COM Celebrates Graduating Seniors – and their Educators

The UAMS College of Medicine graduated its largest class ever on May 18, but not before honoring their accomplishments and sending them on their way with some sage advice from college leaders and faculty mentors.

“This is my charge to you,” said Matthew Quick, M.D., Associate Professor of Pathology, who was selected by the Class of 2019 to deliver the keynote address from the faculty at Honors Convocation on the evening before the UAMS Commencement. “Keep it real, practice with passion, love your families and patients and stay true to yourself and your beliefs, and you will have the wonderful, fulfilling career in medicine that everyone in this room desires, hopes and prays that you will have.”
Dr. Ashley Ross Invested in Walmart Endowed Chair in Neonatology at ACH
Arkansas Children’s Hospital and UAMS celebrated the investiture of Ashley Ross, M.D., associate professor and chief of the Neonatology Section, in the Walmart Endowed Chair in Neonatology on May 9 at ACH.

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

John Arthur, M.D., Ph.D., Department of Internal Medicine, KIDNEYcon 2019, NIH/Nat. Inst. of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Diseases (04/15/2019 – 04/14/2020), $14,953.

Clint Kilts, Ph.D., Department of Psychiatry, Translational Training in Addiction, NIH/Nat. Inst. on Drug Abuse (07/01/2019 – 06/30/2024), $2,062,562.

In Memoriam
Rudolph "Terry" Pivik, Ph.D., a Professor of Pediatrics and longtime Director of the Brain Function Laboratory in the Arkansas Children's Nutrition Center, died May 10. Read more in the In Memoriam section of Inside UAMS.

David Moody Moore Jr., Associate Administrator of Patient Care for Radiology, MRI and PET facilities, who served at UAMS for 50 years, died May 4. Read more in the In Memoriam section of UAMS.

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 May 1-22:

Alice Alexander
Elena Ambrognini
Ashley Antipolo
Dennis Armstrong
Omar Atiq
Caroline Barham
C. Lowry Barnes
Rick Barr
Jared Beavers
Karle Boehme
Kesley Brown
Martin Cannon
Mikaila Calcagni
Jason Chang
Heejung Choi
Parimal Chowdhury
Shelley Cray
David Davies
Austin DeHart
Rhonda Dick
Alan Diekmann
Paul Drew
Stanley Ellis
Hari Eswaran
Jordan Fielding
Christopher Flud
Vicki Flynn
Rachael Freeze-Ramsey
Edgar Garcia-Rill
Jerald Gardner
Kristin Garner
Molly Gathright
Masil George
Santiago Gonzalez
Johnathan Goree
James Graham
Sarah Greenberger
Robert Griffin
Sue Griffin
Kristie Hadden
Larry Hartzell
Ronda Henry-Tillman
Curran Henson
Blake Hollowoa
Antonio Howard
Teresa Hudson
Jennifer Hunt
Stacie Jones
Se-Ran Jun
Ha-neui Kim
Sajni Kumpuris
Richard Kurten
Kristen Lienhart
Jia Liu
Jimmy Magee
Anusha Majagi
Michael Mancino
Spyridoula Maraka
John Martindale
Robin McAtee
Theresa McClung
Priya Mendiratta
Erick Messias
Jill Mhyre
Rebecca Moreira
John Musser
Charles O'Brien
Eddie Ochoa
Kevin Phelan
Heidi Prince
Larry Quang
Matthew Quick
Sung Rhe
Gloria Richard-Davis
Gresham Richter
Analiz Rodriguez
Ashley Ross
Brian Russ
Christine Rutlen
Bob Saylors
Steve Schexnayer
Angie Scott
Kevin Sexton
Mark Smeltzer
John Spollen
Laura Spradley
Brendan Stack
Kandi Stallings-Archer
Matthew Steliga
Jason Stumhofer
James Suen
Lindsey Sward
Puru Thapa
Tyler Thompson
Carol Thrush
Leah Tobey
Zulema Udaondo
Sami Uwaydat
Judith Weber
Sharanda Williams
Jinhu Xiong
Feliciano "Pele" Yu

These COM departments were represented in Accolades May 1-22:

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

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!