.D.** (Microbiology/Immunology), **Se-Ran Jun, Ph.D.** (Biomedical Informatics), and **Mitchell Jenkins, M.D.**, and **Ryan Dare, M.D.** (both in Internal Medicine/Infectious Diseases). [READ MORE](#)



UAMS
Psychiatric
Research Institute

TRAINING FUTURE WOMEN'S MENTAL HEALTH SPECIALISTS | The **UAMS Psychiatric Research Institute (PRI)** has received a \$600,000 grant from Arkansas Attorney General Tim Griffin to develop a women's mental health fellowship in an effort to address the impact of the opioid epidemic on women and help reduce the state's maternal mortality rate. The initiative to train a new generation of psychiatrists in the treatment of women with opioid use disorder and other psychiatric conditions, specifically during pregnancy and the postpartum period, will be led by **Jessica Coker, M.D.**, Associate Professor of **Psychiatry** and Medical Director of PRI's inpatient units. [READ MORE](#)

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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, call the [COMmunication webpage](#). Comments and questions are always welcome. Call Tamara Robinson, Senior Communications Writer, at 526-5163, or send an email to COMInternalCommunications@uams.edu.